

The Washington *Core to College* Project: Building a K-12/Higher Education Partnership for Implementing the Common Core State Standards & Smarter Balanced Assessment

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Core to College Project

- 12 states: Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee and Washington
- Serve as models for other states, showing how to foster long-term collaborations between state higher education and K-12 entities
- Expected to align work with implementation plans for the Common Core State Standards and either the PARCC or SMARTER Balanced assessments

Project Goals

1. Build faculty ownership and understanding of the CCSS as meaningful and useful college-readiness standards
2. Promote local use of CCSS and Smarter Balanced assessment in ways that improve high school to college transition for students
3. Develop overall higher education agreement for use of CCSS and Smarter Balanced assessment

Why is Higher Education Involved?

- Common Core State Standards anchored in expectations for college readiness
- Opportunity to improve college readiness, reduce remediation, and boost completion
- Making K-16 “alignment” meaningful

Questions Being Addressed by the Project

1. Do the Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced assessment represent a definition of college- and career-readiness that works for higher education?
2. Specifically, how will the 11th grade assessment results be used?

1. Definition of College Readiness

Faculty Review Group consensus (both math and English):

- Standards generally reflect a clear and solid notion of college readiness for entry-level courses in their disciplines
- Preliminary review of Smarter Balanced details and practice test encouraging, but need to see final assessment

2. Using the 11th Grade Assessment

➤ College Placement

- Full or conditional exemption from developmental course work when entering college
- Need to define what evidence of continued learning will be considered appropriate for conditional exemption

➤ Strengthen 12th Grade “Launch Year”

- Encourage dual credit courses for students who are college-ready
- Provide targeted curriculum for students who are not yet college-ready*

DRAFT SMARTER BALANCED RECOMMENDATIONS

SMARTER BALANCED SCORE	POSTSECONDARY PLACEMENT OPTIONS BASED ON SCORE	12 TH GRADE REQUIREMENTS
LEVEL 4 (college-ready)	Math or English: Any entry-level college course	No additional requirements*
LEVEL 3 (college-ready)	MATH Liberal arts math, statistics Other entry-level college math courses	No additional requirements* Post-algebra II math course
	ENGLISH Any entry-level college course	No additional requirements *

Rationale for College-Ready Recommendations

- ◆ Projected top third (10% in level 4) of students on assessment: generally on track for baccalaureate institutions, taking English and math/quantitative reasoning courses in senior year
- ◆ Level 3 contingencies (Math): uncertainty about preparation for STEM pathway in math without assurance of advanced math in senior year
- ◆ Level 3 contingencies (English): confidence that these students would maintain English literacy skills over time period involved

DRAFT SMARTER BALANCED RECOMMENDATIONS

SMARTER BALANCED
SCORE

POSTSECONDARY PLACEMENT
OPTIONS BASED ON SCORE

12TH GRADE
REQUIREMENTS

Rationale for Below-College-Ready Recommendations

- ◆ Level 2 contingency: Some portion of these students (representing ~40% of students on assessment) could enroll in college-readiness transition courses: successful completion would ensure no remediation or additional testing at college entry
- ◆ No contingency available for students in level 1

LEVEL 2

MATH

Entry-level college courses (to be determined)

Post-algebra II or college readiness math course**

ENGLISH

Any entry-level college course

Senior English or college readiness course**

LEVEL 1

Math or English:
Additional placement information/testing needed for all entry-level college courses

Intensive support, retesting

* High school students take 4 years of English; students planning for baccalaureate institutions required to take math or QR course in senior year

** "College readiness " courses will include required end-of-course assessment

Connecting the SBAC 11th grade assessment to transcript-based placement...?

SAMPLE Math Transcript Table (Green River CC)

If your last math course was . . .	and you earned a grade of . . .	and you completed it within___of today's date:	your placement will be . . .
Geometry I & II	C+ or better	One year	Math 72
		Two years	COMPASS score or Entrance Exam
Advanced Algebra/Trig	B+ or better	One year	Math 97
		Two years	Math 72
	C+ or better	One year	Math 97
Pre-calculus I & II	B or better	Two years	Math 72
		One year	Math& 141 ^(a) , 107, Math 147, 170
	A	Two years	Math 97
		One year	Math& 141 ^(a) , 107, Math 106 ^(b) , 147, 170
Pre-calculus I & II	C+ or better	Two years	Math& 141 ^(a) , 107, Math 147, 170
		One year	Math 97, 147 or Math& 107
	B or better	Two years	Math 97
		One year	Math& 107, 141 ^(a) , 142 ^(a) , 151 ^(a) , Math 106 ^(b) , 147, 170.
		Two years	Math&141 ^(a) , 107, Math 106 ^(b) , 147, 170
A- or better	One or two years	Math& 107, 141 ^(a) , 142 ^(a) , 151 ^(a) , Math 106 ^(b) , 147, 170	
BAT Math (if student has either Pre-calculus or Calculus)	C+ or better	One year	Math 97
		Two years	COMPASS score or Entrance Exam

Core to College System Policy Timetable

Develop specific proposal for SB use in higher education

Review and endorse proposal

Showcase local school/college partnerships



Confirm SB participation commitment (before January 2015)

Cross-sector summit gathering (Fall 2014)



System group and institutional review (Winter 2014--Spring 2014)



System policy work group (Fall 2013)



Transition Curricula: Tentative Timetable

Transition curricula: Courses, learning modules, or online tutorials developed jointly by secondary and postsecondary faculty and offered no later than 12th grade to students identified as not college-ready in math or English:

- 2013-14 academic year: support teacher-led preliminary design work
- Summer 2014: produce working model course maps
- 2014-15: review, refine, and pilot-test the curricula
- 2015-16: curricula available statewide