

Career and College Ready Pathway (CRP) and Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) Program Transition Guidance Document

Overview of the Career and College Ready Pathway (CRP):

- **Available Pathway:** Like all CCP pathways, the **Career and College Ready Pathway (CRP)** is an opportunity available for high school students. Colleges have the flexibility to determine which pathways they can offer based on local capacity.
 - To maintain compliance with the **Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) Program** statute, we are offering the program through participating colleges. Additionally, access to the program can be further expanded through Instructional Service Agreements (ISAs), ensuring continued adherence to the legislative requirements while broadening participation opportunities.
 - The pathway offers high school students career exploration and college preparatory coursework. Students who complete the required supplemental coursework may qualify for any approved CCP Pathway available at participating colleges. In order to participate in the CCP CRP pathway, students must be a high school Junior or Senior.
 - CCP program eligibility is separate from course eligibility. See Attachment B in Section 14 of the Curriculum Procedures Reference Manual for English and math course eligibility for Cooperative Innovative High Schools (CIHS). [Curriculum Procedures - NCCCS](#)
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Important Information about the Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) Program:

- **Summer Bridge Program:** The CCP CRP pathway (which includes CCRG coursework) can be offered as a **summer bridge program**, as this language was added to the **CCRG legislation** during the short session in 2024 as an option the summer prior to the high school senior year. Colleges may also consider offering the pathway in other terms to expand access and accommodate student scheduling.
- **Gateway to College Program (§ 115D-30.20):** existing legislation for “Gateway to College” is a program that predates both CCRG. It allows high school students to enroll in developmental education courses, with permission granted to address student college readiness needs.

- The program is designed to provide additional support for students who need to take developmental courses as a transition to more challenging courses.
 - Permits high school students to enroll in developmental courses.
 - **Budget FTE:** Developmental coursework is included in the colleges' budget FTE calculations.
 - **Readily Available:** To offer the Career and College Ready Pathway (P90990A), colleges must submit a Program of Study via Colleague for System Office approval. *No additional steps are required.*
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NROC Platform:

- The NROC platform will only be utilized for the CCP CRP pathway if individual colleges opt to continue using it as an instructional resource to support the community college coursework.
 - Since placement is based on GPA, students in this pathway are unlikely to utilize NROC placement tests. However, colleges may still access NROC for placement and instructional resources through local college contracts, independent of the CCRG program.
 - Any instructional materials associated with new courses will be available to all students enrolled in those courses, including both dual enrollment and non-dual enrollment students.
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Alternate Solutions for Colleges Not Offering the Pathway:

- **ISA Option:** If a college chooses not to offer the new pathway, an **Instructional Service Agreement (ISA)** can be entered into with another college with more capacity to provide instruction.
 - **Level I ISA:** Allows permission to serve students outside the assigned service area.
 - **Level II or III ISA:** Allows for collaboration and sharing of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) resources.
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Why This Pathway Matters:

- **Impact on Student Success:** Colleges that elect not to offer the pathway for students in need of additional support (or students who elect not to enroll) are likely to see high school graduates enroll in developmental education courses at their own expense or through financial aid.

- **CCRG Program History:** The CCRG program, initially designed to help students become college-ready, has faced challenges in statewide implementation. Although it was introduced as a mandatory initiative to expand access, ongoing challenges have made implementation inconsistent. As a result, this pathway seeks to usher in new innovative strategies and stronger partnerships to meet expectations.
 - **Significant Opportunity:** This new pathway offers an unprecedented **opportunity** to reach students who traditionally have not had access to **CCP** in the past. By expanding access, this pathway is a **life-changing opportunity for students by supporting and** inspiring career and/or college path they might not otherwise have access to pursue.
 - This pathway supports the work and potential expansion of the [Access to Achievement](#) program, by providing students with intellectual disabilities transitional support services and pathways from secondary to postsecondary education (see [HERE](#)).
 - **Workforce Driven:** This pathway supports the work of [PropelNC](#), and Governor Stein's [Executive Order](#) by aligning pathways with work-based learning and pre-apprenticeship programs.
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CCRG Transition Plan:

- **Timeline for Transition**
 - The *current CCRG program* will remain available through the **2025-2026** school year.
 - **Early Adoption:** Colleges/districts can choose to adopt the new **CCP pathway** starting in **summer 2025**.
 - **New Pathway Features:** The new pathway will include **developmental education support, gateway math and English, academic success, and career development courses**.
 - **Instruction by Community College Faculty:** All courses in the new pathway will be taught by community college instructors, and instructional resources will be available to all students enrolled. Colleges may collaborate with their LEAs to provide necessary instruction as agreed upon in your local partnership agreement per the State Board of Education policy [CACP-000 Career and College Promise Partnership Agreement](#). Additionally, colleges may employ high school teachers as adjunct instructors – please see numbered memo [CC12-018 High School Teachers Teaching Community College Courses](#)).
 - **Transition Year:** The **2025-2026** academic year will be the final year for the current **CCRG** contract with **DPI** and **NROC**.
 - **Shift to Community Colleges:** Starting in **2026-2027**, the instruction for CCRG will transition from high schools to community college faculty. The updated program will be offered through the **new CCP CRP pathway**.
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Key Takeaways:

- The **Career and College Ready Pathway** is an **optional**, non-mandated pathway for students, available to participating colleges.
 - The **transition from CCRG** to the new **CCP pathway** will take place by **2026-2027**, with colleges having the option to adopt the pathway as early as **summer 2025**.
 - **Developmental education and career readiness** will be central components of the new pathway, and instructional resources will be available to all students.
 - **Colleges not offering the new pathway** can still provide the program through **ISAs**, either collaborating with other colleges or serving students through a Level I or Level II ISA.
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Policies References:

G.S. 115D-30.20 – Gateway to College Program

Enacted by the North Carolina General Assembly, G.S. 115D-30.20 authorizes the State Board of Community Colleges to establish and support "Gateway to College" programs at community colleges. These programs are designed to serve students in need of additional support. Participating students are dually enrolled in both high school completion and college-level coursework, earning credits toward a high school diploma and a college credential.

The statute encourages partnerships between community colleges and local education agencies (LEAs), outlining that programs should focus on academic success, transition support, and career pathways. Colleges may use available funding to cover tuition, fees, and instructional costs to remove financial barriers for eligible students.

Session Law 2204-55, the Appropriations Act of 2024

Section 1D SBCCC 400.11(e) and 1D SBCCC 400.8 (b)(1)

Additional Resources:

- [Curriculum Procedures - NCCCS](#)
- [What we know about Transition Courses](#)
- [High School-to-College Transition Courses: A typology of Design Choices](#)
- [Dual Enrollment Playbook: A Guide to Equitable Acceleration for Student](#)
- [Surry-Yakin Works Playbook: A Regional, Cross-Sector Approach to Driving Your Future Workforce](#)