COLORADO RE-ENGAGED

The CORE Initiative
HB21-1330 signed into law

Associate Degree Design Working Group

Implementation Working Group

Outreach and Communications

First Associate Degrees Awarded

Implementation Timeline

June ‘21

January – June ‘22

Nov ‘22 – August ‘23

Sept.- Dec. ‘23

Dec. ‘23
CORE allows four-year institutions to award associate degrees to students who meet specific eligibility criteria.

“The goal of awarding an associate degree is to increase a student's earning potential, making it more likely the student will re-enroll and complete a bachelor’s degree.”
Student Eligibility Requirements Limit Program Scope

- Earned 70+ credits
- Stopped-out from a bachelor’s program within the last 10 years
- Unenrolled for the last two semesters
- Not eligible for Reverse Transfer
Working Group Guidelines created additional Student Eligibility Requirements

- Earned at least 18 credits in residence from the awarding institution (25% of 70 credits).

- Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher from the awarding institution.
Primary Considerations

- # of eligible students
- Employability/income potential
- Transferability to bachelor’s
### Associate Degree Design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of eligible students</th>
<th>employability/income potential</th>
<th>transferability to bachelor’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associate of General Studies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associate of Arts / of Science</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AA or AS degree with designation (DwD)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associate of Applied Science</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:

- High vs. Low: The percentage of eligible students, employability/income potential, and transferability to bachelor's degree are represented using high and low percentage symbols. The table shows the comparative data for each category.
### Determining Course and Credit Requirements

- **Required # Gen. Ed. credits**

- **Gen. Ed. credits by category**

- **Other course or credit requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Assoc. of General Studies</th>
<th>Associate of Arts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>15 credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>31 credits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>institutional decision</td>
<td></td>
<td>institutional decision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aligned to GT Pathways Requirements</td>
<td></td>
<td>institutional decision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participating Institutions: Spring 2023

Colorado State University
CSU Pueblo
CU Denver
CU IN THE CITY
Fort Lewis College
Metropolitan State University of Denver
University of Colorado Colorado Springs
University of Northern Colorado
Initial Steps to Implementation (Fall 2022)

- Notify CDHE of institution’s intent to participate
- Determine degree type(s) to be awarded
- Determine any institution-specific course requirements
- Secure internal approvals – faculty senate, curriculum review board, governing board, etc.
Operational Grants to Institutions to cover costs associated with implementing CORE

- Update data systems and catalog
- Identify eligible former students
- Contact eligible individuals
- Design, print, and deliver associate's diplomas
- Develop messaging and materials to encourage reenrollment
Discuss and create institutional plan - Provost office, deans and faculty champions

Build catalog language

Secure internal approvals – curriculum review board, faculty senate, provost, system governing board
Addressing Concerns

- Resources required and cost to implement?
- CORE without creating 2-yr competition?
- Will award of associate degree after 70cr discourage bachelor’s completion?
- Does this diminish perceived value of baccalaureate degrees?
- Will associate degree benefit the students?
Institutional Approval and Implementation

Perspectives and Next Steps

Use of CORE Operational Grant Funds - staff time and training, catalog coding, degree audits, diplomas, etc.

Institutional perspectives on HLC substantive change - accelerated and batch process

Next Steps – contact students, CDHE or 3rd party roles, capitalize on the Re-Engaged component of CORE,
Accreditation & Authorization

The Higher Learning Commission
Innovation and Partnership

- Coordination and standardization across multiple institutions
- Batch submission of applications
- Accelerated Process for Initial Accreditation
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