February 6, 2020  
Senate Bill 120 and College Credit Plus

On January 31, 2020, SB 120 was signed and enacted under the 133rd General Assembly. The bill was first introduced by the Senate on March 26, 2019 with a title of: “Conduct performance audits of state higher ed institutions.” An amendment was added during the legislative process that included College Credit Plus. This amendment changed the statutory language of Ohio Revised Code section 3365.04(D) – the underlined portions are new, and the strike-through portions are deleted:

(D) Schedule at least one informational session per school year to allow each partnering participating college that is located within thirty miles of the school to meet with interested students and parents. The session shall include the benefits and consequences of participation and shall outline any changes or additions to the requirements of the program. If there are no partnering participating colleges located within thirty miles of the school, the school shall coordinate with the closest partnering participating college to offer an informational session.

For the purposes of division (D) of this section, "participating college" shall include both of the following:

(1) A partnering college;

(2) Any public college, private college, or eligible out-of-state college to which both of the following applies:

(a) The college participates in the college credit plus program.

(b) The college submits to the public or participating nonpublic secondary school a request to attend an informational session.

“Partnering college” is defined in Ohio Revised Code 3365.01:

(N) "Partnering college" means a college with which a public or nonpublic secondary school has entered into an agreement in order to offer the program established by this chapter.

This change in language, from “partnering” to “participating,” means that secondary schools must coordinate with the closest “participating” college to offer their annual Information Sessions. Participating now includes a “partnering college” and “any public college, private college, or eligible out-of-state college” that 1) participates in the program and 2) submits a request to the secondary school to attend their Information Session.

This change will be effective in 90 days from the date the bill was signed.