Ohio | Department of Higher Education

John R. Kasich, Governor
John Carey, Chancellor

DIRECTIVE 2018-041

August 29, 2018

Re: TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTS SEEKING APPROVAL OF A COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS AGREEMENT THAT INCLUDES A PAYMENT BELOW THE DEFAULT FLOOR AMOUNT

Section 3365.07 of the Ohio Revised Code permits the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education to approve an agreement that includes a payment below the default floor amount under the College Credit Plus (CCP) program.

During the development of the CCP program, which included both High School and College stakeholders, a framework was established to ensure a minimum allocation of resources to the High School and College provider on behalf of each participating CCP student. This framework was agreed upon to ensure the sustainability of the CCP program. A payment below the default floor amount is contrary to the principles of this framework and is not a sustainable model at a statewide level.

In lieu of an alternative funding – below the floor agreement, High School and College providers are encouraged to pursue other alternative funding agreements that provide cost savings opportunities, which include but are not limited to:

- High School and College each agree to pay for a portion of the textbook costs (e.g., 50% by each partner, 70%/30%, etc.);
- College pays for all textbook costs (or pays for books for students at the college campus, etc.);
- College guarantees no textbook changes for a specific number of years;
- College employs other low cost book options (i.e., Open Education Resources, older book editions);
- College eliminates one-time access code software;
- College provides an alternative funding agreement which lowers the cost of on campus or online coursework below the default ceiling (or below the standard tuition rate); and/or
- College provides an alternative funding agreement for courses taught at the high school by a college employed faculty member to lower than the default rate (mid-level).

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If other alternative funding agreements do not address the unique issues present in a partnership, then a College or University may request consideration of an alternative funding – below the floor agreement if the partner school district demonstrates any of the following conditions:

1. State declaration of fiscal watch, caution or emergency;
2. Extreme extenuating circumstances, which could include natural disasters or other negative external influences that are outside of the district's control;

Alternative funding – below the floor agreements must be submitted in accordance with the requirements contained within paragraph C of Rule 3333-1-65.4 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

These criteria and procedures were posted to the Ohio Department of Higher Education's website for purposes of providing a period of public comment before final approval by the Chancellor. Numerous public comments were received. The comments were given due consideration, but no edits were made.

This directive is effective immediately upon signature.

John Carey
Chancellor, Ohio Department of Higher Education

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