



January 19, 2016

Dear Secondary Career-Technical Directors and Superintendents

Thank you for your recent submission for the statewide articulation agreement in Exercise Science. Based on information obtained in the field testing of the newly created Ohio Department of Education (ODE) End-of-Course WebXam, scores on this exam cannot be used for student demonstration of college-level learning for Exercise Science. This letter will explain the process that your institution can use to work with The Ohio Department of Higher Education (formerly the Ohio Board of Regents) to ensure college credit for your students. The goal continues to be to ensuring students viable opportunities for post-secondary articulated credit.

Background

Our statewide secondary to post-secondary articulation agreements require institutions to demonstrate how their individual course(s) and/or program(s) match the agreed upon statewide learning outcomes. Each statewide agreement further requires student demonstration of learning. These two pillars, (1) program alignment and equivalency approval, and (2) student demonstration of learning, work in tandem to ensure student success. The attached Submission Model shows the three options which can be used in the creation of statewide course level articulation agreements. Option 3 uses the newly created ODE End-of-Course WebXam as the student demonstration of learning.

At the time of the announcement of the statewide agreement(s) in Exercise Science field test were being performed on the ODE End of Course WebXams, and we were hopeful that students would be able to demonstrate proficiency for the aligned post-secondary course articulation(s) by passing the exam. While this exam provides demonstration of achievement for high school credit, further review of the examination data and item distribution has revealed that the exam does not provide an adequate measure of student achievement for the aligned post-secondary learning outcomes. Given this new information, we cannot utilize the examination for the award of post-secondary articulated credit at this time. The Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Higher Education are committed to a continued partnership to strengthen the alignment of the examination for future use.

Moving Forward

Until we are able to strengthen the alignment of the ODE End of Course WebXam in Exercise Science, we will need your institution's cooperation to ensure that your students continue to benefit from the statewide articulation process. Thankfully, with the flexibility of our Model, students will still have the opportunity for credit through Option 2 in the attached Model. However, your current Course Equivalency Management System (CEMS) submission for the below listed CTAN(s) will need to be updated. This will include a narrative description of how the course and in-class measurements (exams, quizzes, etc.) meet the learning outcomes. That submission will need to be submitted for approval to a joint faculty panel for feedback and approval. Subsequently, your students will need to earn a grade of "C" or better in the approved course. The WebXam will not factor into the opportunity for post-secondary articulated credit, but is still essential for Ohio Department of Education accountability.

Our Commitment to Assistance

The Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) can assist you in submitting your course information, and the process should take no more than one hour to complete with the appropriate materials and faculty cooperation. The articulation and transfer office at ODHE is willing to help you with this process in an individual webinar and can do most of the technical input of your content for you. The staff can also send a paper version of needed information to be completed by your faculty so that administrative staff on your campus can easily coordinate collection and input into the Course Equivalency Management System. Please call, 614.387.1022 to schedule a time at the convenience of you and or your faculty to complete the submission process. We are hopeful that all submissions can be converted in the next review cycle (April) so that there is no impact to students graduating in June 2016.

We thank you in advance for helping to move this process forward in the best interest of Ohio's students. Should you have any questions please contact, Paula Compton, 614.466.3334 or pcompton@ohiohighered.org

Sincerely,



Paula Compton, Ph.D.
Associate Vice Chancellor
Articulation and Transfer
Ohio Department of Higher Education



Raul Soto, Ph.D.
Interim Director
Office of Career-Technical Education
Ohio Department of Education

Course(s):

CTES001 Intro to Exercise Science
CTES002 Fitness and Health Foundations