



Missouri Department of Higher Education

Building Missouri's future...by degrees

Committee on Curriculum and Assessment

Public Policy Framework

The CBHE is given responsibility in Senate Bill 389 to establish guidelines to promote and facilitate the transfer of students between institutions of higher education within the state and ensure that all public two- and four-year public institutions work with the commissioner of higher education to establish agreed-upon competencies for all entry-level collegiate courses in English, mathematics, foreign language, sciences, and social sciences associated with an institution's general education core and that the coordinating board shall establish policies and procedures to ensure such courses are accepted in transfer among public institutions and treated as equivalent to similar courses at the receiving institutions. The department of elementary and secondary education shall align such competencies with the assessments found in section 160.518 RSMo.

Background

The Curriculum Alignment Initiative (CAI) and the Learning Assessment in Missouri Postsecondary Education (LAMP) initiatives were established to address the alignment of competencies and assessments across educational sectors. The work of both the CAI and LAMP initiatives evolved to a point where a new mechanism was necessary to provide higher education with a strong voice for defining college-readiness and to implement the findings and strategies for the most effective alignment of curricula and the development of appropriate assessment tools. The creation of a permanent entity, called the Committee on Curriculum and Assessment (CCA), was proposed to ensure the necessary collaboration between all sectors involved in alignment and assessment issues.¹

Structure

The CCA will be comprised of 13 members, one of which shall serve as chairperson of the committee, with sector membership as follows:

- Three (3) representatives from the public two-year colleges, selected by the Missouri Community College Association—one of whom must be a faculty member
- Three (3) representatives from the public four-year colleges and universities, selected by the Council of Public Higher Education—one of whom must be from the University of Missouri and at least one must be a faculty member
- One (1) representative from the public two-year technical college sector, selected by Linn State Technical College
- One (1) representative from the independent colleges and universities, selected by the Independent Colleges and Universities of Missouri

¹ More information regarding the merger of CAI and LAMP can be found in the CBHE Board Books from February 2011 and April 2011. Link to February board item is: <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/documents/BB0211.pdf>. Link to April board item: <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/documents/BB0411.pdf>.

- One (1) representative from the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates, selected by the association
- One (1) representative from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, selected by the department
- One (1) member from the K-12 sector at large, selected by the Commissioner of Higher Education and recommended by the Commissioner of Education
- One (1) member from the Missouri School Boards' Association, selected by the association
- Commissioner of Higher Education or designee sits as an ex-officio non-voting member

Charge

- The CCA will advise the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Coordinating Board for Higher Education on matters relating to the curriculum alignment and assessment of postsecondary education in Missouri.
- The CCA will seek the counsel of faculty and other institutional representatives in the performance of its functions, in particular the Missouri Assessment Consortium (MAC) and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.
- Oversee the mandates in SB389 related to curriculum alignment and assessment by:
 - Making recommendations consistent with assessment efforts required to comply with accreditation criteria for institutions as established by the Higher Learning Commission;
 - Making recommendations consistent with efforts required for accreditation of professional programs such as engineering (ABET), business (AACSB), medicine (LCME), and law (ABA), among others;
 - Making recommendations that connect with and support the efforts required for compliance with the Voluntary System of Accountability and;
 - Making recommendations for assessment methods that are based on best practices recognized nationwide, using a variety of methods.
- The CCA will recommend revisions to CBHE policies as necessary and appropriate to its charge.
- The CCA will disseminate the CBHE-approved entry-level and exit-level competencies, developed through the CAI and will also review and revise entry- and exit-level competencies as necessary.

By-Laws

- The Commissioner of Higher Education will appoint the CCA Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- Initial CCA appointments will serve staggered terms as follows:
 - 1/3 of membership appointed for one-year term
 - 1/3 of membership appointed for two-year term
 - 1/3 of membership appointed for three year term
- After the initial terms have been served, all future appointments will be for three years.

- The Commissioner of Higher Education or designee, in consultation with the CCA Chairperson, will set the agenda.
- Committee members may be reappointed by their representative educational sectors.
- The CCA Chairperson may appoint working committees as necessary for special projects.
- The CCA will meet at least four times annually in person or via teleconference; however, at least one meeting per year must be in person.

Links

Curriculum Alignment Initiative

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/cai/>

Learning Assessment in Postsecondary Education

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/lamp/>

Imperatives for Change

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/ifc/>

Statutory References

Section 173.005, RSMo

Section 173.020(3), RSMo

Senate Bill 389