



Statewide Career and Technical Education Course Equivalencies



OSPI Teaching and Learning and CTE have selected the Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC) as our contractor for the statewide course equivalency project. EPIC has extensive experience facilitating state-level standards alignment studies. EPIC will work with OSPI to identify the CTE courses that are to be aligned to the various sets of standards. They will then reach out to districts across the state to solicit instructor nominations with the goal of building a cadre of course reviewers. Following this review, EPIC will convene a panel of expert mathematics, science, and CTE instructors from across the state to form technical working groups to determine the industry and academic standards that will be included in the final frameworks.

EPIC will also provide training and leadership to the technical working groups in the development of performance assessments to include in the course frameworks. The EPIC staff, including Dr. David T. Conley, Chief Strategic Officer of EPIC has played an important advisory role in the creation of the Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.

Project Approach

OSPI has identified Career and Technical Education courses suitable for course equivalency in math and science. EPIC will now seek nominations of instructors who are effective educators in those courses to serve as reviewers. The reviewers will evaluate each framework in relation to Common Core State Standards in Mathematics, the Next Generation Science Standards, the 21st Century Skills, and the relevant CTE industry standards.

Following the first review process, EPIC will convene a panel of expert mathematics, science, and CTE instructors from across the state to form technical working groups. These groups will determine the technical and academic standards that will be included in the final framework.

EPIC will provide training and leadership to the technical working groups on the development of performance assessments to include in the course frameworks. The performance assessments developed for the frameworks will focus on providing the opportunity for students to demonstrate, within their CTE coursework, their understanding of the mathematics or science standards that are equivalent in full or in part to those that meet high school graduation requirements.

Completed frameworks will be presented to the State Board of Education for review. Following the review, EPIC will work with OSPI to provide statewide technical assistance for CTE instructors on the implementation of the course framework.

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Project Timeline

- August, 2014
 - Contract signed
 - List of courses needing frameworks established
 - EPIC begins recruiting instructor consultants
- October, 2014
 - EPIC tests and completes the web-based standards rating tool
 - EPIC conducts training sessions for independent standards rating
 - Instructors begin independent standards rating process
- November, 2014
 - EPIC creates draft frameworks
 - EPIC forms technical working groups
- January, 2015
 - EPIC convenes two-day work sessions of the technical working groups
- March, 2015
 - EPIC delivers frameworks to OSPI
- April to June 30, 2015
 - EPIC develops professional development/technical assistance for implementation of CTE course frameworks
 - EPIC and OSPI conduct workshops statewide for instructors and other stakeholders

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