

BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

1. Agenda Item Title: *Handbook Revision: NSHE Transfer and Admissions*

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Board policy currently states that a course with a “D” grade (1.00 grade points) may be accepted for transfer provided the institution specific overall grade point average is maintained. The policy is unclear in the event that a student transfers a course where a D- was earned (D- grades account for 0.7 grade points) because it satisfies the policy as a D grade, but does not satisfy the 1.00 grade points stipulation. Current practices of NSHE institutions are generally to accept a course where a grade of D- was earned, there is some variation.

The NSHE Articulation Board (established in Board policy to review and evaluate current articulation and transfer policies) reviewed the issue and requested that the Board revise its policy to remove the 1.00 grade points stipulation and define “D” grade to include D+, D, and D-.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Define the “D” grade as it relates to course transferability to include D+, D, and D- and remove the (1.00 grade points) stipulation.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

If approved, Board action will clarify Board policy and better align current practice with the Board’s policies.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- The requested action will clarify policy to provide consistency across NSHE institutions.
- The requested action provides a clear expectation of transferable courses and makes the transfer process more transparent for students.
- This action removes confusion of which courses transfer and which courses may not.
- The NSHE Articulation Board endorsed this request for Board action.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- Courses with a grade of D- should not be allowed to transfer.

7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

- Amend Board policy to not allow courses with a grade of D- to transfer.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #____ Chapter #____ Section #____
- X Amends Current Board Policy: Title # 4 Chapter # 14 Section # 13.4.e
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #____ Section #____
- Other: _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes____ No__X__
- Explain: _____

POLICY PROPOSAL
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 14, SECTION 13 (in part)
Non-Associate Degree Admissions

Additions appear in ***boldface italics***; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]
boldface italics as amended during the Board meeting (6/08)

4. Non-Associate Degree Admissions

- a. Approved baccalaureate level courses shall be transferable to another NSHE institution at a minimum as general elective credit.
- b. Community college students should be strongly encouraged to complete their lower-division programs and an associate degree before transfer, but qualified students may apply for transfer at their own discretion.
- c. An applicant who does not satisfy university admission requirements upon graduation from high school must complete the equivalent of 24 semester credits in baccalaureate level courses with an overall grade point average of at least 2.30 at a community college or other accredited institution to qualify for university admission. Effective Fall 2008, the minimum required overall grade point average is 2.50.
- d. An applicant who does not satisfy state college admission requirements upon graduation from high school must complete the equivalent of 12 semester credits in baccalaureate level courses with an overall grade point average of at least 2.00 at a community college or other accredited institution to qualify for state college admission.
- e. A course with a “D-” grade [~~(1.00 grade points) may~~] ***or better will*** be accepted for transfer provided the institution specific overall grade point average established in subsections c. and d. above is maintained. Transfer courses with a “D-” grade ***or better*** will count towards a bachelor’s degree in the same manner as “D-” grades ***or better*** obtained by students enrolled in the lower-division at a state college or university. Credits from courses transferred with a “D-” grade ***or better*** count towards credit earned for a baccalaureate; however, it is at the discretion of the department or college offering the major as to whether courses with “D-” grades in the major satisfy requirements in the major field.