

Attachment 2

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO TITLE 5 REGULATIONS OF CREDIT CERTIFICATES - § 55070

Changing the minimum units for high Credit Certificates of Achievement will improve the alignment with federal regulations and better serve California Community College students by more clearly documenting programs eligible for financial aid eligibility, and will result in more programs eligible for financial aid being submitted to and approved by the Chancellor's Office. This will assist colleges by giving them the ability to more clearly demonstrate program eligibility to the U.S. Department of Education. Moreover, changing the minimum units for low Credit Certificates of Achievement will better serve California Community College students by increasing the number of programs eligible for inclusion on student transcripts.

Additionally, changes to the minimum units for the high and low unit Credit Certificates of Achievement enables colleges to be more responsive to the needs of community college students and communities, including the workforce needs identified in the Taskforce on Workforce, Job Creation, and a Strong Economy.

§ 55070 CREDIT CERTIFICATES

§ 55070(a)

Currently high unit Certificates of Achievement are required to have a sequence of courses consisting of a minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units. However, consistent with federal regulations for financial aid, students are eligible for financial aid with a minimum of 16 semester units or 24 quarter units. Thus, the proposed revisions change the minimum units for a credit certificate to 16 semester units or 24 quarter units.

§ 55070(c)

Additionally, low unit Certificates of Achievement require a sequence of courses a minimum of 12 semester units or 18 quarter units. By lowering the units required for a low unit Certificate of Achievement to a minimum of 8 semester units or 12 quarter units, more programs will be eligible for identification on student transcripts. Thus, the proposed revisions is to change the minimum units of a low unit credit certificate to 8 semester units or 12 quarter units.