



# NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Advancing quality college courses for high school students.

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## **NACEP Awards Accreditation to 19 High Quality Concurrent Enrollment Programs**

*First Programs in States of South Dakota and Michigan Demonstrate High Levels of Academic Oversight for College Courses Taught by High School Instructors*

**May 1, 2017, Chapel Hill, NC** - The National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) granted accreditation to concurrent enrollment programs at 19 colleges and universities, including the first programs to be accredited in the states of Michigan and South Dakota. This brings the total number of accredited programs across the country to 105 in twenty-two states.

As the only national set of quality standards applicable to concurrent enrollment partnerships, NACEP's standards serve as the model criteria for ensuring that the course content and expectations for student work in concurrent enrollment match those on the campus of the sponsoring college or university.

"As the availability of college credit opportunities for high school students expands, it is vital that we maintain quality to provide a meaningful collegiate experience for students. The programs that received accreditation meet established best practices in concurrent enrollment in the areas of curriculum, faculty, students, assessment, and program evaluation," remarked Victoria Zeppelin, NACEP Accreditation Commission Chair and Director of CollegeNow at Tompkins Cortland Community College in New York, "NACEP accreditation is the hallmark of excellence, assuring that programs offer college courses in high schools that are as rigorous as courses on their campuses, thereby supporting student achievement and postsecondary success."

To earn accreditation from NACEP, concurrent enrollment programs conduct a self-study, document how their programs adhere to NACEP's seventeen standards, and undergo a rigorous peer-review process conducted by a team of representatives from NACEP-accredited programs as well as the NACEP Accreditation Commission. NACEP's accreditation is valid for seven years, during which time programs are expected to uphold NACEP's standards and report annually on program practices.

Institutions housing programs that received accreditation for the first time are:

- Baker College (MI)
- College of Western Idaho (ID)
- John A. Logan College (IL)
- Mid-Michigan Community College (MI)
- Missouri Southern State University (MO)
- Northern State University (SD)
- University of Central Missouri (MO)

The programs that received re-accreditation are located at:

- Arkansas State University at Beebe (AR)
- Arkansas State University at Jonesboro (AR)
- Boise State University (ID)
- Des Moines Area Community College (IA)
- Monroe Community College (NY)
- National Park College (AR)
- Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas (AR)
- Southern Arkansas University-Magnolia (AR)
- Southwest Minnesota State University (MN)
- SUNY Broome Community College (NY)
- University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana (AR)
- University of Arkansas at Little Rock (AR)

“Baker College recognized the importance of obtaining national accreditation for our Running Start program through NACEP and worked diligently to make sure our processes and procedures were aligned to NACEP standards. This leaves no question about the rigor or quality of our concurrent enrollment model with our K12 partners. We are ecstatic that NACEP agrees that our Running Start program follows their high standards,” said Bart Daig, System President of Baker College in Flint, Michigan.

The National Student Clearinghouse reports that 25% of the 2 million Associate and Bachelor’s degree earners in 2014-15 took at least one dual or concurrent enrollment course while in high school. “As the model has grown over the last sixty years, NACEP and its accredited programs have demonstrated that the academic integrity of college courses can be maintained in the high-school setting,” said Adam Lowe, NACEP’s Executive Director. “These institutions have committed the necessary resources, particularly campus faculty time and effort, to ensure that appropriate levels of academic oversight occur.” The positive benefits of dual and concurrent enrollment on college access and degree attainment were recently validated by the Department of Education’s What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) in a review of the experimental and quasi-experimental literature.

The full listing of 105 programs nationwide currently accredited by NACEP can be found at: <http://nacep.org/docs/accreditation/NACEPAccreditedPrograms.pdf>.

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## About NACEP

The National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) is the leading membership organization supporting programs that successfully transition students from high school to college through college credit-bearing courses. We promote quality programming through national standards, accreditation, and professional development. Our members offer college courses to high school students through a variety of delivery methods and use a range of terms such as concurrent enrollment, dual enrollment, dual credit, and early college. NACEP’s national network of over 400 colleges and universities, 60 high schools and school districts and 30 state agencies and system offices actively share the latest knowledge about best practices, research and advocacy.