

# NRCCTE Studies of POS

## Tracking Students' Career Paths From Beginning to Completion

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# Disclaimer



The work reported herein was supported under the National Research Center for Career and Technical Education, PR/Award (No. VO51A070003) as administered by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the Office of Vocational and Adult Education or the U.S. Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

# NRCCTE's Studies of POS

- National Research Center for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE) has three studies underway of POS:
  1. South Carolina state policy examination
  2. Backward mapping from mature POS sites
  3. Experimental evaluation of student outcomes
- Each has some info to share about how sites are tracking students' career paths—or not

# 1. Personal Pathways to Success

- Established through the SC Education and Economic Development Act of 2005 (EEDA)
- Designed to promote student achievement, increase graduation rates, and facilitate transitions through career planning and career majors.
- Study's goal is to assess impact of EEDA on student outcomes and on development of POS per Perkins IV.

# EEDA Requirements of HS

- Increase quantity and quality of counseling
- Develop individual graduation plans for all students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, revised yearly
  - Records progress along a path, but to date it only goes through HS. Lists career options but not a course-specific postsecondary path to get there

# Individual Graduation Plan

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**Cluster of Study:** Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics      **Major:** Pre-Engineering and Technology

## Required Core for Graduation

*For additional college entrance requirements refer to the college of your choice.*

24 Units Required	9	10	11	12
<b>Math</b> Four Units	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II Pre-Cal Probability & Stat	Probability & Stat Algebra III Pre-Cal Calculus
<b>English</b> Four Units	English I	English II	English III	English IV
<b>Science</b> Three Units	Physical Science	Biology Applied Biology I Applied Biology II	Chemistry Environmental Science	Chemistry II/AP Physics Tech Physics Physics Honors/AP
<b>Social Studies</b> Three Units	Global Studies I	Global Studies II	US History	Econ & Gov
<b>Additional State/District Requirements</b> Ten Units	Physical Education or ROTC (one unit) Computer Science (one unit) Keyboarding Proficiency Foreign Language or CATE (one unit) Health (one-half unit) Major Electives (four units) Electives (two and one-half units) Pass HSAP Exam			

Courses for Major (Four Credits Required)	Complementary Coursework	Extended Learning Opportunity Options Related to Major
Introduction to Engineering Design Principles of Engineering Digital Electronics Engineering Design and Development	Industrial Systems Technology Physics Business & Personal Finance Professional & Leadership Development Civil Engineering and Architecture Biotechnology Spanish 2 & Above Pre-Cal and above math	Senior Experience School to Work Shadowing Service Learning Internship Apprenticeship Student Organizations Dual Credit Project Engagement

## Professional Opportunities Upon Graduation

*For additional college entrance requirements refer to the college of your choice.*

High School Diploma	2-Year Associate Degree	4-Year Degree and Higher
Drafting Assistant Estimator Technician Illustrator	Energy Conservation and Use Technician Civil Engineering Technician Electrical Engineer Technician	Civil Engineer Electrical Engineer Computer Science

# EEDA Requirements of P2

- Address articulation agreements between secondary and postsecondary
- Make recommendations regarding coursework that is acceptable statewide for dual enrollment
- Study HS course content and rigor in order to provide a seamless pathway to postsecondary education (59-59-210)

# Articulation/Dual Enrollment

- Current statewide articulation agreements exist for gen ed, AP, IB, and PLTW
- Technical Advanced Placement (TAP) – local TP articulation agreements
- HS courses that transfer to state 4-year colleges are listed in blocks in a statewide dual enrollment system
  - Blocks are both academic and CTE (e.g., business)
  - System needs to include the technical colleges

## 2. Mature POS

- Longitudinal study of “mature” POS sites
- Will identify components and processes that are important in the successful development and implementation of POS
- Study’s goal is to provide models and guidelines for successful POS implementation at other sites

# Search for Mature POS Sites

- 8 states visited based on recommendations (e.g., CCTI, ACTE).
- “Even the most well-developed POS sites are hard-pressed to give us hard numbers of Ss moving through, and when they do, it's only about things like how many Ss got dual credit.”
- Best practice: a college tracks which HS students who got college credit in HS actually enroll at the college and in which programs.

# 3. Experimental Study of POS

- “Random assignment” longitudinal study of student outcomes in POS
- Quasi-experimental strand in different district
- Study’s goal is to measure POS student outcomes on academic and technical measures compared to control student outcomes

# Search for Experimental Sites

- Schools are continuing tech prep and calling it POS, which works in some cases but not all
- Some sites don't grant automatic college credit, stunting the path
- Budget cuts are delaying the development of this and many other elements of Perkins IV (i.e., assessments)
- Perkins IV is vaguely written

# Perkins IV is Vague

- “May include the opportunity for secondary education students to participate in dual or concurrent enrollment programs or other ways to acquire postsecondary education credits.”  
Sec. 122[c][1][A][iii]
- Most of the dual enrollment/credit and articulation we’ve seen in POS are being built around academic coursework

# Promising Corners

- FL, WA
  - mandatory statewide data collection systems that span education and employment sectors
- CA's Cal-PASS
  - voluntary K-16 data collection system for student transition
- AZ
  - Dennis Fiscus!
- Maybe many more have the technology; need the incentive

# What to Walk Away With

- States don't know how many POS they have or in which career areas
- No count of how many students come to the postsecondary part of the POS from a HS
  - HS: Don't need to know, why spend time on it
  - CC: Don't really care, why spend time on it
- “Path accountability” must be built into Perkins if we want to track that path from secondary to postsecondary

# Contact Information

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For more on the studies, including  
podcast updates, visit

[www.nrccte.org](http://www.nrccte.org)