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Board of Regents Announces Reverse Credit Transfer Agreement with Iowa's Community Colleges

Contact: Diana Gonzalez, (515) 281-3934

The Board of Regents announces a new initiative with Iowa's Community Colleges that will expand opportunities for community college students to complete their associate degree. Under the new reverse credit transfer agreement, community college students who transfer to Iowa's Public Universities before earning an associate degree will have the opportunity to submit their University credits toward completion of the associate degree.

This collaboration continues the efforts of Iowa's Public Universities and Iowa's Community Colleges to support student success. "Iowa's Community Colleges are excited to work more closely with Iowa's Public Universities as we all share a strong commitment to our students," said Dr. Dan Kinney, President of Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge, who led the work of Iowa's Community Colleges in this effort. "We greatly appreciate the Universities' strong interest in our transfer students and their efforts to further support the students' transition."

The completion of an associate degree will increase job opportunities for students. This also has positive ramifications for the state's economy as it will contribute additional educated workers to the Iowa workforce. The initiative will provide an important complement to Governor Branstad's goal of creating 200,000 new jobs in Iowa in the next five years.

"I am very pleased with the expansion of our strong partnership with Iowa's Community Colleges," said Board of Regents President David W. Miles. "The Board of Regents recognizes the importance of supporting our students, keeping our graduates in the state, and growing Iowa's educated workforce. This new initiative will further enhance the contributions of Iowa's Public Universities to these efforts. It will strengthen our students, our institutions, and our state."

The pilot program was developed by the Board of Regents and Iowa's Public Universities in close collaboration with Iowa's Community Colleges. The agreement builds on the many existing collaborative arrangements among the institutions to promote the success of community college students as they transition to Iowa's Public Universities. These longstanding initiatives include more than 1,000 program articulation agreements, an articulation website (TransferinIowa.org) to guide potential transfer students, and opportunities for co-enrollment of community college students at Iowa's Public Universities.

The team has worked to make this process simple for students. A new University transfer application will allow community college students to indicate their interest, at the time of application, in applying future University credits toward completion of their associate degree. The student's community college will be responsible for evaluating the University credits and advising students on the specific requirements for completion of their associate degree. A list of frequently asked questions, which provides additional information on the program, will be available on the Board of Regents web site, www.regents.iowa.gov, and the articulation web site, www.TransferinIowa.org.

"This is a great opportunity for Iowa students wishing to complete their associate degree and another outstanding indicator of cooperation and partnership between Iowa's Public Universities and Iowa's Community Colleges," said Dr. Jason Glass, Director of the Department of Education.

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