EDUCATION DEPARTMENT[281]

Notice of Intended Action

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby proposes to amend Chapter 12, "General Accreditation Standards," Iowa Administrative Code.

This chapter sets accreditation standards for all Iowa school districts and accredited nonpublic schools. Item 1 conforms to 2012 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2284, section 1, by adding that school districts and accredited nonpublic schools have authority to award high school credit to a student who demonstrates mastery of course content regardless of time spent by the student in the course (the traditional concept "seat time").

An agencywide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Interested individuals may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before September 11, 2012, at 4:30 p.m. Comments on the proposed amendments should be directed to Mike Cormack, Iowa Department of Education, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146; telephone (515) 281-3399; E-mail mike.cormack@iowa.gov; or fax (515)242-5988.

A public hearing will be held on September 11, 2012, from 10 to 11 a.m. in the State Board Room, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should advise the Department of Education of their specific needs by calling (515)281-5295.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

This amendment is intended to implement 2012 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2284, sections 1 and 4.

The following amendment is proposed.

Amend subrule 12.5(15) as follows:

12.5(15) *Credit.* A student shall receive a credit or a partial credit upon successful completion of a course which meets one of the criteria in subrule 12.5(14). The board may award high school credit ~~on a performance basis through the administration of an examination, provided the examination covers the content ordinarily include in the regular course~~ to a student who demonstrates required competencies for a course or content area, as approved by a teacher who is defined by subrule 12.4(8), by way of assessment methods approved by the local board.