

Connecticut State Board of Education

Hartford

To: State Board of Education

From: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner of Education

Date: February 11, 2026

Subject: Implementation of State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan:
Strategic Priority: Create opportunities for all students to explore multiple career pathways through coordinated and rigorous programs that are developed in partnership with institutions of higher education and local/regional employers, and that align with economic opportunity and advance students in careers of their choice.

Executive Summary

Introduction

On November 1, 2023, the Connecticut State Board of Education (SBE), pursuant to Section 10-4(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, adopted the Five-Year Comprehensive Plan for Education 2023-2028 (the Plan). The SBE's adoption marked the end of a lengthy process that included two full-day workshops of the SBE, information gathering from over 3,000 Connecticut residents, educators, parents, and community members, input from the leadership team at the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), and a month-long public comment period.

The outcomes used to measure the successful attainment of this strategic priority include:

- By 2028, 60% of grade 11 and grade 12 students will earn 3 or more dual credits.
 - Currently, over 30% of grade 11 and 12 students earn 3 or more dual credits.
 - There has been a 50% increase in dual credit courses taken from 30,653 courses in SY 2019, to 46,334 courses in SY 2025.
- By 2028, the percentage of students earning an Industry Recognized Credential will increase.
 - To enhance visibility into the various Industry Recognized Credentials (IRCs) students earn through career pathways, Connecticut school districts will begin reporting data on IRCs earned by high school students. This data will collectively support the State Board of Education's goal of promoting educational and career readiness among students.

Progress and Next Steps

CSDE is making progress toward accomplishing the objectives associated with this goal, and will present this work during the February 2026 board meeting.

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