Agenda Item: Rules: Chapter 97 – Supplementary Weighting (Notice)

Iowa Goal: All PK-12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact Statement: All school districts are governed by these rules.

Presenter: Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison
Office of the Director

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 97.

Background: Senate File 2284 amends Iowa Code to clarify that courses offered by a school district through collaboration with a community college in partnership with a nationally recognized, not-for-profit provider of rigorous and innovative science, technology, engineering and math curriculum, are courses eligible for supplementary weighting. Such courses are commonly known as “Project Lead the Way” courses. The proposed amendments implement this legislation.

These amendments allow students who are enrolled in official Project Lead the Way courses to be counted for supplementary weighting, as all other students who are enrolled in concurrent enrollment with official community college coursework.
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 97, “Supplementary Weighting,” Iowa Administrative Code.

2012 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2284, section 37, amended Iowa Code section 257.11(3) to clarify that courses offered by a school district through collaboration with a community college in partnership with a nationally recognized, not-for-profit provider of rigorous and innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics curriculum, are courses eligible for supplementary weighting. Such courses are commonly known as “Project Lead the Way” courses. The proposed amendments implement this legislation.

An agency wide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Interested individuals may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before October 23, 2012, at 4:30 p.m. Comments on the proposed amendments should be directed to Mike Cormack, Rules Coordinator, Iowa Department of Education, second floor, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319–0146; telephone (515)490-4506 E–mail first.last@iowa.gov; or fax (515)242–5988.

A public hearing will be held on October 23, 2012, from 10:00-11:00 am., at 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 contact and 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, section 37, and Iowa Code section 257.11.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** definition of “Project Lead the Way” in rule 281—97.1(257):

"Project Lead the Way" means the non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status that provides rigorous and innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education curriculum founded in fundamental problem-solving and critical-thinking skills while integrating national academic and technical learning standards.

ITEM 2. Amend rule 281—97.2(257) as follows:

281—97.2(257) Supplementary weighting plan.

97.2(1) Eligibility. Except if listed under subrule 97.2(6), a resident student is eligible for supplementary weighting if the student is eligible to be counted as a resident student for certified enrollment and if one of the following conditions is met pursuant to Iowa Code section 257.11:

a. Resident student attends class in another school district pursuant to subrule 97.2(2), or

b. Resident student attends class taught by a teacher employed by another school district pursuant to subrule 97.2(3), or

c. Resident student attends class taught by a teacher jointly employed by two or more school districts pursuant to subrule 97.2(4), or
d. Resident student attends class in a community college for college credit pursuant to subrule 97.2(5).

e. Resident student attends class in a community college for college credit pursuant to subrule 97.2(5A).

Other than as listed in paragraphs “a” to “d” “e” above and in rules 281—97.3(257), 281—97.4(257), and 281—97.7(257), no other sharing arrangement shall be eligible for supplementary weighting.

97.2(2) to 97.2(5). No change.

97.2(5A) Attend a Project Lead the Way class in a community college. Students attending a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics class that uses an activities-based, project-based, and problem-based learning approach and that is offered collaboratively by the students’ school district and a community college in partnership with a nationally recognized provider of rigorous and innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics curriculum is eligible for supplementary weighting under paragraph 97.2(1)“e,” if the curriculum provider is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.