Welcome to Accreditation Program Area ‘0’ Not Used for Accreditation. This brief webinar will hopefully answer some of the questions regarding the use of this course origination.

The Code of Iowa states all high school programs must offer and teach so many units in the various accreditation areas. The table shows the minimum number of units required to be offered and taught to meet accreditation.

Since accreditation is only for grades 9-12, let us start with non-secondary level courses, courses taught in grade 8 and below. All of these courses will have an accreditation program area of ‘0’ Not Used for Accreditation. All high school level courses taught in a middle school or junior high will have an accreditation area of ‘0’ as well.

Now let us dive into secondary (9-12 grade) courses that have an accreditation area of ‘0’ Not Used for Accreditation. An accreditation area of ‘0’ means the district cannot use the course to meet Chapter 12 Offer and Teach requirements. It does not mean a student cannot earn credit in the appropriate accreditation area if allowed by the district.

In order for a course to be used for accreditation it must be open for all students to take, the teacher must be a properly licensed Iowa teacher, and the course must be board approved and in the district’s course catalog.

The courses that are ineligible to be used for accreditation should have the accreditation program area of ‘0’ Not Used for Accreditation. Examples of these types of courses are: PSEO; Specially funded courses – those that use categorical funding for example ELL courses or special education courses; Correspondence courses; Credit recovery courses; Independent study courses that are not board approved – these are usually done on an individual basis to meet an individual’s need; Purchased on-line courses such as PLATO, ALEKS, Odyssey Ware – these courses do not have an Iowa licensed teacher; Transfer in courses; or other courses with a Course Origination of ‘8’ Other.

Concurrent enrollment courses can only be used in the Vocational/CTE accreditation area. This is accreditation area ‘9’. All other concurrent enrollment courses such as math, English, social studies, and such may not be used to meet accreditation. This comes from Iowa Code.

If you have any questions coding a course, please feel free to contact an SRI consultant.

Thank you.