

# **Title 5 Education Code and Prerequisite Validation February, 2013**

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- Background
- Brief understanding of Title 5 Prerequisite Regulations prior to March 2011
- Brief understanding of the new Title 5 Prerequisite Regulations
- Knowledge of the new Title 5 Prerequisite Regulations for conducting a Content Review
- Answers to some frequently asked questions
- Next steps

## Objectives

- Statewide Academic Senate – “Student Success: The Case for Establishing Prerequisites through Content Review” Fall 2010
  - Prior to March 2011 most prerequisites had to be statistically validated
  - Most colleges chose to not apply prerequisites because of difficulties surrounding requirement
  - Led to a decline in the level of student preparation necessary for success in crucial courses
  - Argued for expanded use of rigorous content review as the method for establishing prerequisites

## Background

- Title 5 Prerequisite Regulations **Prior to March 2011**
  - **Statistical validation** and **content review** were required prior to implementation of a prerequisite
- Title 5 Prerequisite Regulations **After March 2011** (§55003)
  - Only a **content review** is required prior to implementation of a prerequisite
  - Statistical review within two years of implementation of a prerequisite

**Background**

- Content Review [§55000(c)] – “...a rigorous, systematic process...approved by the Chancellor as part of the district matriculation plan...that is conducted by faculty to identify the necessary and appropriate body of knowledge or skills students need to possess prior to enrolling a course...”

**What is a content review?**

- In order to use content review to establish a prerequisite the college must adopt a local, board approved plan (§55003.c)

## **Title 5 Regulations for Conducting a Content Review Alone**

- Plan for establishing prerequisites must include the following (§55003.c):
  - The method used to identify courses to which prerequisites might be applied
  - Assurance that courses are reasonably available
    - Courses that do not require prerequisites
    - Prerequisite courses
  - Provisions for training the curriculum committee
  - The research used to determine the impact of new prerequisites, with particular attention on disproportionate impact

## **Title 5 Regulations for Conducting a Content Review Alone**

- Adopt a process for review of prerequisites at least
  - Once every 2 years for vocational courses or programs [§55003(b)(4)].
  - Once every 6 years for all other courses
- Prerequisites must be established on a course by course basis [§55003(j)]

## **Additional Title 5 Regulations Related to Prerequisites**



- Do you have to implement a prerequisite if the data indicates a positive relationship between the prerequisite and target course?
  - [§55002(a)(2)(D)] – Title 5 Ed Code states that “...when the...**curriculum committee determines**...that the student would be highly unlikely to receive a satisfactory grade unless the student has knowledge or skills not taught in the [prerequisite] course then the [target] course shall require prerequisites...”
  - How we “determine” this is up to us and needs to be stated in the process for establishing a prerequisite

## Frequently Asked Questions

- Should I explore implementing a prerequisite?
  - If you are concerned about the skill levels of students entering a course in reading, writing, and/or math
  - Consider...
    - Other strategies (e.g.: SI, LC, Tutoring Center, Counseling, etc.)
    - Establishing a prerequisite will most likely improve student performance in your course if there is a positive relationship, but it will not be perfect
    - Impact of prerequisites on both prerequisite and target course

## Frequently Asked Questions

Allowed by  
Title 5

Optional /  
Required by  
Title 5

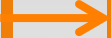
Optional

Required by  
Title 5

Conduct  
**Content  
Review** on  
Proposed  
Prerequisite  
and Target  
Course(s)



**Estimate  
Enrollment  
Impact** of  
Prerequisite  
on Proposed  
Prerequisite  
and Target  
Course



Conduct  
Statistical  
Review to  
Assess  
**Potential  
Impact** of  
Prerequisite  
on Target  
Course



Conduct  
Statistical  
Review to  
Assess  
**Actual  
Impact** of  
Prerequisite  
on Target  
Course

## Possible Guide for Establishing Prerequisites

- Develop a plan for establishing prerequisites
- Submit the plan to the Board for approval

**Next Steps**



**Discussion/Question**