



## KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

### Joint Committee on Rules and Regulations September 17, 2012

#### Testimony Regarding Qualified Admissions Regulation *K.A.R. 88-29-11*

Jean M. Redeker, Director of Academic Affairs

Good morning Chairman Holmes and Members of the Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to provide background information and a brief summary of the Board of Regents' proposed amendment to K.A.R. 88-29-11 of the qualified admissions regulations.

During the 1996 Session, the Legislature enacted K.S.A. 76-717 directing the Kansas Board of Regents to prescribe a precollege curriculum taken in high school as one path for admission to the six state universities. Minimum curriculum requirements were subsequently established in K.A.R. 88-29-11 *Requirements for the qualified admission precollege curriculum*. Since curricula review is an on-going process the regulation has been amended several times -- the last occurring in June of 2011.

At that time the Board amended 88-29-11 to begin utilizing the Kansas course codes to identify high school courses that fulfill certain precollege curriculum requirements, rather than the Board's course content requirements previously set forth. The State Department of Education requires all public school districts to use the Kansas course codes, therefore the Board's use of the Kansas course codes to identify courses that meet precollege curriculum requirements simplifies matters for high school administrators.

The purpose of the proposed amendment before you today is to update the list of courses that the Board has determined will meet certain qualified admission curriculum requirements. As time passes, new courses are brought forward for consideration, existing courses are brought forward for reconsideration, and the list is refined in an effort to make it more user-friendly and to incorporate curricular changes. When the list is updated, the regulation must also be updated because it adopts the list by reference.

The proposed changes to the course list have been developed in concert with the State Department of Education and high school administrators, and the regulation itself has received all the requisite approvals. The proposed course list has been posted on the Board's website for review and comment. Though there was significant feedback from the field as the list was

★ LEADING HIGHER EDU

being developed, as of today, no comments have been received during the public hearing open comment period.

The substance of the regulation, by its terms, applies only to students who graduate high school before 2015, but the course list is also referenced in K.A.R. 88-29a-11, which applies to students who graduate high school in 2015 or later, and thus the amendment will apply to all students going forward. However, the amendments to the course list will not adversely affect any students because 1) the amendments are prospective only, 2) the amendments generally expand rather than limit the course list, and 3) any course being eliminated from the list will fulfill a student's Qualified Admission curriculum requirements if the course was previously on the list and taken by the student before being removed from the list.

Once the requisite approvals are received the course list will remain on the Board's website, though its status will change from "proposed" to "approved."