



Fast College Fast Jobs Report to the General Assembly

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Colorado Department of Education
Public School Finance Unit
February 25, 2009

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Overview

This program enables students enrolled in "Target High Schools" to receive a high school diploma and an associate's degree or a career and technical education certificate within five years.

Eligible school district means:

- A district that contracted with a community college to implement a dual degree program in two year prior to FY2006-07, **or**
- A district that had a graduation rate of less than 75% for the FY2004-05

Institution of Higher Education means:

- A public institution of higher education that offers a 2-year degree program
- An area vocational school, or
- A junior college that is part of a junior college district

"Target School means"

- A public high school that serves grades 9-12 that:
 - Offered a dual degree program through a contract with a community college within 2 years preceding FY2006-07.
 - Had a graduation rate of less than 75% for FY2004-05, as reported by CDE

To participate, the District must:

- Enter into a contract as described in section 22-35.5-106 with one or more institutions of higher education to provide a "Fast College Fast Jobs Education Program".
- Local Board that chooses to participate shall adopt policies and procedures as are necessary for implementation of program.
- Design the program to include courses with a sufficient level of rigor to ensure that a student does not need skills remediation, but develops sufficiently high level of skills to successfully complete postsecondary-level course work.
- Establish participation requirements as it deems appropriate (i.e. year-round classes and parental participation).
- Ensure program includes regularly scheduled counseling and other appropriate student support services throughout student's 5 years of participation.
- Annually notify students and parents enrolled in target high schools of the availability and requirements of "Fast College Fast Jobs Education Program".

District is not required to provide or pay for transportation for students in the program.

Student who chooses to participate must:

- Begin the program in the 9th grade
- Take a prescribed schedule of high school courses and higher education courses with a sufficient number of credits to ensure the student earns a high school diploma and an Associate's Degree or a Career and Technical Education Certificate in 5 years.
- Maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average for each semester of participation in the program.
- Additional participation requirements deemed appropriate by District (i.e. year-round classes and parental participation).

- Students in 9th or 10th grade may enroll only in accordance with any age-waiver procedures the institution may have in place.
- Student is not eligible to receive a stipend from the College Opportunity Fund Program pursuant to Article 18 of Title 23.

Contract Minimum Requirements:

- Level of academic readiness a student shall meet in order to enroll in higher education courses through the program.
- Limitation on number of students who may enroll.
- Limitations on number of higher education courses in which a student may enroll per semester.
- The Associate's Degree programs or Career and Technical Education Programs that are available to students.
- Financial provisions for funding each student's enrollment through program.
- Contract shall be subject to approval of the Institution's Governing Board of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.
- District and Institution shall negotiate the amount and payment of the following costs:
 - Tuition
 - Costs of providing counseling and tutoring services
 - Other applicable course fees charges by Institution and cost of student's books

An instructor in a higher education course is not required to hold a teacher's license of authorization issued pursuant to Article 60.5 of Title 22.

Financial Provisions:

- School District includes each student in October 1 pupil count
- For any student enrolled in at least 12 credit hours of higher education courses, the District receives 85% of PPR.
- Student is not eligible to receive a stipend from the College Opportunity Fund Program pursuant to Article 18 of Title 23.

Reporting categories required in the law at 22-35.5-108 C.R.S. are:

(1) On or before December 15, 2008, and on or before December 15 each year thereafter, each eligible school district that chooses to participate in the pilot program shall submit to the department a report concerning implementation of the fast college fast jobs education programs in target high schools in the district. At a minimum, the report shall specify, for each target high school in which a fast college fast jobs education program operates:

- (a) The number of students in each of grades nine through twelve and in the fifth year who are participating in the fast college fast jobs education program;
- (b) The number of students who left the fast college fast jobs education program in the preceding school year and the reasons for leaving the program; and
- (c) The number of students who successfully completed the fast college fast jobs education program in the preceding school year, the area in which each student earned an associate's degree or a career and technical education certificate, and the number of said students who are employed and where they are employed, if known.

(2) On or before March 1, 2009, and on or before March 1 each year thereafter, the department shall submit to the education committees and the finance committees of the senate and the house of representatives, or any successor committees, and to the governor's office, a report summarizing the information received from eligible school districts pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. In addition, the department shall post the summary report on its web site.

Summary Report

Even though the Fast College Fast Jobs Program was available to 23 school districts and 2 Boards of Cooperative Educational Services serving 62 target schools, only 1 school district, Denver Public Schools, chose to participate in the program.

During FY2007-08, three schools participated from Denver Public Schools, with 393 9th grade students participating in the program. There were 255 students remaining in the program as 10th grade students in FY2008-09, a 65% retention rate in the program. Tables below indicate the reasons students exited from the program.

Other districts that were eligible to participate chose to take advantage of the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act rather than to participate in the Fast College Fast Jobs program. On May 10, 2007, the State Board of Education repealed the rule prohibiting 5th year programs. As long as students have not completed their high school graduation requirements, it is believed students can continue as a 12th grade student and participate in Postsecondary Enrollment Options. This option does not reduce the districts' per pupil funding based on the number of course credit hours as required by Fast College Fast Jobs.

Schools eligible for Fast College Fast Jobs (FCFJ) program based on FY04-05 Graduation Rates:

County	District	School Name	FY04-05 Grad Rate
Adams	Mapleton	SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL	56.40%
Adams	Adams 14	NEW AMERICA SCHOOL	11.60%
Adams	Adams 14	LESTER R ARNOLD HIGH SCHOOL	21.30%
Adams	Adams 14	ADAMS CITY HIGH SCHOOL	60.90%
Adams	Westminster 50	IVER C. RANUM HIGH SCHOOL	60.90%
Adams	Westminster 50	WESTMINSTER HIGH SCHOOL	70.10%
Arapahoe	Englewood 1	COLORADO'S FINEST ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL	37.50%
Arapahoe	Englewood 1	ENGLEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL	72.20%
Baca	Vilas	V.I.L.A.S. ONLINE SCHOOL	38.60%
Denver	Denver	EMERSON STREET SCHOOL	0.00%
Denver	Denver	D P S NIGHT HIGH SCHOOL	0.00%
Denver	Denver	CONTEMPORARY LEARNING ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL	0.00%
Denver	Denver	PREP ASSESSMENT CENTER	0.00%
Denver	Denver	FLORENCE CRITTENTON HIGH SCHOOL	0.00%
Denver	Denver	DENVER ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL	0.00%
Denver	Denver	NEW AMERICA SCHOOL (CLOSED)	31.40%
Denver	Denver	EMILY GRIFFITH OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL	41.90%
Denver	Denver	P.S.1 CHARTER SCHOOL	42.60%
Denver	Denver	ABRAHAM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL	43.10%
Denver	Denver	RIDGE VIEW ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	44.80%
Denver	Denver	FRED N THOMAS CAREER EDUCATION CENTER	53.80%
Denver	Denver	LIFE SKILLS CENTER OF DENVER	56.20%
Denver	Denver	COLORADO HIGH SCHOOL	58.80%
Denver	Denver	NORTH HIGH SCHOOL	67.50%
Denver	Denver	ARTS & CULTURAL STUDIES ACADEMY AT MANUAL (CLOSED)	68.10%
Denver	Denver	LEADERSHIP ACADEMY AT MANUAL (CLOSED)	69.10%
Denver	Denver	ESCUELA TLATELOLCO SCHOOL	70.00%

County	District	School Name	FY04-05 Grad Rate
Denver	Denver	MILLENIUM QUEST SCIENCE ACADEMY AT MANUAL (CLOSED)	70.50%
Denver	Denver	MONTBELLO HIGH SCHOOL	72.70%
El Paso	Harrison 2	ADULT & FAMILY LITERACY	0.00%
El Paso	Harrison 2	NEW HORIZONS DAY SCHOOL	18.20%
El Paso	Harrison 2	NEW HORIZONS EVENING SCHOOL (CLOSED)	30.50%
El Paso	Harrison 2	SHIVERS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	53.30%
El Paso	Harrison 2	HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL	74.70%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	BIJOU ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM	27.70%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	NIKOLA TESLA EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY CENTER	39.30%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	COMMUNITY PREP CHARTER SCHOOL	39.50%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	LIFE SKILLS CENTER OF COLORADO SPRINGS	48.10%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL	55.40%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	GLOBE CHARTER SCHOOL	66.70%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	WASSON HIGH SCHOOL	71.20%
El Paso	Colo. Sprgs 11	CIVA CHARTER SCHOOL	71.40%
El Paso	Ellicott SD22	ELLICOTT SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	72.70%
Garfield	Roaring Fork	BRIDGES	69.00%
Garfield	Roaring Fork	ROARING FORK HIGH SCHOOL	73.20%
Huerfano	Huerfano Re-1	HUERFANO COUNTY OPPORTUNITY AND ENRICHMENT SCHOOL	0.00%
Huerfano	Huerfano Re-1	JOHN MALL JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	74.50%
Lake	Lake Co. R1	LAKE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL	60.00%
La Plata	Durango 9-R	DURANGO SECOND CHANCE	0.00%
La Plata	Durango 9-R	THE EXCEL CHARTER SCHOOL	50.00%
La Plata	Ignacio	IGNACIO HIGH SCHOOL	72.90%
Las Animas	Trinidad 1	TRINIDAD HIGH SCHOOL	67.10%
Las Animas	Branson	BRANSON ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL	25.20%
Mesa	Plateau 50	GRAND MESA HIGH SCHOOL	38.70%
Montezuma	Montezuma-Cortez	SOUTHWEST OPEN CHARTER SCHOOL	29.00%
Montezuma	Montezuma-Cortez	MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ HIGH SCHOOL	69.80%
Morgan	Fort Morgan	LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL	32.30%
Morgan	Fort Morgan	FORT MORGAN HIGH SCHOOL	66.10%
Prowers	Lamar	PROJECT ACQUIRE (CLOSED)	3.60%
Rio Grande	Monte Vista	BYRON SYRING DELTA CENTER	25.00%
Rio Grande	Monte Vista	MONTE VISTA ON-LINE ACADEMY	39.10%
Saguache	Mountain Valley	MOUNTAIN VALLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	70.60%
Saguache	Center	THE ACADEMIC RECOVERY CENTER OF SAN LUIS VALLEY	30.00%
Weld	Fort Lupton	FORT LUPTON HIGH SCHOOL	66.50%
	Mountain BOCES	ARROWHEAD LEARNING CENTER	0.00%
	Mountain BOCES	MOUNTAIN BOCES DAY TREATMENT CENTER	33.30%
	Mountain BOCES	YAMPAH MOUNTAIN SCHOOL	68.00%
	Centennial BOCES	WELD OPPORTUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	44.40%
			62 schools

Of the districts/BOCES with FCFJ eligible schools, Denver Public Schools (DPS) was the only district to participate.

Denver Public Schools Summary Report

(a) The number of students in each of grades nine through twelve and in the fifth year who are participating in the Fast College Fast Jobs education program:

2008-2009

Year	CDE #	School Name	Grade				Total
			009	100	110	120	
2008	0110	Abraham Lincoln High School	298	145	0	0	443
2008	1319	CEC Middle College of Denver AKA Fred N. Thomas CEC	109	0	0	0	109
2008	5995	Montbello High School	132	75	0	0	207
2008	6314	North High School	169	35	0	0	204
Total:			708	255	0	0	963

2007-2008

Year	CDE #	School Name	Grade				Total
			009	100	110	120	
2007	0110	Abraham Lincoln High School	219	0	0	0	219
2007	5995	Montbello High School	110	0	0	0	110
2007	6314	North High School	64	0	0	0	64
Total:			393	0	0	0	393

(b) The number of students who left the Fast College Fast Jobs education program in the preceding school year and the reasons for leaving the program:

Student Exit Count	Exit Reason
7	n/a
107	GPA Dropped below 2.0
10	Transferred out of FCFJ School
14	Transferred out of District

Exit Reason & Count

Exit Year	CDE #	School Name	07-08 Enrollment	GPA Dropped Below 2.0	n/a	Transferred Out of FCFJ School	Transferred Out of District	Grand Total
07-08	0110	Abraham Lincoln High School	219	56	5	4	9	74
	6314	North High School	64	27	0	2	0	29
	5995	Montbello High School	110	24	2	4	5	35
Grand Total				107	7	10	14	138

(c) The number of students who successfully completed the Fast College Fast Jobs education program in the preceding school year, the area in which each student earned an associate's degree or a career and technical education certificate, and the number of said students who are employed and where they are employed, if known:

Not applicable.

2008-2009 Fast College Fast Jobs Qualitative Report

All questions in this report were provided by Vody Hermann, Assistant Commissioner, Public School Finance at the Colorado Department of Education.

1. What have you changed in year two implementation?

In year one, Denver Public Schools created a document, titled *Intent to Participate* (attachment 1), for ninth grade students involved in the program. In year two, the document was modified slightly to accommodate lessons learned from year one implementation. In addition, program coordinators have attempted to host a parent night each semester for parents of program-involved students. In so doing, coordinators discovered that it is difficult to attract parents to the event, particularly with a first-generation college-bound population of students.

2. Are the remaining students on target to reach their goals?

A number of students has left the program due to their falling below the minimum 2.0 GPA requirement. Ninth grade is a difficult year for students, even for higher-performing, college-bound students. In addition, during year two, coordinators experienced many scheduling conflicts for students who were enrolling in their first college class this semester. Despite these difficulties, the students who remain in the program are on track to reach their goals.

3. What types of course study are the students pursuing?

Please see the attached document, titled *Fast College Fast Jobs Curricular Chart* (attachment 2). At this point, all students are pursuing classes that will award them a general Associates Degree. We anticipate that the students will begin to deviate from this path during the junior year, when many may choose to pursue a career and technical certificate.

4. Did exiting students take part in exit interviews? If so, what was learned?

We were not able to conduct exit interviews with students who left the program. This is an idea that will be pursued, however, particularly with students who exit the program after three or more years of participation.

5. Were the exiting students taking any college classes or were all of their courses high school classes?

All students who exited the program in 2008-2009 were taking part in high school classes only.

6. Were the exiting students required to enroll in more rigorous high school classes?

The graduation requirements present in the Denver Public Schools system are very strict. Therefore, all ninth grade students take the same course work regardless of the program in which they are enrolled. FCFJ students will not be able to deviate from the standard course of study until their junior year of high school.

7. Did counselors work with the exiting students throughout the year?

Counselors work with all students in the program in an attempt to keep their GPAs above the minimum required 2.0. All students who exited the program had been involved in conversations with their counselors, referred to tutoring services, and had taken part in other interventions prior to their leaving the FCFJ program.



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Fast College Fast Jobs Intent to Participate Agreement

In May of 2007 Senate Bill 148 (Fast College Fast Jobs) passed, allowing students who attend qualified schools to participate in a 5-year program that would allow them to finish high school with an Associate's degree or Career and Technical Certification. A commitment to participate must be made during the grade year to be eligible for the program. Students may graduate after 5 years with an Associate's Degree or Career and Technical Credential.

Student Expectations:

- Sign Intent to Participate agreement during grade year
- Complete application at appropriate post secondary institution when instructed
- Maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. during the 5-year program period
- Participate in tutoring, to be determined by home high school
- Take the Accuplacer, as indicated at home high school
- Maintain a positive, hard working ethic while in the program
- Remain in good standing at current participating high school and college where student enrolled

Parent Expectations:

- Sign Intent to Participate agreement with student
- Attend parent information night once a semester
- Support student's studies by checking in with him/her daily
- Contact teachers and/or program coordinator when grades appear to be in jeopardy

School District Expectations:

- Provide tutoring support for students during time in the program
- Provide post secondary advisement and support
- Provide tuition, fees, and books* for post secondary course work
- Upon successful completion of DPS graduation requirements, provide student a certificate of high school completion so student may participate in graduation ceremony
- Grant high school diploma after 5 years

*Students may be responsible for a rental fee for books, to be determined

By signing this, I understand that participating in the program may lead to an Associate's Degree or Career and Technical Credential.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date

Student I.D.

Date of Birth

Fast College Fast Jobs Curricular Chart
(college courses are noted in red font)

	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th
Curricular	Algebra 1-2 Units Intro. Lit.-2 Units Earth Science-2 Units Geography-2 Units P.E.-2 Units Elective-2 Units World Language-2 Units	Geometry-2 Units Biology-2 Units U.S History -2 Units American Lit-2 Units Electives-4 Units World Language-2 Units Study Skills -1 Unit (Fall Only -Avid or CC-AAA 090 & AAA 109 2 credit hours-College 101 w/Career Exploration CC-REA 090 or College Speech SPE 115	Algebra 2-2 Units Physics/Chem-2 Units Writing or World Lit.-2 HS 090 Units or CC-ENG or College ENG 121, (= Sr. Level) Civics-1 Unit Electives- 4 Units or 6 credit hours of College (Art/Music/Theatre Appreciation or Career & Technical Education Pathway*) First semester limited to 1 college class.	Math above Algebra 1-2, or 090 HS Math Units (College MAT 106/120/121 3-8 credits) Writing Course-2 Units (College ENG 121/122-3 credits) College Arts, Humanities, History, Social Behavioral Sciences 9-15 credits (2 courses from Arts/Humanities, 1 course History course, 1 social behavioral) Electives: From 24-29 credits based on selected College area of emphasis or Career & Technical Education Pathway	Social Studies Elective-1 Unit or 3 credit hours College HIST 202 College Natural and Physical Sciences 4-8 credits 1 class lab based* Electives: 24-26 credits based on selected College area of emphasis or Career & Technical Education Pathway
Assessment	CSAP	Accuplacer (1 st Semester) CSAP	Accuplacer (if needed) act		
Advising	MyCap, Teamwork, Cohort, tutoring, leadership, pre-collegiate prep.	MyCap, Teamwork, Cohort, tutoring, leadership, meet w/Pre Collegiate Educational Case manager	MyCap, Cohort, Pre-Collegiate Case Management	MyCap, Cohort, College in Colorado, Pre-Collegiate Case Management	Cohort, College in Colorado, Pre-Collegiate Case Management
Transferable Credits/Cost per student		Total: 3 credits hrs \$364 tuition \$50 books	Total: 9 credits hrs \$1,125 tuition \$350 books	Total: 24 credits hrs \$3,060 tuition \$750 books	Total: 24 credits hrs \$3,121.20 tuition \$750 books
Total College Credits					Total: 60 credits hrs
		CTE Track*			