

CT,

State Director, Marc Herzog

Connecticut has policy which requires a high school diploma or equivalent for program matriculation but it is not required for general admission to the college. The provision can be waived if the student can demonstrate the “ability to benefit” for which we use Federal defined cut-scores on the Accuplacer exam as approved by the Department of Education. The waiver provision was put in place many years ago for adult learners (non-traditional students /non-high school completers) who were returning to education. Program enrollment/matriculation is required for Title IV eligibility.

We do have a formal arrangement for a high school partnership program (dual/concurrent enrollment) for our secondary schools that permits high school students to enroll in college courses, with the recommendation of the high school in their Junior and/or Senior year.

GA

State Director, Rob Watts

Yes, for the University System of Georgia institutions.

IA

State Director, Roger Utman

In the State of Iowa, there is no statute which addresses this issue. However, the community colleges have had a long standing policy that students have a high school diploma, a GED, or qualify under the “ability to benefit” rule under federal student financial aid. While the community colleges here are considered having an “open admissions” policy, career and technical education programs at the colleges may have additional criteria which can include having a diploma or GED (i.e. Associate Degree Nursing).

IL

State Director, Geoff Obrzut

In Illinois, students do not have to have a diploma or GED to enroll. But, they cannot be awarded a degree unless they have a high school diploma or GED. Also, students are not eligible for federal financial aid unless they have a degree or GED. A college can overrule federal guidelines if the college determines they have the ability to benefit. However, that does not happen very often.

MD

State Director, Clay Whitlow

No such requirement in Maryland.

MT

State Director, Mary Sheehy Moe

We have two types of community colleges in Montana – those that are locally governed and those that are affiliated with a university in the Montana University System (currently called “colleges of technology,” although that’s about to change).

Board of Regents policy requires that students must graduate from an accredited high school with a diploma or they must hold a GED credential to be admitted to academic programs at the Colleges of Technology or the locally governed community colleges. However, because the latter have GED-completion programs, students who are 18 years or older may be admitted there without a diploma or GED to enroll in Adult Basic Education.

MI,

State Director, Jim Folkening

In Michigan, the Community College Act requires students enrolled in college credit courses must have either high school graduation, GED, or in an approved dual enrollment agreement.

OR

State Director, Cam Preus

Oregon has no such requirement.

VA

State Director, Glen DuBois

We're like Maryland.

WV

State Director, Jim Skidmore

In West Virginia, regular admissions require a high school diploma or a GED, but individuals without a high school credential may be admitted on a conditional basis. Students admitted conditionally must be evaluated at the conclusion of each semester to determine if college-level academic performance indicates the ability to continue.