

Articulation Board Policy Review

This comparative review of Articulation Board policies examines these guidelines at San Bernardino, Santa Clarita, Gavilan, Merced, and Monterey Peninsula districts. Of these institutions, only San Bernardino, Gavilan, and Merced CCDs have articulation policies. Monterey Peninsula and Santa Clarita college districts as well as Hartnell College have no articulation policies. The Community College League of California recommends the adoption of an articulation policy, although it is not legally mandated.

Of the college districts with articulation policies, San Bernardino and Gavilan college districts guidelines closely mirror the College League's recommendation. Their policies state the importance of articulation relationships with high school and higher education institutions which may not be geographically proximate.

Merced CCD articulation policy incorporates more detail regarding regional articulation with state wide and regional universities, colleges, and secondary schools. There is an element of administrative procedure as well, with the notation of course requirements, minimum qualifications, transfer requirements and agreements with state and independent institutions.

All three of the districts have administrative policies which specify articulation processes. San Bernardino CCD utilizes guidelines from the Handbook of California Articulation Policies and Procedures (2001). The articulation officers are held responsible for the development, maintenance, and distribution of articulation agreements. The Merced and Gavilan procedures are similar, with varying detail in terms of the level of institutions, articulation activities, and course by course articulation.

Recommendations

Hartnell College has no existing articulation policy at this time. The Community College League of California states there is no legal requirement for an articulation policy, but note that it is legally advised. The language used by San Bernardino and Gavilan college districts is virtually the same as the CCLCA advisory policy. Under the circumstances, considering the League advisory, the potential of litigation, and the current lack of a Board policy, it seems logical to adopt an articulation policy. The Community College League of California recommended Board policy appears to be the best option. The administrative policy from Gavilan College seems the clearest and most current, dating from 2008.