

# Competency-Based Education (CBE) Initiative

## CBE Benefits for the Student

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### Reduce Time to Completion

Students who enter the program with extra motivation, affinity to learn the material, or previous knowledge in the subject can accelerate through the program faster.

### Reduce Cost of Attendance

Students who are able to accelerate through the program will pay less in tuition. The fewer calendar days a student takes to complete the program requirements the lower the tuition charged.

### Recognition of Prior Learning

This delivery model recognizes and rewards all students for the knowledge they bring into their program of study. Learning is measured based on demonstration of competency and not time (credits or clock hours). If a student has previous knowledge of a competency they can demonstrate that by accelerating through the assessment, or they may take additional time working up to an assessment if the competency is new to them.

### Self-Paced, Self-Directed Learning

Using technology-enhanced educational resources, students will participate in an environment that allows them to capitalize on their motivation or other factors that influence their pace of academic achievement. Through this technology enhanced approach, adult students will also realize the ability to customize their approach to learning.

### Flexibility in Delivery

The design of the CBE model will provide program entry dates on every Monday for incoming students. It will also be based on a hybrid, or blended, delivery system that uses both online and face-to-face instruction, which allows students to access content and learn in a way that accommodates their schedule.

### Industry Designed Transcripts

CBE transcripts will list the competencies mastered and not course names. This is designed to demonstrate to potential employers “what you can do” not overarching concepts seen in a typical course title.

## CBE Challenges for Implementation

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- Financial Aid regulations (Department of Education-Experimental Sites Initiative)
- Traditional academic model does not accommodate a non-term, non-time based model
- Software and data systems compatibility
- Internal and external perception of value and credibility