

# Regional Educational Laboratory–Appalachia: Catalog of Dual Enrollment / Dual Credit Course Data in Kentucky

Client: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Educational Evaluation and Regional Assistance

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## **Project Overview**

Insight, as a subcontractor to CNA, provides research assistance with respect to the programs and initiatives within the Regional Educational Laboratory–Appalachia (REL-Appalachia). The laboratory supports the Kentucky College and Career Readiness Alliance (KyCCRA) in its goals to improve the college and career readiness of Kentucky students and build the capacity of local educators to understand and support student pathways from high school to college or the workforce.

In response to a need from KyCCRA for information about the availability of data on dual enrollment and dual credit (DE/DC) programs across the State, Insight developed a data catalog.

Before answering questions about who takes DE/DC courses, what courses are taken through DE/DC, where courses are taken, the number of college credits earned by high school students, and the postsecondary outcomes of students who participate in DE/DC, Insight needed to identify what data were available, from where, and over what time period.

The catalog documents 1) what data elements exist; 2) at what unit of analysis data are available (course, student, school, etc.); 3) what percentage of schools have any data reported for each element; and 4) which agency collected the data. Specifically, the catalog informs KyCCRA members of available extant data elements about students' participation and performance in DE/DC courses as well as those students' postsecondary outcomes (e.g., enrollment, full-time versus part-time status, and degree completion).

Through the project, Insight identified gaps in available data and met with KyCCRA members to discuss ways of improving or changing data elements in the future to capture relevant information more reliably through existing data structures.

## **Core Activities**

Secondary Data Analysis; Policy Analysis and Assessment; Report Development and Presentation

## **Products**

- A data catalog that can be used by KyCCRA members. The catalog shows the variables available through the Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics (KCEWS) by original data source (Infinite Campus for K-12 data, the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System for postsecondary data, and the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board for teacher data). KyCCRA members will use the data catalog when designing research studies to understand the limitations and possibilities of data available for analysis.
- A memo that serves a companion to the data catalog. The memo summarizes DE/DC data availability in Kentucky, and, through references to the research literature on DE/DC, may suggest additional data elements that KyCCRA members could examine.

