

COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION NETWORK

What is Competency-Based Education?

Competency-based education (CBE) is a flexible way for students to get credit for what they know, build on their knowledge and skills by learning more at their own pace, and earn high-quality degrees, certificates, and other credentials that help them in their lives and careers. CBE focuses on what students must know and be able to do to earn degrees and other credentials.

CBE is one of the fastest-growing approaches for individuals to access a college education. More than 200 institutions across the country, including public, private, for-profit and nonprofit institutions, are either offering or are developing CBE degree programs.

Student progress is measured by their demonstration of competencies, or mastery of required learning, through assessments that are embedded in courses, modules, and other structured learning experiences. Students move ahead as they prove they have mastered the knowledge and skills required for a particular area of study, regardless of how long it takes.

About C-BEN

The Competency-Based Education Network (C-BEN) is a group of regionally accredited two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities working together to address shared challenges to designing, developing and scaling high-quality CBE programs.

In early 2014, C-BEN's initial Steering Committee selected an initial cohort of 18 colleges and universities and two public higher education systems to form a group to lead the charge in developing this innovative approach to offering a college education as well as to champion it in their communities. A second cohort of 13 colleges and universities and two public higher education systems joined C-BEN in early 2015. The Network includes 30 colleges and universities and four public systems with 82 campuses.

C-BEN institutions have developed or are developing affordable, high-quality CBE programs capable of serving many more students of all backgrounds.

Additionally, member institutions are offering or will offer programs with well-defined learning outcomes and rigorous assessments. The C-BEN Board of Directors, comprising innovators from several participating institutions, guides the work to provide an evidence-based approach to advancing CBE across the country.

Participating Institutions

The Network consists of 30 colleges and universities and four public systems with 82 campuses. These include:

Antioch University (Ohio), Brandman University (Calif.), Broward College (Fla.), Capella University (Minn.), Central New Mexico Community College, Charter Oak State College (Conn.), City University of Seattle, Concordia University (Wisc.), Danville Community College (Va.), Davenport University (Mich.), DePaul University (Ill.), Excelsior College (N.Y.), Kentucky Commonwealth College (University of Louisville and Western Kentucky University), Kentucky Community & Technical College System, Lipscomb University (Tenn.), Lord Fairfax Community College (Va.), Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, Northern Arizona University, Purdue University (Ind.), Rasmussen College (Minn.), Salt Lake Community College, Southern New Hampshire University, Southwestern College (Kan.), Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (South Texas College and Texas A&M University-Commerce), Thomas Edison State College (N.J.), University System of Georgia, University of Maine at Presque Isle, University of Maryland University College, University of Michigan, University of Texas System, University of Wisconsin-Extension, Walden University (Minn.), and Westminster College (Utah).

To learn more about C-BEN and participating institutions please visit: www.cbenetwork.org