



August 2, 2011

EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM NO. 11-13

TO: Senior Management Team  
Chancellors  
Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents  
State Director of Career and Technical Education

FROM: M.R.C. Greenwood  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M.R.C. Greenwood".

SUBJECT: Promulgation of Executive Policy E5.228 Credit Hour

For your information and appropriate distribution, attached is the new Executive Policy E5.228 Credit Hour. The policy is in response to new Federal guidelines requiring institutions to implement a policy by July 1, 2011 that is consistent with the federal definition of credit hour.

The definition of credit hour for Federal purposes is necessary, in part, because more than \$150 billion of Federal financial aid is awarded annually based on individual student enrollment, as represented in number of credits. The credit hour is a basic unit of student aid eligibility, and the new regulations address vulnerabilities in student aid programs that leave them open to fraud and abuse (US Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, GEN-11-06, March 2011).

Regional accrediting agencies are charged by Federal regulations to monitor the implementation of the credit hour policy on each campus they accredit.

Attachment