



Lake Winnebago Region Restructuring
Project Decision

Originating Work Group or Department:	Student Support Services
Date Submitted for approval:	3/5/19
Decision Title:	Require all incoming students at the Fox Valley and Fond du Lac campuses with an ACT Reading score below 17 to take ACAD 100 Developmental Reading within their first 30 credits.

Recommended Decision
<p>Extend the Oshkosh campus’s reading Placement Policy to the Fox Valley and Fond du Lac campuses by requiring all incoming students with an ACT Reading score below 17 to take ACAD 100 Developmental Reading Skills (2 transcript credits) within their first 30 credits. Students who have a score between 17-20 will be strongly encouraged to take the course.</p> <p>As per the Oshkosh campus’s Reading Placement Policy, the ACT Reading score will become a milestone on the student’s record, like math and English placements. During orientation, students will be strongly encouraged to take ACAD 100 Developmental Reading in the fall or spring semesters. Once a year, a query will provide information to advising about those students who have not completed the requirement, and students will be notified that they must take the course or have a hold placed on their enrollment and records. Completion of the course will be reflected as a completed milestone on the STAR and in PeopleSoft. Certain populations are deemed exempt from this policy, including students enrolled in Project Success, or in online programs. An appeals process exists for those students who wish to apply for an exemption.</p> <p>The Reading & Study Skills Center will administer the ACAD 100 Developmental Reading program for the three campuses. Scheduling and hiring decision will be made collaboratively with the individual campuses.</p>

Background
<p>Since Fall 2011, students entering the Oshkosh campus for a bachelor’s degree have been required to take ACAD 100 Developmental Reading Skills if they scored below 17 on the ACT Reading test. This policy was developed collaboratively by the directors of the Undergraduate Advising Resource Center (UARC) and the Reading & Study Skills Center in response to data from the Office of Institutional Research showing a distinct correlation between a student’s ACT Reading score and academic success at UW Oshkosh. Specifically, 10 years of data revealed that students who test below 17 have a disproportionately high likelihood of earning below a 2.0 in their first semester (29.8%), compared to 17% or fewer of student with an ACT Reading score above 17. Approximately 130 students per year are impacted by this policy on the Oshkosh campus.</p> <p>Longitudinal analysis by OIR shows that ACAD 100 completers achieve higher GPAs and persist at a higher rate than do non-completers, on average 80.37% versus 75.3%. Additionally, completers of ACAD 100 average a 16% increase in their reading lexiles over the course of the semester (from 9th/10th grade to 12th grade/1st yr. undergrad.)</p>

Research supports the role of developmental reading courses in academic success. Hodges and Agee (Handbook of College Reading and Study Strategy Research, 3rd ed.) cite several studies that demonstrate higher grades, more credit hours, and better retention for students who take well-designed developmental reading courses. Boylan (What Works...Developmental Education) states: "Mandatory assessment followed by voluntary placement undermines the entire concept of assessment as promoting student success."

Implementation of this policy will require additional FTE for credentialed reading instructors. However, these added instructional costs will be covered by tuition revenue, consistent with UW System policy on developmental coursework.

As the current administrator of the ACAD 100 Developmental Reading program, the Reading & Study Skills Center has the existing infrastructure to manage the implementation, scheduling, hiring, and assessment of this course/program. However, collaboration with both the Fox Valley and Fond du Lac campuses will be essential to the program's success.

Budget Implications

<p>Marki D. Rudd</p> <p>Signatures</p>	<p>Andrew A. Leavitt</p> <p>5/15/19</p>
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- I accept this recommendation
- I do not accept this recommendation

Martin Rudd
Assistant Chancellor for Access Campuses
UW-Fond du Lac and UW-Fox Valley

Date: 04/27/2019

- I accept this recommendation
- I do not accept this recommendation

Andrew Leavitt
Chancellor
UW Oshkosh

Date: 5/15/2019

Comments

Timeline: Fall 2019 provided that the policy is approved by February 1, 2019, otherwise Fall 2020 implementation.