**“First 15” Rule: Students must complete 15 credit hours in Level I before progressing to Level II**

**Level I**
1. Transferable course: Part of CTAG, OTM, or TAG or equivalent at private college/university (i.e., CTAG: Career-Technical Assurance Guides, OTM: Ohio Transfer Module, TAG: Transfer Assurance Guides)
2. Course in computer science, information technology, anatomy, physiology, or foreign language, including American Sign Language
3. Technical certificate course
4. 15-credit hour or 30-credit hour model pathway course
5. Study skills, academic or career success skills course
6. Internship course
7. Another course that may be approved by the Chancellor on an annual basis

**Level II**
Any other college course that is not a Level I course

*Exceptions to the “First 15” Rule may be made if the student wishes to continue with course in the same subject or tests directly into Level II course. Students who have attained the required scores on AP or IB course examinations may count the course toward the First 15.*

### Allowable Courses
- One-on-one private instruction course
- Course with fees that exceed amount set by Chancellor
- Study abroad courses
- Physical education courses
- P/F or S/U grades (unless the course is an internship or is a transferable course for all students enrolled)
- Remedial course & Sectarian religion course

Courses are non-allowable unless Chancellor approves for certificate or degree completion (six weeks prior to term request; see rule for details).

### Non-Allowable Courses
- College/University must list Level I courses on website.
- Secondary school must verify appropriate courses and discuss drop or self-pay options with student/parent.
- Secondary school and college/university must include eligible course information in required communications (e.g., informational sessions, counseling sessions, mandatory advising).

### Notifications
- Actions required by secondary school must be taken by the parent of the homeschooled student. Review entire rule for details on compliance.
- Students/parents, secondary schools, and colleges/universities must review entire rule for details related to course restrictions and dis-enrollments, policy development, counseling sessions, advising.

### Audits
Chancellor has authority to review college courses to ensure courses meet the requirements of the rule. Review entire rule for details.

**NOTE:** This rule is currently proceeding through the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) process. The proposed effective date is February 13, 2018 with implementation in the summer term of 2018-2019 academic year.

*Ohio Department of Higher Education, December 2017*