SREB College and Career Readiness Courses
(formerly known as transitional courses)

Sustainable Strategies Meeting
January 29, 2014
Don't Expect Luggage To Arrive
SREB States

Alabama * Arkansas * Delaware * Florida
Georgia * Kentucky * Louisiana * Maryland
Mississippi * North Carolina * Oklahoma
South Carolina * Tennessee * Texas
Virginia * West Virginia

What do we do?

SREB FACTS
College and Career Readiness Efforts

• SREB’s current College Readiness mission began in 2007
• SREB’s first grant that initiated transitional courses in the South – *Strengthening State College/Career Readiness Initiatives (SSCRI)*
• SREB’s current grant – *Advancing Common Core Standards, Educator Effectiveness, and College Readiness in SREB States*
1. Establish statewide college readiness standards (CRS) in reading/writing and math

2. High school assessment(s) of student progress on the CRS
   • Assess students no later than grade 11
   • Set test score requirements that are highly predictive of first-year college success
3. High school courses to ensure readiness
   - Focused on the reading/writing and math CRS
   - Students assessed as not ready must take courses in grade 11 or 12
   - All high schools statewide must offer courses
   - Success in course signifies readiness

4. College placement coordinated with P-12 readiness actions
   - Use the same CRS
   - Recognize school readiness assessments and transitional course results

5. State school accountability systems include college readiness
   - Distinct recognition of school progress in increasing readiness for college
   - Based on school assessments of CRS
   - Based on college placement results
Essential Elements of State Policy for College Completion: Transitional Courses for College and Career Readiness

Provides 12 policy recommendations for implementing standards, assessments and curriculum to improve student readiness

Published January 2013
What are Readiness (transitional) Courses?

• Tailored, targeted courses to assist students who are “unready” before high school graduation
• Prevent remediation in postsecondary education
• SREB has developed two Readiness Courses – Math Ready and Literacy Ready
Development Partners

- SREB expert content consultants
- Rigorous standards experts
- Achieve
- PARCC
- 16 States including 12 in the SREB region

Key:
Green States signifies original partner states who drafted and Tested the courses
Blue States signify later joining states who reviewed the Courses – some are piloting them now.
How are they effective?

• Readiness Courses target specific students
• Assessments should highlight student needs for teachers
• Based on the rigorous standards for readiness
• Courses are modular and flexible
• Content is delivered in engaging, real-world contextual formats
Course Download

SREB.org/Ready

Free of cost – nationwide!
Literacy Ready: Ready for reading in all disciplines
Math Ready: Ready for college-level math
Project Milestones

• Piloted the courses in seven states
• Outside organizations reviewed and provided feedback, as well as teams from eight states
• Worked with (and continue to work with) state policymakers to implement policies that support the statewide implementation of these courses
• Provided professional development workshops to a select group of teachers and faculty from 48 schools in 15 states
Next Directions

• Will continue mass professional development
• States will enter into full, statewide implementation or widespread field-testing in the 2014-2015 school year and beyond
• External Evaluation
• Connection with Go Alliance Counseling initiative
• Adapt into 6-12th grade and Developmental Education
Online SREB Readiness Courses

- SREB is working with Apple Inc. to build versions of both the Readiness Courses on iTunes U
- Gives states greater flexibility for implementation, providing in-class, online, or hybrid teaching materials
- Target release is Summer 2014
Resource Availability

New Website includes:

• Project and participating state information
• Course Download – Available Now!
• Publications and helpful Power Points for states and teachers
Questions?

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SREB.org/Ready