



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

1600 Broadway, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202

Meeting	Academic Council June 9, 2026 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Location	Remote ONLY
Call-In Information	View Meeting Recording
Meeting Participants	Provosts and Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) of the public institutions of higher education
Meeting Objectives	Members advise the Department on policy development and implementation, as well as other matters affecting higher education.

AGENDA – NOTES

1. Greetings and Introductions

In attendance: Helen Caprioglio (CSUP); Jerid Counterman (CSUG); Margaret Doell (ASU); Cher Hendricks (CMU); Roze Hentschell (CSU-SYS); Jill Lange (MSU Denver); Mike Lightner (CU-SYS); Karen Marrongelle (CU Denver); Kim Miloch (CSU); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Rebecca Woulfe (CCCS-FRCC); Jess Young (WCU); Kevin Laudner; Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Carl Einhaus (CDHE); Brad Griffith (CDHE)

Council members acknowledged several leadership transitions and retirements across institutions, including departing provosts and interim leadership changes. These updates reflect ongoing turnover and transition within institutional leadership across the state.

2. Approval of May Meeting Notes

[see handout: 2026-05-12 NOTES-AC.pdf]

Notes approved

3. Announcements and Discussion Items

a. Updates from CCHE Advisor Michael Lightner

Dr. Lightner provided an update on upcoming Commission activities, including a scheduled CCHE meeting and a July retreat. Additional discussion focused on an upcoming statewide kickoff event in Pueblo tied to the Transition Advisory Committee (TAC), with members seeking clarification on participation and representation. While

details remain limited, the kickoff is expected to initiate broader engagement ahead of the formal start of committee work.

b. 2026 Legislative Session Recap

Brad provided updates on key legislation impacting higher education. House Bill 26-1317 continues to advance a multi-year effort to align postsecondary education and workforce systems, with the TAC currently in [the nomination phase](#) (listed as the Postsecondary Talent Development System Transition Advisory Committee on the form) and expected to begin meeting later this summer; staff will continue to share updates as membership and processes are finalized. Members also discussed House Bill 26-1078, which removes prior restrictions preventing extended studies programs from offering concurrent enrollment, provided statutory requirements are met, and noted that additional implementation guidance from the Colorado Department of Education is forthcoming. Questions were raised regarding Senate Bill 26-189 on automated decision-making technologies, with members identifying the need for further guidance from the Attorney General's office and agreeing to monitor developments.

c. Transfer initiatives update (Carl Einhaus)

- Higher Education Transfer Audit

An update was provided on the timeline for completing audit-related policy changes, emphasizing that revisions must be finalized and approved by the Commission by September to meet the October deadline. Staff noted that upcoming months will focus on accelerating policy review and refinement, with members expected to review draft language and provide feedback as it becomes available. This work represents a key action priority for the Department over the summer.

- CCHE Transfer Subcommittee

Staff highlighted ongoing work within the Transfer Subcommittee, including substantive discussions around transfer policy changes, particularly related to documentation requirements and credit mobility across institutions. Members were encouraged to participate in upcoming meetings and to share draft materials with campus stakeholders once circulated in July and August, supporting broader engagement prior to final Commission action.

d. Institutional check-in (off-record) – Open forum for institutions to share campus updates. *Note: The meeting recording will conclude prior to this discussion.*

4. New, modified, and closed programs

a. New

- Colorado Mesa University
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Illustrative Design

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- Undergraduate Certificate in Managerial Cybersecurity
- Undergraduate Certificate in Full Stack Software Development
- Undergraduate Certificate in Strength & Conditioning
- Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts – General Studies
- Graduate Certificate in Spanish-English Bilingual
- Colorado State University – Global Campus
 - Bachelor of Science in Data Management and Analytics
- b. Modified
 - University of Colorado Colorado Springs
 - Bachelor of Science in Health Care Science changed to Bachelor of Science in Health and Wellness
 - University of Colorado Denver
 - Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering changed to Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering
 - Master of Science in Bioengineering changed to Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering
 - Master of Science in Business Analytics changed to Master of Science in Business Analytics and Artificial Intelligence
 - Ph.D. in Bioengineering changed to Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering
- c. Closed Programs
 - Colorado Mesa University
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Web Application Development
 - Bachelor of Business Administration: International Business

ACTION ITEMS

Issue	Action / Next Step	Assigned To & Date Assigned

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