

From: Chief Instructional Officers <CIO-ALL@LISTSERV.CCCCO.EDU> **On Behalf Of** Todd, James

Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 1:30 PM

To: CIO-ALL@LISTSERV.CCCCO.EDU

Subject: TOP-CIP Timeline Update

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Dear Colleagues,

Hopefully, some welcome news! *Thank you* for your continued engagement and partnership as we work through the transition from TOP to CIP. We appreciate the thoughtful input we've received from the field, including more than 200 requests for additional TOP–CIP mappings, as well as ongoing discussions with CIOs, CSSOs, CBOs, ASCCC and 5C. In response to this feedback, and to ensure the technical infrastructure can fully support the complexity of this transition, **we are extending the timeline for full implementation by one year to 2028**. This adjustment is intended to provide colleges with the time needed to make informed academic and operational decisions, while also allowing for necessary system development and refinement. A memorandum is forthcoming regarding the implementation timelines, and much of this information is also in this email.

Please read this information carefully. The updated timeline reflects two key milestone extensions:

- **Curriculum Inventory Updates Due June 30, 2027.** The deadline for CIP code entry into COCI (CTE, non-CTE, and noncredit) has been extended from December 31, 2026 to June 30, 2027. This provides the entire 2026-2027 academic year for colleges to review, select, and upload CIP codes into COCI.

The COCI Interface tool, which is informed by our TOP-CIP crosswalk, will be available at the start of Fall 2026 for use. Once launched, colleges will need to review and verify all existing CIP codes currently in the system, as well as to submit updates for all programs—including those already assigned a CIP code. We will be auditing records to ensure all CIP codes are reviewed. Colleges should also plan to review and revise SAM codes as needed, based on forthcoming clarifying guidance.

- **Fiscal Implementation Due June 2028.** Second, the timeline for fiscal implementation—including budget, facilities, and accounting code alignment—has been extended from June 30, 2027 to June 30, 2028. This provides an additional 12 months for fiscal teams to review, align, and validate accounting and reporting structures.

While this TOP-CIP timeline extension provides needed flexibility, sustained progress and timely local planning will be essential to ensure a smooth and successful transition. For academic leaders, curriculum offices, and faculty, we must continue to prioritize this work and focus on specific efforts right now:

Keep reviewing your curriculum in relation to the TOP-CIP Crosswalk—especially CTE and noncredit. If you haven't started, make sure to do so by May 15 and provide any necessary input. We strongly encourage you to review the [TOP-CIP Crosswalk](#) and the National Center for Education Statistics [List of CIP codes](#) on your campuses.

- *We will keep the TOP–CIP Crosswalk open for additional mapping requests until May 15, 2026; after that time it will be finalized and integrated into the forthcoming COCI tool for use by campuses.* We are reviewing your requests to consider other TOP to CIP mapping, and we continue to revise the Crosswalk appropriately (contact us at top2cip@cccco.edu). If you are unable to identify an appropriate CIP code in the current crosswalk, please submit your current TOP code, the CIP code

you are requesting, and indicate whether the requested CIP code is intended for CTE designation. We continue to make changes to improve our [TOP-CIP Crosswalk](#), and you can see them in our [TOP-CIP Change Log](#), which is updated every Friday. Your input is necessary!

Taking the time now to refine TOP–CIP mappings is already reducing the number of programs that may not align with CTE designation under CIP. While some differences between TOP and CIP classifications will remain, we expect these to be significantly fewer as a result of this collective effort. We encourage you to continue prioritizing this work and to share this update broadly within your institutions.

Noncredit, Work Experience, and Guidance courses.

- **Noncredit CIP codes** do not identify discipline or program content. To address this issue, the Chancellor’s Office is developing a new CB code cell in COCI. Colleges will upload the noncredit CIP for reporting (e.g., 32.0111 for any Short-Term Vocational Program) *plus* a corresponding credit CIP code for internal tracking and analysis. We will let you know when this is in place.
- **Work Experience courses** do not have a dedicated CIP code.
 - **CTE:** There are no CIP codes for CTE general work experience. Any Work Experience (WE) course associated with a CTE program must be coded with the program CIP code. An additional data field (CB10) will be connected to these course codes to identify it as a work experience course. For example, Masonry Program is 46.0101, so the work experience would be: 46.0101(Masonry WE course) + CB10 to identify it as WE.
 - **Non-CTE** work experience courses may follow the same guidance as given for CTE courses, or they may use the General Studies CIP code (24.0102) as a general work experience course.

Academic Prep/Career Prep/guidance courses currently map only to noncredit CIP codes. We know most colleges have one or more of these kinds of courses. We have identified four appropriate credit CIP codes that can be used (the CIP code Titles are included). Each has a broad definition; please review your guidance courses to ensure they can fit into one of these categories.

- First-Year Experience course: *CIP 30.0000* - (Multi-Interdisciplinary Studies)
- Academic Guidance/Ed Planning course: *CIP 24.0102* - (Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies)
- Career Guidance course: *CIP 13.1102* - (College Student Counseling and Personnel Services)
- Study Skills and Other Guidance courses: *CIP 13.1199* - (Student Counseling and Personnel Services, Other)

Thank you again for your leadership and collaboration, as well as your help to identify accurate CIP codes for our programs and courses. Let us know how we can best support you, and please send any questions or requests to review a TOP to CIP mapping to top2cip@cccoco.edu.

Warm regards,
James

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