

## Fiscal Highlights

### **Concurrent Enrollment a Benefit for Students** - Spencer C. Pratt

Concurrent enrollment proves to be a benefit for students financially and in preparing them for post-secondary enrollment. A high school student participates in concurrent enrollment when he/she takes a college-level course at the high school or at a USHE institution. Upon successfully passing the course, high school students earn credit toward their high school graduation, and also credit toward a degree from a USHE institution. Students pay a small fee to take the course, but are then able to avoid paying the tuition that would be required in a non-concurrent enrollment situation. In 2014-15, more than 1/3 of all high school juniors and seniors (28,551) enrolled in at least one concurrent enrollment course. Approximately 90 percent of the courses are taught at the high school by adjunct instructors. The two courses most frequently taken are English 1010 and Math 1050.

Students enrolled for nearly 200,000 credit hours via concurrent enrollment in 2014-15, which would have cost them approximately \$32.5 million in tuition had they been taught in a non-concurrent enrollment setting, according to the State Board or Regents. In addition, research shows that students who participate in concurrent enrollment are three times more likely to attend college than students who do not participate. Students who earn college credit while in high school can reduce the time it takes to complete their degree requirements.