



Tab 7

## Community College Redistricting Process

Coordinating Board for Higher Education

March 3, 2021

### BACKGROUND

Section 178.820.2, RSMo, requires that, every ten years, after publication of the decennial census figures, each community college district “which contains more than four hundred fifty thousand residents” complete the redistricting process. Section 178.820.4, RSMo, further requires that, every ten year, after publication of the decennial census figures, each community college with subdistricts must complete the redistricting process or all trustees must run “at large.”

The process provided in statute is as follows:

1. The affected community college district board of trustees must vote to adopt a resolution calling for the formation of a redistricting committee within ninety days after publication of the decennial census figures (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
2. “Upon adoption of the resolution, the secretary of the board of trustees shall forward a certified copy [of the resolution] to the CBHE with the request that the redistricting committee be appointed in order to divide the community college districts into at least two and not more than six subdistricts for the purpose of electing trustees” (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
3. The board of trustees appoints three residents within the affected district to the redistricting committee (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
4. The CBHE appoints three residents within the affected district to the redistricting committee (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
5. The redistricting committee then meets and adopts a redistricting plan (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
6. Once the plan is approved by a majority of the redistricting committee, the committee forwards a certified copy, via the board of trustees secretary, to the CBHE for approval or disapproval (§ 178.820.4, RSMo)
7. “The CBHE shall approve any redistricting plan in which the population of any subdistrict divided by the number of trustees to be selected therefrom substantially equals the population of any other subdistrict divided by the number of trustees to be elected therefrom” (§ 178.820.4, RSMo)
8. “If the plan is not approved, then it shall be returned to the redistricting committee for revision and resubmission” (§ 178.820.4, RSMo)

### CURRENT STATUS

#### 178.820.2 Required Redistricting

In Missouri, both Metropolitan Community College (MCC) and St. Louis Community College (STLCC) must undergo the redistricting process after the upcoming publication of the decennial census figures because their taxing district populations are over 450,000 people. DHEWD staff met with MCC and STLCC on January 21, 2021, to discuss this process over the coming year.

MCC is both going through the statutorily required redistricting process and is attempting to attach new school districts to its community college district at the same time. STLCC is only completing redistricting and is not attempting to attach new school districts. This fact does not change the redistricting process for MCC, but adds

a step that requires a vote of the residents of the affected school districts. If the voters of the affected school districts vote to join the MCC district, their school districts will be included in the redistricting process.

Both MCC and STLCC are currently in the planning phase of this process while each waits for the publication of the census figures.

#### 178.820.4 Required Redistricting

At this time, the following community colleges must undergo the redistricting process after publication of the decennial census figures because they have subdistricts:

- Crowder College
- East Central Community College
- Mineral Area College

#### **NEXT STEPS**

At or before the June 2021 CBHE meeting, all impacted community colleges will need the CBHE to select the three resident members of each respective redistricting committee. In 2011, the last time DHEWD and the community colleges completed this process, the CBHE instructed each community college to submit a list of five proposed redistricting committee members to the CBHE for the CBHE to choose from. Along with names, the CBHE required that the slate of five reflect the demographics of the community college district, and also required submission of biographical information and the political affiliation of each proposed candidate.

In the coming months, the CBHE must inform all impacted community colleges how many proposed candidates to submit for consideration as well as what supporting information the CBHE wants to consider for each candidate.

After the CBHE selects candidates at or before the June 2021 meeting, the institutions will convene their redistricting committees and do the work of creating the redistricting plan. The institutions will then submit their redistricting plans for CBHE approval at either the September or December 2021 CBHE meetings.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

This is an information item only.

#### **NO ATTACHMENTS**

