GUIDANCE FOR COLLEGES & SECONDARY SCHOOLS
MATURE SUBJECT MATTER

As of Oct. 1, 2021, colleges, universities and secondary schools must provide information about mature subject matter in college courses to students and parents or guardians. The following **guidance statements** are the most current information available; however, there may be instances when it is more appropriate for a college or university to contact its own legal counsel for assistance. Please check www.ohiohighered.org/ccp/resources for up-to-date information.

PERMISSION SLIP

- As required in Ohio Revised Code 3365.035, the **Ohio Department of Education** and the **Ohio Department of Higher Education** have developed a permission slip for colleges and universities to use. This form is available on the College Credit Plus resources webpage.
- **Colleges and universities** must include the permission slip within the application materials.
- The **parent and student** must sign and provide the completed form with the application materials to the college to which the student wishes to apply.
- In addition to including the form with the application materials, **colleges and universities** must post this permission form on a prominent place on the colleges' College Credit Plus websites.

QUESTIONNAIRE

- Each **college**, upon admitting a student to the College Credit Plus program, must include a questionnaire in the college's enrollment materials.
- The questionnaire must include the two questions as described in Ohio Revised Code 3365.035: *1) Does the student acknowledge that the student possesses the necessary social and emotional maturity? 2) Is the student ready to accept the responsibility and independence that a college classroom demands and to resubmit to the college?*
- The questionnaire must be developed by the college; however, a basic template containing the minimum requirements has been made available for the convenience of colleges. The questionnaire template can be found on the College Credit Plus resources webpage.
- Students must complete the questionnaire by answering in the affirmative acknowledging that the student possesses the necessary social and emotional maturity and is ready to accept the responsibility and independence that a college classroom demands.
- Students must provide the completed questionnaire to the college.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Colleges** must provide guidance to students on reviewing any course materials available prior to enrollment in a course.
- **Colleges** must provide information about the college's policies and the College Credit Plus program policies on withdrawing from or dropping a course.
- **Colleges** must provide information about the student's right to speak with the student's high school counselor or with the academic advisor assigned to the student as prescribed in Ohio Revised Code 3365.035 division (F).
- **Colleges** must provide a discussion at student orientation about the potential for mature subject matter in courses taken through the program.
- The **Ohio Department of Education**, the **Ohio Department of Higher Education** and **each college** participating in the program must post in a prominent place on their College Credit Plus websites the following disclaimer:
  "The subject matter of a course enrolled in under the college credit plus program may include mature subject matter or materials, including those of a graphic, explicit, violent, or sexual nature, that will not be modified based upon college credit plus enrollee participation regardless of where course instruction occurs."
- **Secondary schools** must provide the following information during counseling sessions:
  Information about the potential for mature subject matter, as defined in section 3365.035 of the Revised Code, in courses in which the student intends to enroll through the program and notification that courses will not be modified based upon program enrollee participation regardless of where course instruction occurs. The information shall include the permission slip described in division (B) of section 3365.035 of the Revised Code.