



# COURSE ACCESS

*Michael Q. McShane*

**THE PROBLEM:** All across Missouri, students do not have access to higher-level coursework such as AP courses, calculus, or physics.

**THE SOLUTION:** *Course access.*

Course access programs allow students to direct a portion of their annual per-pupil funds to take—and receive college credit for—courses outside of their traditional public school offerings. Students take these courses at an approved location such as a school library or a local community college.

**WHO ELSE DOES IT?** 11 states across the country have some form of course access program, including: Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

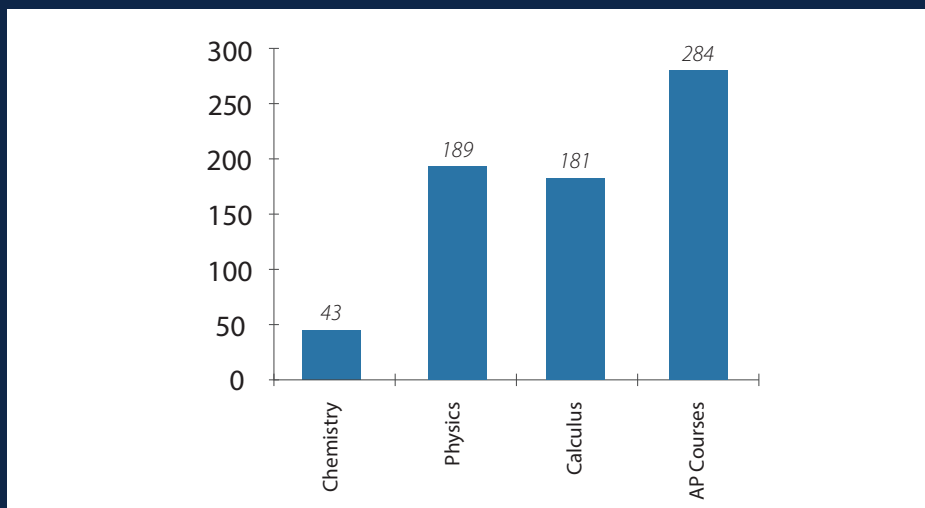
**THE OPPORTUNITY:** The Show-Me State has much of the infrastructure needed to create a course access program through an underused program known as the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program (MoVIP), which was signed into law in 2006. MoVIP provides access to online courses through approved providers. Course offerings are vetted by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and can be credited toward graduation.

## KEY POINTS

- All of Missouri's students deserve access to the high-level coursework necessary to prepare them for college and the workforce.
- During the 2015–2016 school year, of the 448 school districts that offer high school in the state, 9% had no students enrolled in chemistry, 42% had none enrolled in physics, 40% had none enrolled in calculus, and 63% had none enrolled in AP courses.

## DISTRICTS IN MISSOURI WITH ZERO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SELECTED COURSES, 2015–2016

*Thousands of students in Missouri attend schools that don't offer the advanced coursework that would prepare them to succeed in college.*



- Many high school students in Missouri have no access to higher-level courses.
- Course access allows students a cost-effective way to take courses not otherwise available in their district.
- Course access increases parent/individual control over education spending.
- Eleven states across the country offer some form of course access program.
- Missouri already has the infrastructure needed to create a course access program.

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## SHOW-ME INSTITUTE RESOURCES

**Our full primer:** [“Course Access in Missouri: Diversity, Personalization, and Opportunity”](#)

**Video:** [“Rural Schools Need Course Access”](#)

**Video:** [“Course Access Brings the Classroom to the Student”](#)

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5297 Washington Place | Saint Louis, MO 63108 | 314-454-0647  
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