



WICHE Online Course Exchange

The **Online Course Exchange** (WICHE OCE), developed by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, is a robust administrative tool designed to support collaboration among institutions offering online courses. As members of a consortium using OCE, institutions expand their students' access to high quality online courses and programs taught by other institutions participating in a consortium.

Flexible Design for Use by Higher Education Consortia. The OCE infrastructure is designed to be flexible so that it can support a wide range of consortia goals and business models—from those exchanging course enrollments across two- and four-year institutions statewide to discipline-specific exchanges across institutions in multiple states.

Benefits to Consortia Members. By balancing the supply and demand for courses across the consortium, students have access to more courses that can be pre-articulated to their programs while institutions have an opportunity to sell excess capacity in courses that might otherwise go unfilled. Through the Exchange, institutions may make more efficient use of limited resources and may be able to keep low-enrollment courses in niche programs financially viable by aggregating student enrollments across the consortium. Additionally, faculty may have the opportunity to develop and offer more courses in specialty subject areas because the Exchange can aggregate student demand for more advanced or additional courses.

How it Works. Each consortium's member institutions decide which courses they want to offer on the consortium's exchange and how many seats they will make available in each. These institutions also decide which courses on their exchange they want to make available to their own students. Each consortium sets its own business rules, including how the cost for course enrollments will be set, how the student will be charged, and how the revenue will be split.

WICHE OCE Client Services. For each consortium client, WICHE provides a range of services. These include a dedicated web-based course catalog and student data exchange system, training on the use of the OCE platform, access to a series of reports, financial transaction services, and more.



More Information. Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization, located in Boulder, Colorado. To learn more about WICHE OCE and its cost, consortia leaders should contact Kay Hulstrom (khulstrom@wiche.edu) or 303.541.0294.

www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/online-course-exchange