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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Crowder Dual Credit Achieves National Accreditation**

**Neosho, MO** – Administration at Crowder College is pleased to announce it has achieved national recognition of its Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment programs. “

National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) granted accreditation to Crowder after validation of the college’s quality of programs and courses offered in high schools throughout Crowder’s 9-county service district. This achievement places Crowder as the first community college in the state to earn this status.

“We are excited to offer our area high school students this great opportunity. It not only rewards them for their outstanding academic performance in high school, but allows them a jump start on their college education,” stated Melissa Smith, Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Program Coordinator. “This achievement places Crowder as the first community college in the state to earn this status. Currently, only three universities in Missouri have achieved this high standard.”

The Chair of NACEP's Accreditation Commission Jaclyn Dumond of the University of Southern Indiana remarked: "I'm very pleased to recognize Crowder College Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment programs as one of a select group of ninety-two concurrent enrollment partnerships nationwide accredited through NACEP's extensive peer-review process. Crowder College has demonstrated to its peers that the college courses it offers in high schools are of the same high quality as college courses offered on campus."

Crowder will have 48 area high schools (public and private) with Dual Credit/Enrollment opportunities this fall. Several schools offer students the potential to graduate with their Associate of Arts degree at the same time they graduate high school.

The rigorous accreditation process includes a self-study, documentation that adheres to the NACEP’s seventeen standards, and peer review. Crowder has been working towards this accreditation over the past two years.

For more information about Crowder’s Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment programs go to:

<http://www.crowder.edu/academics/dual-credit/>

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