

# APPENDIX J

## EARNED VERSUS ATTEMPTED UNITS

Units associated with student records are variously referred to in the Data Element Dictionary as "earned" or as "attempted." Each type of unit is distinct from the other, although both may be associated with a given enrollment of a student in a class. In most cases, the values for both types will be equivalent for a particular student enrolled in a particular class, but they may differ.

### EARNED UNITS

Earned units are the number of units the student was awarded upon completion of the class. Units are earned by students for completion of all courses taken for credit. Earned units may be associated with a class for which the student received either a letter grade, or a grade of "credit."

### ATTEMPTED UNITS

Attempted units are associated only with classes for which letter grades are awarded. Attempted units are distinguished from earned units in that units earned in classes which are taken for "credit/no credit" are not included in attempted units. Attempted units provide the appropriate number of units upon which to base the calculation of grade point average. (Grade Point Average = Total Cumulative Grade Points / Total Cumulative Attempted Units).