



# MCNC Pilot

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**InCommon**®

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# Pilot Overview

The MCNC pilot involves a K-12 School District (Davie County Schools - DCS) and Davidson County Community College (DCCC). The primary goal of this pilot is to enable Davie County School's *Early College High School* students to log into resources at DCCC using their K-12 credentials.

Currently, students in the Early College High School program must maintain two sets of credentials which are created and supported by two separate organizations. By using federated access (through Shibboleth and the InCommon Federation) only the K-12 credential would need to be maintained and can be used for DCS and DCCC services.

The pilot will require implementing an Identity Provider (IdP) at DCCC as well as Service Providers (SPs) in front of the community college resources.

# Pilot Description - details

## 1. Target constituents and scope

Two IdPs serving 16,000 (DCCC) and 6,600 (DCS) students with a small number of local SPs (initially) serving both communities

## 2. Federation model selected

For the time being a standard InCommon model will be used. Once a Regional/InCommon business model is established, it will likely be used for future collaborations.

## 3. Targeted applications or services

The initial application (Service Provider) will be Moodle Rooms, one of the applications that the K-12 Early College High School Students use at DCCC. Other services will be added over time (Student Portal, etc.)

## 4. InCommon Affiliate assistance/role in pilot

Affiliates are not being used for this pilot

# Initial Goals

- Primarily to provide a Case Study for the Early College High School program that can be used as another value proposition for the Community College system to encourage adoption of federated identity management
- There will also be immediate benefit to both Davidson County Community College and Davie County Schools

# Challenges

- Biggest challenge to the pilot was that the key players involved already had busy schedules and coordinating time to work together and focus on the pilot was sometimes quite difficult
- One of the early targets for a Service Provider was DCCC's student portal (which supports SAML). However, after checking with the vendor, they said that upgrading to SAML authentication would cost DCCC money
- Another unanticipated issue was MCNC's upgrade to centos 7, which slowed down the implementation as all of our automated processes for generating an IdP VM needed to be tested and updated

# Successes and Lessons Learned

- Successes included getting DCCC through the process of joining InCommon and submitting their metadata to InCommon (it is currently in the InCommon MD aggregate)
- Development instance of Moodle Rooms authorizing logins from the DCCC production IdP
- The Moodle Rooms SP seems to work well with accepting SAML assertions
- First DCS Early College High School students accessing Moodle Rooms at DCCC tentatively planned for end of February

## Status and Path Forward

- Currently, DCCC is a member of InCommon and their IdP's metadata has been added to InCommon. We're now testing against the SP in front of Moodle Rooms and waiting for the SP metadata to be added to InCommon (by Moodle)
- Longer-term goals are to have all LEAs and Charter Schools federated within the next year or two through North Carolina's NCEdCloud IAM service. Hopefully, the same timeframe would apply for all Community Colleges in North Carolina, however, there are currently no plans/projects to move forward. This could change once a Regional/InCommon Business Model is implemented.
- Next Steps are to start piloting DCS student access to Moodle Rooms using their K-12 credentials, and to continue to add additional SPs at DCCC.

# Questions?