

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Local school districts and the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning may establish dual enrollment programs allowing certain high school students to enroll in state institutions of higher learning; program standards; tuition costs to be paid from private sources.

DEFINITION "Dual enrollment course" means a post-secondary level course offered by a state institution of higher learning or community or junior college, which, upon successful completion, qualifies for academic credit in both the post-secondary institution and public high school.

PURPOSE The purpose of the dual enrollment agreement is to enter into a system-wide articulation agreement for the transfer of appropriate credits earned by qualified high school students enrolled in dual enrollment programs from the various universities offering such credit to the appropriate home school district of the student.

1

Students must have completed a minimum of fourteen (14) core high school units;

2

Students must have a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, or better, on all high school courses, as documented by an official high school transcript; home-schooled students must submit a transcript prepared by a parent, guardian or custodian with a signed, sworn affidavit to meet the requirement of this paragraph; and

3

Students must have an unconditional written recommendation from their high school principal and/or guidance counselor. A home-schooled student must submit a parent, legal guardian or custodian's written recommendation to meet the requirement of this paragraph.

Students may be considered for the dual enrollment program who have not completed the minimum of fourteen (14) core high school units if they have a minimum ACT composite score of thirty (30) or the equivalent SAT score, and have the required grade point average and recommendations outlined above.

Q. Should a student be properly enrolled in a dual enrollment program before credits earned are transferred to student's school district?

A. Yes, before credits earned by a qualified high school student from a state institution of higher learning are transferred to the student's home school district, the student must be properly enrolled in a dual enrollment program.

Q. Are there two dual enrollment state statutes that Institutions of Higher Learning may operate?

A. Yes, implementation of a dual enrollment program should be based on adherence to all tenets of Sections 37-15-37 and 37-15-38 of Mississippi Code of 1972 annotated.

Q. What are the admission criteria for dual enrollment in university programs?

A. The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning may recommend admission criteria for dual enrollment programs under which high school students may enroll at a university while they are still attending high school and enrolled in high school courses. (See Section 37-15-37 of Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated)

Q. Who is responsible for tuition and the cost of the dual enrollment program?

A. Tuition and costs for university-level courses offered under a

dual enrollment program may be paid for by the post-secondary institution, the local school district, the parents or legal guardians of the student, or by grants, foundations or other private or public sources. Payment for tuition and any other costs must be made directly to the credit-granting institution.

Q. Who is responsible for transportation of the student?

A. Any transportation required by a student to participate in the dual enrollment program is the responsibility of the parent, custodian or legal guardian of the student; however, transportation costs may be paid from any available public or private sources.

Q. Will school districts be allowed to count students for daily attendance?

A. When dually enrolled, students may be counted for adequate education program funding purposes in the average daily attendance of the public school district in which the student attends high school.

Q. Who will record the grades and college credits earned by the high school student?

A. Grades and college credits earned by students admitted to a dual enrollment program must be recorded on the college transcript at the university where the student attends classes. The transcript of the university coursework may be released to another institution or applied toward college graduation requirements.

Q. Who will determine the prerequisites for enrollment in dual credit courses?

A. Each university participating in a dual enrollment program shall determine course prerequisites for enrolling and receiving dual credit.

Q. How will the articulation curriculum between a high school and a university be determined?

A. Post-secondary curricula for eligible courses currently offered through Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks must meet the prescribed competencies requirements. Eligible courses not offered in Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks must meet the standards established at the post-secondary level. Post-secondary level developmental courses may not be considered as meeting the requirements of

the dual enrollment program. A dual credit memorandum of understanding must be established between each post-secondary institution and the school district implementing a dual credit program.

Q. What courses are not eligible for dual enrollment?

A. Any course that is required for subject area testing as a requirement for graduation from a public school in Mississippi is not eligible for dual credit.

Q. What courses are eligible?

A. Courses eligible for dual credit include, but are not necessarily limited to, foreign languages, advanced math courses, advanced science courses, performing arts, advanced business and technology, and career and technical courses. These courses and any additional courses considered for dual credit must receive unconditional approval from the superintendent of the local school district and the chief academic officer at the participating community or junior college or university. A university or community or junior college shall make the final decision on what courses are eligible for semester hour credits. The local school superintendent shall make the final decision on the transfer of college or university courses credited to the student's high school transcript.

Q. What are the high school Carnegie equivalence units?

A. One (1) three-hour university course is equal to one-half (1/2) high school Carnegie unit. A full Carnegie unit may be awarded for a three-hour university course upon approval of the local superintendent. Partial credit agreements for post-secondary courses that are less than three (3) hours may be developed between a local school district and the participating post-secondary institution.

Q. How is course alignment achieved between university courses and State Board of Education high school courses?

A. Once alignment is achieved between university courses and the State Board of Education approved high school courses, the universities, community and junior colleges and high schools shall review their respective policies and assess the

place of dual credit courses within the context of their traditional offerings.

Q. What are the maximum dual credits allowed for high school students?

A. It is the intent of the dual enrollment program to make it possible for every student who desires to earn a semester's worth of college credit in high school to do so. A qualified dually enrolled high school student must be allowed to earn an unlimited number of college or university credits for dual credit as long as a B average is earned on the first two (2) approved dual credit courses. If a B average is not maintained after the completion of the student's first two (2) dual credit courses, the student may not continue in the dual credit program.

Q. What are the dual credit allowances?

A. A student may be granted credit delivered through the following means:

- (a) Examination preparation taught at a high school by a qualified teacher. A student may receive credit at the secondary level after completing an approved course and passing the standard examination, such as an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course through which a high school student is allowed CLEP credit by making a three (3) or higher on the end-of-course examination.
- (b) School-based courses taught at a high school or designated post-secondary site by a qualified teacher who is an employee of the school district and approved as an instructor by the collaborating university.
- (c) College or university-based courses taught at a college, university or high school by an instructor employed by the college or university and approved by the collaborating school district.
- (d) On-line courses, including eligible courses offered by the Mississippi Virtual Public School or any post-secondary institution.

Q. What are the qualifications of a dual credit instructor?

A. A dual credit academic instructor must have, at a minimum, a master's degree with at least eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the instructor's field of expertise. University personnel have the sole authority in the selection of dual credit instructors.