QUESTIONS STUDENTS SHOULD ASK COLLEGES ABOUT DUAL CREDIT:

- Do you accept dual credit courses in this postsecondary institution or for this major?
- What are the required course grades to transfer dual credit?
- Will the credits count as part of the required courses for my major or as elective credit? Will I have to take a similar course for the major if my dual credit is transferred as elective credit?
- Will I be eligible for freshman scholarships regardless of how many college credits I will transfer in?
- Will my transferring credits interfere with any type of financial aid I may be eligible for?
- What AP exam scores are required to receive college credit?

RELATED TERM

Concurrent enrollment

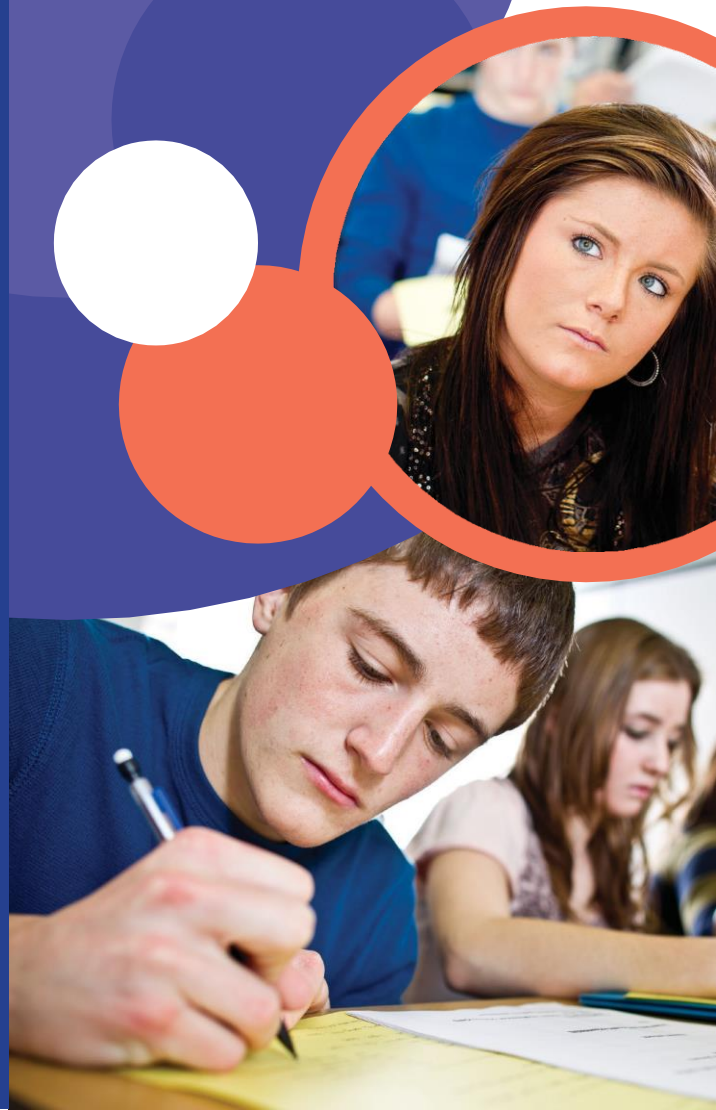
- Enrolling and receiving college only credit, for a college course taken by a high school student. Concurrent college credit courses do not award high school credit. Some colleges offer concurrent credit programs for high school students. Students are not required to graduate from high school upon enrolling in some postsecondary institutions; however, federal financial aid is not available to currently enrolled high school students.

DUAL CREDIT OPTIONS IN YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Nebraska Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT

DUAL CREDIT



WHAT IS DUAL CREDIT?

A dual credit course is a college class offered to high school students. Upon successful completion, the student accrues both high school credit towards a high school diploma *and* postsecondary credits that may lead to a certificate, associate's degree or bachelor's degree.

WHY DUAL CREDIT?

- It saves time and money. Students can reduce the duplication of courses.
- Students are exposed to college level work which may determine future education goals and planning.
- Opportunities for reduced rate tuition* which may lower the overall cost of college education.
- May expedite college graduation or allow for dual-majors or more in-depth course work in college.
- Data** show dual credit students earn higher grade point averages than their peers, are more likely to graduate from high school, are more likely to attend college and more likely to return for their sophomore year of college.

*Dependent on partnering postsecondary institution.
**Source: Community College Research Center, The Postsecondary Achievement of Participants in Dual Enrollment: An Analysis of Student Outcomes in Two States.

COMMON DUAL CREDIT CHOICES:

Dual credit courses available as a result of a partnership between a local high school and postsecondary (college and/or university) institution.

Academic Transfer

- These courses are identified as general education or academic transfer credits including: mathematics, science, literature, history, social sciences, etc.

Career Education (CTE)

- These courses are specific to a career-based college major or program of study or a career academy.

Advanced Placement

- Advanced Placement (AP) courses are not dual credit courses but are nationally standardized programs developed by the College Board, the organization that administers the SAT college entrance assessment. High schools must use AP certified teachers and courses to offer this program. High school credit is achieved by passing the course. College credit is achieved by paying a testing fee and passing the test at the acceptable score. Each postsecondary institution determines what the acceptable passing score is for their college. Fee waivers are available for income based need.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DUAL CREDIT?

- High schools and postsecondary institutions across Nebraska coordinate efforts to offer dual credit. Dual credit courses may not transfer between postsecondary institutions.
- Dual credit information in your area is usually available through the high school, in student handbooks, registration materials, delivered at student and parent meetings, at college/career fairs and on the partnering postsecondary institution's website.
- Early planning for college and career helps the student identify postsecondary institutions that offer majors applicable to their career goals. Students can become familiar with the credit transfer policies to help determine the best courses to select.
- Dual credit course grades become part of college grade point average, will stay on a student's collegiate record as they transfer from one institution to another and will impact federal financial aid standing. Dual credit course grades may be accepted as the grade point average earned or as pass/no pass without the grade point average, depending on the college.
- AP credit may be awarded for qualifying AP exam score; although there are no grades issued to impact GPA-grade point average.
- High school students are not eligible for federal financial aid/student loans. The cost of tuition is the student's responsibility. However some postsecondary institutions in Nebraska offer reduced dual credit tuition. The ACE-Access College Early scholarship is available to dual credit students based on financial need. Inquire about these programs at the high school or online at https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/ACE