

**Dual Credit  
Early College High School  
Updates**

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Texas Higher Education  
Coordinating Board

# Dual Credit

- **A process by which a high school student enrolls in a college course and receives simultaneous academic credit for the course from both the college and the high school.**

# Dual Credit Statute & Rules

## **Texas Education Code (TEC) 130.008**

- Outlines how public junior colleges may establish dual credit partnerships with public and private high schools/school districts.

## **Texas Education Code (TEC) 28.009**

- Requires that each school district implement a program under which students may earn at least 12 semester credit hours of college credit in high school.

## **Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 4, Sub. D**

- Sections 4.81 through 4.85 (THECB)

## **Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 74, Sub. C**

- Sections 74.25 (TEA)

# Dual Credit Basics

## Dual Credit Partnership

- Dual credit partnership (MOU) must be established between the governing boards of the college and public or private high school/district prior to offering courses. (TAC Section 4.84)

## Eligible Courses for Dual Credit

- ACGM credit courses
- WECM credit courses
- University's approved undergraduate course inventory
- No developmental education or remedial courses

## Grade Level Eligibility

- High school students-as agreed upon in local policy

## Dual Credit Course Load

- No limit in rules-as agreed upon in local policy

# Dual Credit Basics

## Student Demonstration of Eligibility to Enroll

- Demonstration of TSI college readiness or exemption
  - TSI Assessment
  - ACT
  - SAT
  - Algebra II STARR EOC
  - English III STAAR EOC
- Dual credit course enrollment eligibility (all high school grades)
  - English II STAAR EOC
  - Algebra I STAAR EOC plus passing grade in Algebra II course
  - PSAT
  - PLAN/Aspire
- Not required for dual credit courses contained in a Workforce Education Level 1 Certificate or less.

# Dual Credit Basics

## Curriculum

- The college shall ensure that a dual credit course and the corresponding course offered at the main campus of the college are **equivalent** with respect to curriculum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of student evaluation.

## Faculty

- Faculty must meet the same standards and approval procedures used by the college to select faculty responsible for teaching the same courses at the main campus of the college. Dual credit faculty qualifications specified in TEC 130.008(g).
- The college shall supervise and evaluate instructors of dual credit courses using the same procedures used for faculty at the main campus of the college.

# Dual Credit Basics

## Funding

- An institution of higher education may waive all or part of tuition and fees for students enrolled in dual credit courses.
- In its instruction and operations formula applicable to an institution of higher education, the board may not include any SCH earned from college courses offered for dual credit unless they are earned through courses in the institution's core curriculum, career and technical education courses, or foreign language courses. (TEC 61.059)

## Junior/Community College Service Area

- No service area restrictions for dual credit courses.

# ECHS Statute & Rules

## **Texas Education Code (TEC) 29.908**

- Requires TEA to establish and administer an early college education program for students who are at risk of dropping out of school or who wish to accelerate completion of the high school program.
- Allows a participating student to complete high school and, on or before the fifth anniversary of the date of the student's first day of high school, receive a high school diploma and either:
  - (A) an associate degree; or
  - (B) at least 60 semester credit hours toward a baccalaureate degree

## **Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 4, Sub. G**

- Sections 4.151 through 4.161 (THECB)

## **Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 102, Sub. GG**

- Section 102.1091 (TEA)



# ECHS Basics

## **Designation and Renewal**

- TEA

## **ECHS MOU**

- An ECHS/dual credit MOU must be established between the governing boards of the college and public or private high school/district prior to implementation of the program.

## **Eligible Courses**

- ACGM credit courses
- WECM credit courses
- University's approved undergraduate course inventory
- No developmental education or remedial courses.

## **Grade Level Eligibility**

- Freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior high school standing

## **Dual Credit Course Load**

- May enroll in more than dual credit two courses per semester

# ECHS Basics

## Student Demonstration of Eligibility to Enroll

- Demonstration of TSI college readiness or exemption  
(Initial testing required for ECHS students)
  - TSI Assessment
  - ACT
  - SAT
  - Algebra II STARR EOC
  - English III STAAR EOC
- Dual credit course enrollment eligibility (not college readiness)
  - English II STAAR EOC
  - Algebra I STAAR EOC plus passing grade in Algebra II course
  - PSAT
  - PLAN/Aspire
- Not required for dual credit courses contained in a Workforce Education Level 1 Certificate or less.

# ECHS Basics

## Curriculum

- The college shall ensure that a dual credit course and the corresponding course offered at the main campus of the college are equivalent with respect to curriculum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of student evaluation.

## Faculty

- Faculty must meet the same standards and approval procedures used by the college to select faculty responsible for teaching the same courses at the main campus of the college. Dual credit faculty qualifications specified in TEC 130.008(g).
- The college shall supervise and evaluate instructors of dual credit courses using the same procedures used for faculty at the main campus of the college.

# ECHS Basics

## Funding

- State funding for high school and college credit will be available to the public school district and the C/U based on the current funding rules of the State Board of Education and the Board.
- A student enrolled in an ECHS course for high school graduation credit may not be required to pay for tuition, fees, or required textbooks. The school district or charter in which the student is enrolled shall pay for tuition, fees, and required textbooks, to the extent those charges are not waived by the institution of higher education.

## Junior/Community College Service Area

- No restrictions

# Introduced Legislation that Addressed Dual Credit/ECHS 85<sup>th</sup> Legislature

❖ HB 1638

❖ SB 22

❖ SB 802

❖ SB 1091

# HB 1638

HB1638 by Rep. Ryan Guillen would require the THECB and TEA to jointly develop statewide goals for dual credit, early college high school, career and technical education dual credit programs, and joint high school and college credit programs to provide uniform standards for evaluating those programs by August 31, 2018. The goals must address:

- (1) a dual credit programs achievement of enrollment in and acceleration through postsecondary education;
- (2) performance in college-level coursework;
- (3) the development of an effective bridge between secondary and postsecondary education in the state.

# HB 1638

On or after September 1, 2018, any dual credit program agreement, including a memorandum of understanding or articulation agreement, between a public institution of higher education and a school district must:

- (1) include specific program goals aligned with the developed statewide goals;
- (2) establish, or provide a procedure for establishing, some method of equating high school courses with college courses to identify the course credits that may be earned by a student in the program;
- (3) describe the academic supports and guidance will be provided to a student in the program;

# HB 1638

- (4) establish the district's and institution of higher education's respective roles and responsibilities in providing and ensuring quality and instructional rigor of the program;
- (5) state sources of funding for tuition, transportation, required fees, and textbooks for course offered to students participating in the program;
- (6) be posted each year on the district's and institution of higher education's websites.



# SB 22

SB0022 by Sen. Larry Taylor would establish a Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program and P-TECH advisory council and repeal the Tech-Prep program.

- The P-TECH advisory council will be composed of 12 members appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house, and will provide recommendations to the commissioner of public education regarding the establishment and administration of the P-TECH program and the criteria for designating a school as a P-TECH campus.

## SB 22

- The commissioner of public education is required to establish and administer a P-TECH program for students who wish to participate in a work-based education program. The program must be open enrollment and provide a participating 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade student a course of study to combine high school courses and postsecondary courses. The program must provide a participating student the opportunity to receive a high school diploma and an associate degree, a two-year postsecondary certificate, or industry certification and complete an internship, apprenticeship, or other job training program by the sixth anniversary of the students first day in high school. The P-TECH program must be provided at no cost to participating students.

# SB 22

- By rule, the commissioner of public education shall establish a grant program to assist school districts and open-enrollment charter schools in implementing the P-TECH program at a campus designated as a P-TECH school from funds appropriated for that purpose. The commissioner of public education shall establish the criteria for designating a campus as a P-TECH school and for participation in the grant program. **The amount of grants awarded for the P-TECH program may not exceed 5 million dollars for the state fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2019.**

# SB 802

SB0802 by Sen. Kel Seliger requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to conduct a study to identify best practices in ensuring that college course credit earned at one public institution of higher education, **including credit earned through dual credit courses**, transfers and applies toward a degree at a receiving public institution of higher education. The study must:

- (1) evaluate existing articulation agreements that govern the transfer of course credit between institutions of higher education; and
- (2) identify public institutions of higher education that are implementing best practices for the transfer college credit to receiving public institutions of higher education.

# SB 802

- On request, public institutions of higher education shall provide information to the THECB as necessary to complete the study.
- The THECB shall submit results of the study and recommendations for other action to the legislature no later than November 1, 2018.

# SB 1091

SB1091 by Sen. Kel Seliger would restrict courses that could be offered in regular dual credit programs to those contained in the core curriculum of a public institution of higher education, career and technology education courses, or foreign language courses.

Early college high schools and any other early college program that assists a student in earning an associate degree while in high school would be exempt from this restriction.

# SB 1091

Requires that an institution of higher education's policy for granting credit to entering freshman students who successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB), achieve required scores on one or more of examinations in the Advanced Placement Program (AP) or the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), or **successfully complete one or more dual credit courses** include a provision that **restricts granting credit for dual credit courses** to those contained in the core curriculum of a public institution of higher education, career and technology education courses, or foreign language courses.

Credit earned from dual credit courses offered as part of an early college education program or **any other early college program** that assists a student in earning a certificate or an associate degree while in high school is exempted from this requirement.

# SB 1091

This Act applies beginning with dual credit courses offered for the 2018 spring semester.

The THECB, in coordination with the TEA, is granted authority to adopt rules for this Section through the negotiated rulemaking process.



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