



DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM GUIDE

PARENTS AND STUDENTS SCHOOL YEAR 2021-22

What is Dual Credit?

Elgin Community College and its partner School Districts offer several dual credit programs that allow high school students to enroll in college courses. Students earn simultaneous high school and college credit. The programs provide a way to save time and money towards attaining a higher education, experience college life, and prepare for a successful transition after high school.

A quick summary of the programs available are outlined below. Each Dual Credit program offers a unique opportunity to students. Depending on students' academic, behavioral, or social needs.

Full-Time Dual Credit Program

- Senior enrollment (One-year program)
- Junior enrollment (Two-year program)
- Earn 30+ transferable credits each year
- Minimum of 12 credit hours each semester
- Courses are chosen from the Associate of Arts or Science degree plan

Part-Time Program: General Education

- Junior and Senior Enrollment
- Enroll in 1-2 courses each semester
- Maximum of 7 credit hours each semester
- Courses fulfill part of the postsecondary General Education Core Curriculum

Part-Time Program: Career-Technical Education

- Junior and Senior Enrollment
- Maximum of 7 credit hours each semester
- Courses meet the requirements an Associate in Applied Science degree
- Most programs provide students the opportunity to earn an academic and/or industry certification

Why Enroll?

Accelerate College student has life changing experiences

Alexis, a 2020 graduate from St. Charles North High School, was one of 6 graduates from the first cohort of District 303 Accelerate College students. She was introduced to Dual Credit as a sophomore and felt that the opportunity was exciting.

Students are able to choose their path through the full time dual credit program or the part time dual credit courses through ECC, in high school dual credit courses through ECC and College of Dupage, as well as a multitude of articulated credit courses through ECC.

In addition to her studies at Elgin Community College (ECC), Alexis became involved in clubs and organizations that made her feel part of the campus community. She strongly encourages other students to join activities on campus because, "Participating in clubs grew my social circle immensely, and really made my time at ECC special."

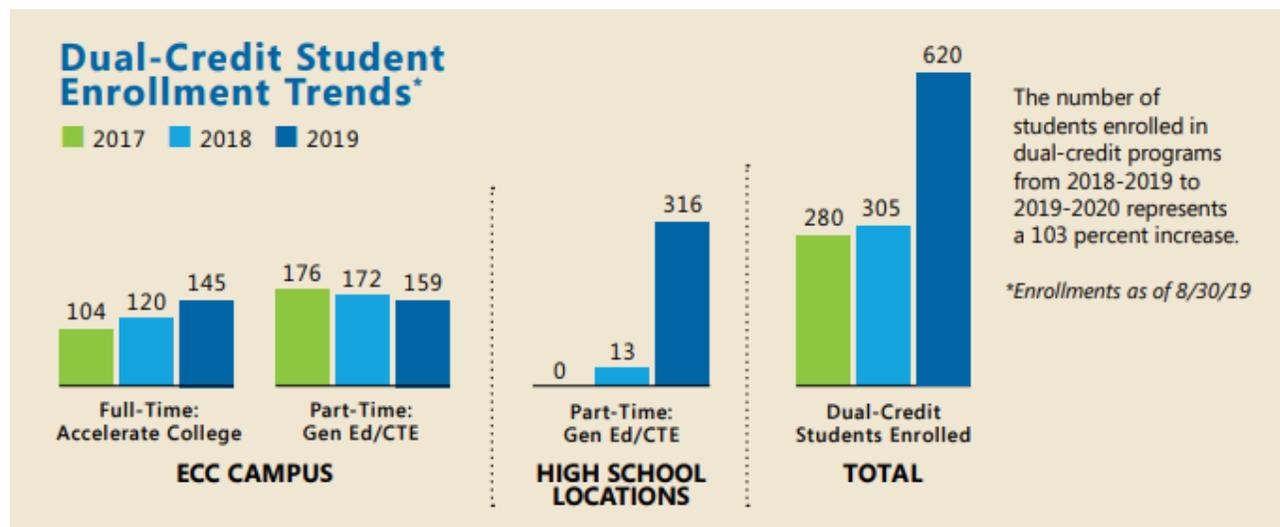
The program provided Alexis with meaningful experiences that she would not have had in high school volunteering in the greenhouse or working behind the scenes in the laboratories. The science instructors she had were instrumental in helping her decide to major in biochemistry at Loyola University Chicago.

To qualify for the program, students must complete an ECC application, meet placement criteria in math, reading, and English, and engage in a conversation with their high school counselor to help determine if the program will meet their needs.



Students opt to participate in Dual Credit courses for a variety of reasons. Why might a student decide to enroll in a Dual Credit program:

- Experience more rigorous coursework and try out the college environment
- Earn college credit to help get ahead in college
- Stand out in college admissions
- Develop skills, behaviors, and knowledge to support your transition to college
- Save money – students should follow up with their district to see what costs are covered



How Do I Get Started?

In learning about each program, it is important students meet with their high school counselor and discuss the specifics of each program. Below is a summary of the programs' structure, expectations, and qualifications. Students should direct questions about the program options to their high school counselor.

This information should help students determine which option best aligns with their academic plan and interests. For dual credit options where the student attends classes on the ECC campus, students are responsible for their transportation. A representative from the high school will share information about tuition, fees, and other costs related to the different dual credit programs.

Each School District or Private School determines the dual credit programs that students are eligible to participate in as part of their high school education. District 303 has elected to offer the following options in partnership with Elgin Community College.

FULL-TIME DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM

High school juniors and seniors enroll in a minimum of 12 college credits each semester. Juniors must stay on pace to complete the 60-credit hour degree requirement within their two academic years (i.e. 15 credit hours in each fall/spring semester). All courses are completed at the ECC main campus. These courses meet the postsecondary requirements of the general education core curriculum as well as high school graduation.

Students work in partnership with the ECC Academic Advising Office and their high school counselor to choose the appropriate transferable courses. Students that enroll as juniors need to complete the course requirements to earn an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree. D303 district approves the enrollment of their students. Enrollment is limited – For more questions, please contact your high school representative.

PART-TIME DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM

High school juniors and seniors enroll in 1-2 college courses each semester. Courses offered at the ECC campus are offered selected from a variety of academic disciplines, including general education (i.e., English, math, history, science, etc.) and career and technical education (CTE) programs (i.e. automotive, culinary arts, paralegal, etc.). A more limited course option list is available for courses offered at the high school campus.

Students choose courses with the help of their high school counselor to ensure courses selected meet high school requirements. Students must choose between the general education or career and technical education program. D303 district approves the enrollment of their students. Enrollment is limited – For more questions, please contact your high school representative.

FULL-TIME DUAL CREDIT

SENIOR ENROLLMENT (1-YEAR PROGRAM)

- Students enroll in 4-5 courses each semester at the ECC campus
- Courses add up to a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester
- Students may earn 30+ transferable credits
- Students complete COL 101-College Success during their first semester
- Course options are selected by ECC and the school district to ensure they meet the student's high school graduation requirements
- Students meet with ECC's academic advising department to develop an academic plan
- Participation in high school activities may be limited

JUNIOR ENROLLMENT (2-YEAR PROGRAM)

- Students enroll in 4-5 courses each semester at the ECC campus
- Complete 60 credits/degree requirements in two years (i.e. 15 credits per semester)
- Summer courses may be required between junior and senior year
- Students complete COL 101-College Success during the first semester
- ECC academic advisors guide students in selecting classes that meet their college plans.
- Participation in high school activities may be limited

Courses will be scheduled Monday-Friday. Students may be in class from 8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Some courses may be scheduled outside of this timeframe. If courses are offered outside of this timeframe, the dual credit office will ensure that students and school counselors are informed in advance. Students are expected to commit to this timeframe and must understand that scheduling of classes is managed by the dual credit office.

Class sections (days, times, and instructors) are pre-selected by ECC to meet the needs of the program. Class schedules will not accommodate students' work schedules if it falls within the timeframe noted above. The ECC academic calendar may differ from the school districts' calendar.

PROGRAM QUALIFICATIONS

- Current sophomore or junior at the time of application
- Have at least a 3.00 unweighted high school GPA
- Demonstrate college-readiness – Reading, English, and Mathematics
- Must have qualifying scores – PSAT/SAT/ACT or ECC Placement Tests
- Meet other high school requirements as noted by district policies, including an interview with school staff
- Enrollment is limited and determined by the high school

PART-TIME DUAL CREDIT

GENERAL EDUCATION (See Course Options Below)

- Current sophomore or junior at the time of application
- Students enroll in 1-2 courses each semester
- Maximum of 7 credit hours each semester (including in-high school dual credit courses)
- Course options offered at the ECC campus or high school
- Students choose courses based on academic interests and goals
- Course options are pre-selected by ECC and school district to ensure courses meet high school graduation requirements
- Courses meet part of the General Education Core Curriculum requirements for a two-year college degree, which may transfer to a four-year college
- Participation in high school activities may be limited

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (See Course Options Below)

- Current sophomore or junior at the time of application
- Students choose a CTE program of study
- Course options are offered on the ECC campus, with limited offerings at the high school
- Each program includes courses from an Associate in Applied Science degree
- Credits earned may not transfer to a baccalaureate program

- Prepares students for careers and/or employment in a career or technical area.
- Students choose program based on academic interests and goals.
- Course options have been pre-selected by ECC and school district.
- Participation in high school activities may be limited

PROGRAM QUALIFICATIONS

- Current sophomore or junior at the time of application
- GPA Requirement:
 - General Education: 3.00 unweighted high school GPA
 - Career-Technical Education: 2.00 unweighted high school GPA
- Demonstrate college-readiness – Reading, English, and Mathematics
- Must have qualifying scores (if applicable) – PSAT/SAT/ACT or ECC Placement Tests
- Meet other high school requirements as noted by district policies

PART-TIME GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

The course options available to part-time dual credit students are listed below. These options include courses that fulfill most requirements in the first two years of a college degree. Course descriptions are available at www.elgin.edu/catalog.

The following descriptions are helpful when selecting courses:

General Education: These courses fulfill a general education core requirement. As part of students' baccalaureate education, a series of courses in varying disciplines are required prior/during the completion of specified (i.e. Major/Minor) courses that are selected for the program of study that is being completed. These courses have a high transferability rate and are typically completed within the first couple of years in college. **NOTE: All courses can be credited as electives.**

Elective: These courses help a student towards the successful completion of their required elective hours. Each program/institution sets a minimum of courses that students must complete separate from general education and major/minor specific courses. Often, these courses serve to fulfill a prerequisite in a math or science sequence.

Prerequisite: These courses are required in order to continue in the specified sequence (i.e. Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and/or Physics). Students must earn at least a "C". The courses will also satisfy either a general education core requirement or be credited as electives.

*Dual credit courses offered on the high school campuses.

Course	Course Prefix & Number	ECC Credit Hours	General Education	Elective	Prerequisite
COMMUNICATIONS					
English Composition I*	ENG 101	3	✓	✓	
English Composition II*	ENG 102	3	✓	✓	✓
Fundamentals of Speech*	CMS 101	3	✓	✓	
MATHEMATICS					
General Education Statistics*	MTH 102	3	✓	✓	
Trigonometry	MTH 114	3		✓	✓
LIFE SCIENCES					
Biology for Contemporary Society	BIO 108	4	✓	✓	
FINE ARTS					
Art Appreciation	ART 115	3	✓	✓	
Music Appreciation	MUS 105	3	✓	✓	
HUMANITIES					
Ethics	HUM216	3	✓	✓	

Introduction to Literature	LIT 201	3	✓	✓	
Introduction to Western Humanities	HUM101	3	✓	✓	
SOCIAL SCIENCES					
US History to 1870	HIS 151	3	✓	✓	
U S History Since 1865	HIS 152	3	✓	✓	
American Government	POS 150	3	✓	✓	
Principles of Macroeconomics	ECN 202	3	✓	✓	
Principles of Microeconomics	ECN 201	3	✓	✓	
BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES					
Introduction to Psychology	PSY 100	3	✓	✓	✓
MODERN LANGUAGES					
Elementary Japanese I	JPN 101	4		✓	✓
Elementary Japanese II	JPN 102	4		✓	✓
Intermediate Japanese I	JPN 201	3		✓	✓
Intermediate Japanese II	JPN 202	4	✓	✓	✓
Spanish Conversation and Composition	SPN 261	3		✓	✓
ELECTIVES					
Introductory Accounting*	ACC 100	3		✓	
Introduction to Business	BUS 100	3		✓	
Introduction to the Hospitality*	HOS 101	3		✓	

PART-TIME CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Business & Financial Services
- Automotive Service Technology
- Basic Nursing Assistant Training Program and Clinical Lab Technology
- Communication Design
- Computer Aided Design
- Criminal Justice and Digital Forensics
- Culinary Arts, Pastry Arts, Restaurant Management
- Early Childhood Education
- Fire Science & Safety – Fire Protection
- Information Technology
- Welding

What Is Next?

1. Review the dual credit program options carefully
2. Talk with your parents/guardians about the program options to identify which may work best for you
3. Schedule a meeting with your high school counselor to confirm which program may work best for you, including reviewing criteria for participating in these programs and ECC minimum requirements for enrollment
4. If you meet the Dual Credit Program requirements, follow the steps noted in the Application Guide to complete your application by the end of course registration (**no later than February 16th, 2021**)