

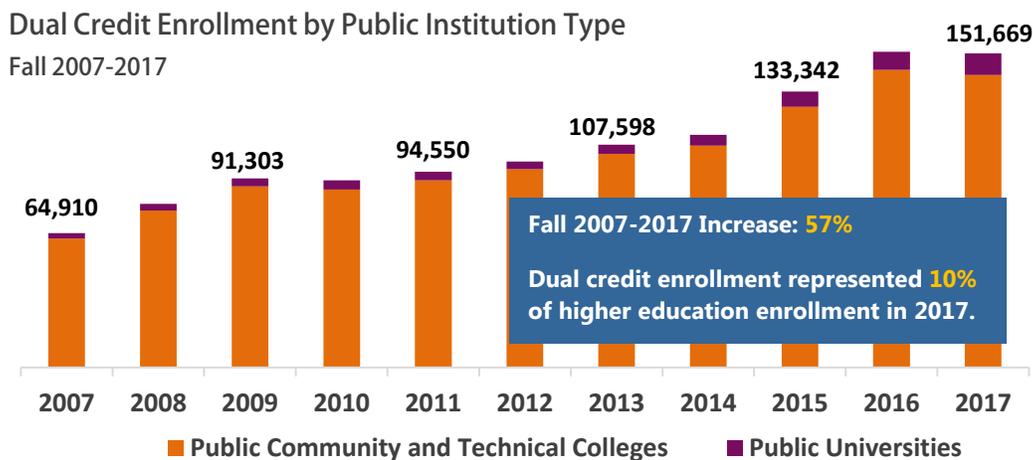
OVERVIEW: DUAL CREDIT

May 2018

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) defines dual credit as a system under which an eligible high school student enrolls in college course(s) and receives credit for the course(s) from both the college and high school. Dual credit courses may be taught on the high school campus by an approved instructor or on the college campus. Dual credit courses include both academic and technical courses.

What is the participation rate for dual credit?

Student participation in dual credit has been steadily increasing through the years. The number of students participating in dual credit in fall 2017 was 151,669, a **753 percent** increase since fall 2000. The growth continues. Over the last ten years, dual credit participation has increased **57 percent**. Overall, dual credit participation represented **10 percent** of higher education enrollment in 2017.



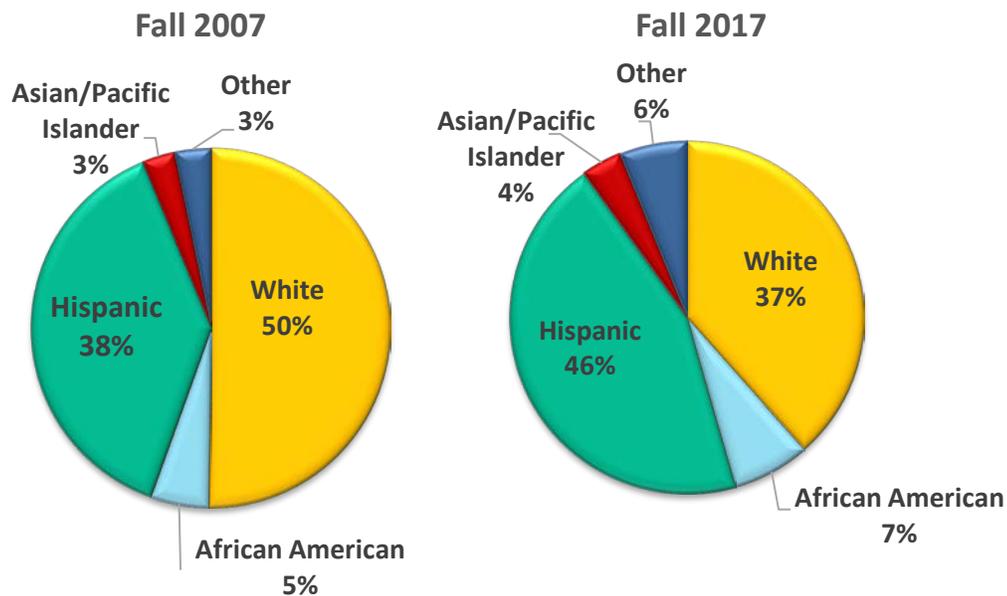
How do different types of dual credit transfer?

Academic and career and technical education (CTE) courses are offered to high school students for dual credit. Academic dual credit can be applied toward the core curriculum or to other specific degree program requirements of an academic associate degree or baccalaureate degree. **CTE dual credit can only be applied toward the requirements for a Workforce Certificate or Applied Associate Degree, and will probably not be applicable to an academic associate or baccalaureate degree program.** Students who want more information about how their dual credit courses might transfer should seek specific transfer guidance from an advisor at the institution of higher education offering the dual credit.

What is the ethnic breakdown of students participating in dual credit courses?

The charts below show the total number of students who participated in dual credit courses in fall 2007 and fall 2017 broken down by ethnicity. The charts show Hispanic and African American students are increasingly participating in dual credit which is consistent with student enrollment of Texas public high schools.

Dual Credit Enrollment by Ethnicity



What are the eligibility requirements for students to enroll in academic dual credit courses?

A high school student is eligible to enroll in **academic dual credit courses** if the student meets all of the college's regular prerequisite requirements designated for that course and:

- The student demonstrates college readiness for reading, writing, and/or math intensive courses by achieving the minimum passing standards under the provisions of the Texas Success Initiative authorized by **Texas Education Code Sec. 51.333** and specified in **Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 4, Subchapter C, Section 4.57** as follows:
 - Reading 351
 - Math 350
 - Writing – a placement score of at least 340 and an essay score of at least 4 or a placement score of less than 340 and an ABE Diagnostic level of at least 4 and an essay score of at least 5; **or**
- The student achieves a score of 4000 on the English II STAAR EOC and/or a score of 4000 on the Algebra I STAAR EOC and in conjunction, a passing grade in the Algebra II course relevant to the courses to be attempted; **or**
- On a PSAT/NMSQT exam administered prior to October 15, 2015, the student achieves a combined score of 107 with a minimum of 50 on the critical reading and/or mathematics test relevant to the courses to be attempted; **or**
- On a PSAT/NMSQT exam administered on or after October 15, 2015, the student achieves a score of 460 on evidence-based reading and writing test and/or a score of 510 on the mathematics test relevant to the courses to be attempted; **or**
- The student achieves a composite score of 23 on the PLAN with a 19 or higher in mathematics and/or English, or a mathematics score of 431 and/or an English score of 435 on the ACT-Aspire relevant to the course to be attempted.

What are the eligibility requirements for students to enroll in CTE dual credit courses?

Enrollment in courses in Level I certificates require only that students meet the regular college prerequisite requirements designated for that course. Enrollment in Level II certificates and Associate of Applied Science degrees require meeting the same eligibility requirements outlined above for academic dual credit courses.

How are dual credit courses funded for high schools and colleges?

State law allows both school districts and institutions of higher education to obtain state funding for dual credit courses. The state funds school districts based on students' average daily attendance and districts can count time spent on dual credit toward student enrollment. Institutions of higher education receive state formula funding for contact or semester credit hours of instruction, respectively.

Who pays the cost of dual credit courses?

Decisions about who pays tuition, fees and other costs for dual credit are made at the local level, and it varies from district to district. Some school districts pay for the students, either out of local funds or from their high school allotment, while other districts require students and parents to pay out of pocket.

Public institutions of higher education are allowed to waive all, part, or none of the mandatory tuition and fees for dual credit courses (**Texas Education Code, Section 54.216**).

Is a school district required to make obtaining college credit in high school available to students?

Yes. Legislation passed in 2006 includes provisions that require all school districts to implement a program by fall 2008, in which students may earn the equivalent of 12 hours of college credit while in high school (**Texas Education Code Sec. 28.009**). On request, public institutions of higher education are required to assist a school district in developing and implementing a program designed to provide students with the opportunity to earn a minimum of 12 hours of college credit while in high school. These requirements may be met by offering any combination of college courses for dual credit, articulated postsecondary courses, articulated postsecondary advanced technical courses, Advanced Placement courses, and/or International Baccalaureate courses.

What legislation did the most recent Texas Legislature (85th Texas Legislature, 2017) approve relating to dual credit?

House Bill 1638 requires the TEA and the THECB to collaboratively develop statewide goals for dual credit programs by August 31, 2018. These goals must address these programs' role in enrollment and acceleration through higher education, impact on performance in college-level coursework, and the development of an effective bridge between secondary and postsecondary education. Any dual credit program agreement between a school district and institution of higher education established or renewed after August 31, 2018, must include specific program goals aligned with the state goals. The agreement must also establish the course credits that may be earned under the agreement, describe the academic support and guidance that will be provided to students, establish roles for ensuring quality and rigor in the program, and state the sources of funding for courses offered under the program.

Senate Bill 1091 restricts courses that can be offered by institutions of higher education for dual credit 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 is exempt from this restriction.

Where is dual credit found in Texas statute and rules?

Statute: **Texas Education Code, Sec. 130.008** and **Sec. 28.009**

Texas Administrative Code: **Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Rules 4.81-4.85** (THECB) and **Title 19, Part 2, Chapter 74, Subchapter C, Rule 74.25** (Texas Education Agency).