

**Dual Credit
Early College High School
Updates**

**Andrew Lofters, Ph.D.
Program Director
Academic Quality and Workforce**

60x30TX



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

Dual Credit

- **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 the high school.**

Dual Credit Statute & Rules

Texas Education Code (TEC) 130.008 (1995)

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

Texas Education Code (TEC) 28.009 (2006)

- 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 (2003)

- Sections 4.81 through 4.85 (THECB)

Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 74, Sub. C (2000)

- Sections 74.25 (TEA)

ECHS Statute & Rules

Texas Education Code (TEC) 29.908 (2003)

- 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 (2005)

- Sections 4.151 through 4.161 (THECB)

Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 102, Sub. GG (2007)

- Section 102.1091 (TEA)

ECHS Designation and Renewal - TEA

Statewide Dual Credit Goals

Goal 1: Independent school districts and institutions of higher education will implement purposeful and collaborative outreach efforts to inform all students and parents of the benefits and costs of dual credit, including enrollment and fee policies.

Goal 2: Dual credit programs will assist high school students in the successful transition to and acceleration through postsecondary education.

Goal 3: All dual credit students will receive academic and college readiness advising with access to student support services to bridge them successfully into college course completion.

Goal 4: The quality and rigor of dual credit courses will be sufficient to ensure student success in subsequent courses.

Dual Credit/ECHS 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)

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Dual Credit Partnership (continued)

The dual credit partnership must address the following elements:

- 1) Eligible Courses;
- 2) Student Eligibility;
- 3) Location of Class;
- 4) Student Composition of Class;
- 5) Faculty Selection, Supervision, and Evaluation;
- 6) Course Curriculum, Instruction, and Grading;
- 7) Academic Policies and Student Support Services;
- 8) Transcribing of Credit;
- 9) Funding; and
- 10) Defined sequences of courses, where applicable.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Dual Credit Partnership (continued)

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 that will be provided to a student in the program;

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Dual Credit Partnership (continued)

- 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 courses offered to students participating in the program;
- 6) be posted each year on the district's and institution of higher education's websites.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Demonstration of Eligibility to Enroll

- Demonstration of TSI college readiness or exemption
(Initial TSI testing required for ECHS)
 - 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/NMSQT
 - Aspire
- Not required for dual credit courses contained in a Workforce Education Level 1 Certificate or less.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Eligible Courses for Dual Credit

- 1) In the **core curriculum** of the public institution of higher education providing the credit;
 - 2) a **career and technical education** course; or
 - 3) a **foreign language** course.
- **No developmental education or remedial courses (including corequisite courses)** can be offered for dual credit.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Eligible Courses for Dual Credit (Exceptions)

- a college course for dual credit offered as part of an approved **early college education program established under TEC Section 29.908 (ECHS)**
- a college course for dual credit offered as part of an **early college program, as defined in TAC Chapter 4 Subchapter D,** that assists students in earning a **certificate or associate's degree** while in high school.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

- **Early College Education Program**--A program as defined in TEC §29.908.
- **Early College Program**--A program developed via an institutional agreement in partnership between a public institution of higher education and high schools or school districts in which a student enrolls in courses that are part of a **defined sequence of courses** leading to a **Board approved certificate, AA, AS, or AAS degree** program as defined in Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 9, Rule 9.1 - Definitions of Texas Administrative Code.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Early College Program Course

- Any college course for dual credit offered as part of an **early college program...must be a core curriculum course** of the public institution of higher education providing the credit, a **career and technical education course, a foreign language course,** or a **course that satisfies specific degree plan requirements** leading to the completion of a **Board approved certificate, AA, AS, AAS degree program, or FOSC.**

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

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

Academic Policies and Student Support Services

- Regular academic policies for course taught on college's main campus apply.
- Students eligible to same or comparable support services afforded to college students on the main campus.

Dual Credit/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.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Funding-Tuition, Fees, Textbooks

- An institution of higher education may waive all or part of tuition and fees for students enrolled in dual credit courses.
- 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.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Funding-State Funding

- State funding for dual credit courses will be available to both public school districts and colleges based on the current funding rules of the **State Board of Education (TEC 42.005 (g))** and the **Board (TEC 61.059 (p) and (q))**.

TEC 61.059 (p) and (q)

- The IHE may **only claim funding for** students enrolling in **core curriculum, career and technical education, and foreign language** dual credit courses.
- This provision **does not apply to** students enrolled in approved **early college education programs under TEC 29.908**.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Funding-State Funding

Core Curriculum

- Each public institution of higher education has a unique core curriculum approved by the THECB.
- THECB Core Curriculum Web Center:
<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/apps/tcc/>

PHED/KINE Courses

- College PHED/KINE courses offered for dual credit that satisfy high school physical education credit cannot be claimed for state funding.

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Funding-State Funding

Career and Technical Education Courses

- 1) Courses contained in the **Workforce Education Course Manual** (WECM)
- 2) Courses within the following rubrics contained in the **Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual** (ACGM): ACCT (Accounting) ; AGRI (Agriculture); ARCH (Architecture); BCIS (Business Computer Information Systems); BUSI (Business); COSC (Computer Science); CRIJ (Criminal Justice); ENGR (Engineering); ENGT (Engineering Technology); FORE (Forestry); FORS (Forensic Science); HORT (Horticulture); RNSG (Nursing)

Dual Credit/ECHS Basics

Junior/Community College Service Area

- No service area restrictions for dual credit courses.

P-TECH

(Pathways in Technology Early College High School)

- TEC 29.553, 85th Legislative Session
- The P-TECH program is a **work-based education program.**
- **By the sixth anniversary of the students first day in high school the program must provide a participating 9th-12th grade 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.**
- **The P-TECH program must be provided at no cost to participating students.**

Dual Credit Contact:

Andrew Lofters, Ph.D.

Program Director

Academic Quality and Workforce

Andrew.Lofters@theccb.state.tx.us

(512) 427-6239

60x30TX



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board