



Dual Credit



Dual Credit Information for Parents

Helping your student navigate the college experience in high school

Dual Credit is an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to earn high school and college credit simultaneously. Students demonstrating college readiness through a college placement exam can earn college and high school credits in the same course by attending classes at their high school, on a Lone Star College campus, and/or online.

Dual credit teachers are regularly employed faculty members of LSC or high school instructors verified by LSC to meet the same requirements as faculty teaching the same course on campus.



Step 1

Explore opportunities for earning college credit in high school

- Talk to the high school counselor to inquire if your student's high school has a dual credit agreement with Lone Star College;
- Discuss classes eligible for your student's high school graduation plan for dual credit and obtain the counselor's approval before completing the college admission application;
- Inquire about details on eligibility rules in University Interscholastic League (UIL) competition and dual credit participation; and
- Ask about dual credit application deadlines.

Step 2

Find out how to qualify for dual credit

The high school student must:

- See a high school counselor for approval;
- Complete college admissions application;
- Meet minimum college readiness test scores in reading, writing, and/or math and meet any prerequisites for the course(s) you want to take for dual credit; and
- Meet state legislature requirements.

Step 3

Learn about the approved college placement tests

- Check with the high school counselor regarding college placement tests and score requirements.
- Get copies of college placement score reports of examinations the student has already completed.
- ACT, SAT, STAAR, Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA), PLAN/ACT Aspire, and PSAT/NMSQT scores may be presented for dual credit eligibility.

Step 4

Check costs

- LSC waives 100% of the tuition for dual credit students.
- You will just pay for fees and textbooks.
- Initial TSIA (college readiness assessment) test fee is waived for dual credit students.





Step 5

Submit the dual credit application and choose courses

- Complete the Admissions application at [LoneStar.edu/admissions-application](https://lonestar.edu/admissions-application).
- Visit with high school counselor to complete course selections on the Dual Credit/Exceptional Admission Course Approval Form located at [LoneStar.edu/dualcredit](https://lonestar.edu/dualcredit); and discuss minimum college readiness test score requirements.
- Locate a Dual Credit Advisor at [LoneStar.edu/dualcredit](https://lonestar.edu/dualcredit) to request additional information by email regarding student privacy rights and confidentiality in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Submit placement test scores or complete pre-assessment activity (PAA) and take approved assessment test as recommended by high school counselor or Dual Credit Advisor for the courses you are attempting to take for Dual Credit.
- Meningitis Vaccination is required for courses taken physically on a LSC campus. For more information visit: [LoneStar.edu/meningitis](https://lonestar.edu/meningitis).

Step 6

Registering and paying for classes and textbooks

- Dual Credit Advisors register students for courses approved on the Dual Credit/Exceptional Admission Course Approval Form located at [LoneStar.edu/dualcredit](https://lonestar.edu/dualcredit).
- Pay for classes online at [my.LoneStar.edu](https://my.lonestar.edu) or in person at your Lone Star College campus at the Bursar/Cashier Office. Textbooks may be purchased at the LSC campus bookstore, and many are available from online retailers.

Step 7

Tips for student success and transferring courses

- Encourage your student to maintain a grade of C or better to continue in the program and check final grades at the end of each semester at [my.LoneStar.edu](https://my.lonestar.edu);
- Talk to a Dual Credit Advisor to learn how dual credit courses transfer to the university;
- Request a copy of your official LSC transcript to send to colleges and universities; and
- Keep a notebook with a copy of the syllabus for each dual credit course completed.

Step 8

Enjoy all of the benefits of your student getting a head start in college

- Studies show Dual Credit increases the likelihood that a student will complete high school, as well as enroll in and persist in college.
- Decreases cost of tuition and fees for students by completing up to a year or more of college credit.
- Many classes transfer to public colleges or universities in Texas, and may be accepted by out-of-state and private colleges.
- Accelerating time to degree completion allows new graduates enter the workforce sooner and begin to earn wages which benefits themselves and the economy.
- Access to LSC student resources, such as Library, Tutoring, Career Exploration, and much more.

Opportunities for Earning College Credit at LSC in High School

Choose one or more ways to earn college credit at LSC and get a head start on college at a great value!

Program	Articulated Credit	Dual Credit	Advanced Placement
Description	Receive college credit for taking high school technical courses at community colleges participating in the Advanced Technical Credit (ATC) Program	College-level courses taken to receive college and high school credit at the same time	College-level courses offered in high school designed by committees of college faculty members and AP teachers
Instructor	Course taught by high school teachers approved through ATC teacher requirements	Course taught by college faculty or college-approved high school instructors meeting the same standards and requirements of regularly employed college faculty.	Course taught by high school-approved teachers meeting AP course evaluation and professional development requirements
Exam	Rarely	Approved College Placement exam*	College Board exam
Costs	None	No tuition, however, students must pay fees and textbooks	Payment for College Board exam
Courses	Workforce courses	Academic & Workforce courses	Academic
Credit	Apply for credit with an advisor	Credit automatically applied to college transcript	Apply for credit with an advisor
Criteria to Receive Credit	80 or above in articulated course Complete 6 credit hours of non-developmental courses at LSC (dual credit hours satisfy requirement) Must request credits within 15 months after high school graduation	Student receives credit and a grade reflective of their class performance	Complete 6 credit hours of non-developmental courses at LSC (dual credit hours satisfy requirement) Passing score on exam, typically a 3 or higher
Transferability	Applicable to Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and degree articulations to select programs and universities	Most academic courses will transfer to any public Texas college or university when a student earns a "C" or better.	Acceptance of credit depends on the institution and exam grade
Academic Benefit	Earn Performance Acknowledgements on high school diploma and transcript with grade equivalent of 3.0 or higher or earning recognized certification or license	Earn Performance Acknowledgements on high school diploma and transcript with grade equivalent of 3.0 or higher	Earn Performance Acknowledgements on high school diploma and transcript with a score of 3 or higher on College Board advanced placement examination
Employment Benefit	Skills applicable to work National or State Certification in some instances (ex. CNA, EMT-basic, Welding, Microsoft)	Some skills applicable to work	Some skills applicable to work

*Scores must meet Dual Credit Eligibility and/or Texas Success Initiative standards. See your high school counselor for details.