


Early postsecondary opportunities (EPSOs) include a course and/or exam that give students a chance to obtain postsecondary credit while still in high school. Courses (whether stand-alone or in conjunction with an exam for postsecondary credit) **must** be aligned to postsecondary standards.

Tennessee students have an unprecedented opportunity to pursue education and training beyond high school through Tennessee Promise, a scholarship and mentoring program which provides high school seniors with two years of tuition-free attendance at a community or technical college in Tennessee. **Early postsecondary opportunities ensure that students are ready to take full advantage of the Tennessee Promise and succeed in education and training after high school.** Research has shown that students who participate in early postsecondary courses are more likely to enroll and persist in postsecondary environments.

Early postsecondary opportunities allow students to:

- earn postsecondary credits while in high school.
- become familiar with postsecondary rigor and expectations.
- develop confidence and skills for success in postsecondary learning.
- make informed postsecondary and career decisions.
- decrease the time and cost of completing a certificate or degree.

 Department of Education	AP Advanced Placement	DE Dual Enrollment	SDC Statewide Dual Credit	IC Industry Certification
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College-level high school courses offered in multiple subjects Nationally recognized exams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postsecondary (PS) course taught at the PS institution, high school, or online Student enrolled in the PS institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High school course aligned to statewide postsecondary (PS) standards Required challenge exam for PS credit at TN institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment by an independent certifying entity based on standards for knowledge, skills, and competencies
Structure	Course and Exam	Course	Course and Exam	Exam
Provider	The College Board	Individual TN PS Institutions	Tennessee Department of Education	Industry
Student Fees and Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam fees College Board and state assistance for low-income students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course tuition, fees, books Dual Enrollment Grant (a lottery scholarship) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No cost to students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam fees
High School Credit and Graduation Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AP courses meet graduation requirements and/or elective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District sets policy on awarding high school credit and graduation requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDC course fulfills the same requirements as aligned high school course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IC is a program of study and does not meet graduation requirements
High School Recognition State Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualifies for graduation with state distinction Qualifies for GPA weighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualifies for graduation with state distinction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualifies for GPA weighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualifies for graduation with state distinction
Postsecondary Credit Determinant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score on AP exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dual enrollment course completion Passing grade as assigned by PS instructor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score on challenge exam at or above the established cut score 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score on industry certification exam
Postsecondary Credit Awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determined by postsecondary institutions Awarded upon matriculation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit awarded on PS transcript upon course completion Credit can be transferred to other PS institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit accepted at all TN PS institutions Students should notify registrar upon matriculation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determined by postsecondary institutions

AP

Advanced Placement

APs are college-level high school courses that are offered in multiple subjects. The exam is nationally recognized and can earn college credit.

What student fees are involved with AP, and how can I get assistance with the cost?

- ◆ Exam fees
- ◆ College Board and state assistance is available for low-income students

Will this class still count for a high school credit and meet remaining graduation requirements?

- ◆ Yes, AP courses meet specific graduation requirements and/or elective credit

Will this class get recognized by my high school according to state policies?

- ◆ Yes, APs are recognized according to policy, and AP students are able to graduate with state distinction
- ◆ Qualifies for increased GPA weighting

What determines if I could receive any postsecondary credit?

- ◆ The student's AP exam score

What determines if I will have any postsecondary credit awarded?

- ◆ Determined by individual postsecondary institutions
- ◆ Awarded upon matriculation

What is the structure of Advanced Placement?

- ◆ Course and exam

Who is the provider of Advanced Placement?

- ◆ The College Board



Department of
Education

DE

Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment is a postsecondary course taught at the postsecondary institution, high school, or online. The high school student is enrolled at the postsecondary institution.

What student fees are involved with dual enrollment, and how can I get assistance with the cost?

- ♦ Course tuition, fees, books
- ♦ Dual Enrollment Grant (a lottery scholarship)

Will this class still count for a high school credit and meet remaining graduation requirements?

- ♦ For dual enrollment courses, each district sets local policy on awarding high school credit and determining graduation requirements

Will this class get recognized by my high school according to state policies?

- ♦ Yes, dual enrollment courses are recognized according to policy, and dual enrollment students are able to graduate with state distinction

What determines if I could receive any postsecondary credit?

- ♦ The student's course completion and/or passing grade as assigned by postsecondary instructor

What determines if I will have any postsecondary credit awarded?

- ♦ Credit awarded on postsecondary transcript and can be transferred to other postsecondary institutions

What is the structure of dual enrollment?

- ♦ Course

Who is the provider of dual enrollment?

- ♦ Individual Tennessee postsecondary institutions



Department of
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Statewide Dual Credit

Statewide Dual Credit is a high school course aligned to standards at a local postsecondary institution with an required exam to earn credit at any Tennessee postsecondary institution.

What student fees are involved with statewide dual credit, and how can I get assistance with the cost?

- ◆ No exam fees

Will this class still count for a high school credit and meet remaining graduation requirements?

- ◆ Yes, the statewide dual credit course fulfills the same requirements as aligned high school course

Will this class get recognized by my high school according to state policies?

- ◆ Yes, statewide dual credit courses are recognized according to policy, and statewide dual credit students are able to graduate with state distinction
- ◆ Qualifies for increased GPA weighting

What determines if I could receive any postsecondary credit?

- ◆ The student's challenge exam score is at or above the established cut score

What determines if I will have any postsecondary credit awarded?

- ◆ Credit accepted at all Tennessee public postsecondary institutions
- ◆ Students should notify registrar upon matriculation to receive credit

What is the structure of SDC?

- ◆ Course and exam

Who is the provider of SDC?

- ◆ Tennessee Department of Education



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