



Alabama State Department of Education

Guidelines and Procedures for Move on When Ready (MOWR)

AUTHORITY

[Alabama Act 2025-412](#) and *Alabama Administrative Code Chapter 300-4-16* authorize the Move on When Ready (MOWR) program, establishing official state policies for full-time dual enrollment of eligible Alabama public high school students at Alabama public colleges.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Move on When Ready (MOWR) program allows eligible Alabama public high school juniors and seniors to complete their remaining high school coursework through full-time enrollment at an eligible Alabama public college or university. Students earn high school credit toward graduation by successfully completing approved college-level courses and simultaneously earn college credit recorded on a postsecondary transcript.

The MOWR program is designed to accelerate college-ready students' progress toward high school graduation and postsecondary achievement through a structured and carefully monitored pathway. Participating students do not attend their local high school on a daily basis and are considered full-time college students during grades 11 and 12. State education funding is directed to the participating college on the student's behalf.

These guidelines ensure that students, families, local education agencies (LEAs), and postsecondary institutions clearly understand their responsibilities and comply with all program requirements so that students may progress to the next stage of learning when ready.

Additional guidance and information may be accessed [here](#).

MOVE ON WHEN READY GUIDELINES

Student Eligibility

Students must meet all of the following eligibility requirements to participate in the MOWR program:

- Be entering Grades 11 or 12
- Have attended an Alabama public high school during the prior school year



Alabama State Department of Education

Guidelines and Procedures for Move on When Ready (MOWR)

- Have earned the minimum number of credits within each of the following subject areas:

Alabama High School Diploma— <i>General Education Pathway</i>	
Subject Area	Credits
English Language Arts	2
Mathematics	2
Science	2
Social Studies	2
Physical Education	1
Career Preparedness	1
Health Education	0.5

- Students seeking to earn the Alabama High School Diploma—*General Education Pathway* through Option B may participate in MOWR; however, they must have earned CTE completer status prior to being accepted into the program.
- Have a minimum unweighted cumulative high school grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale
- Obtain written approval from the high school principal and school counselor confirming academic readiness and maturity for full-time college enrollment
- Meet all admission requirements established by the participating college or university

Alabama State Department of Education Responsibilities

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is responsible for the following:

- Developing and issuing official MOWR guidelines, forms, and informational materials to all local school systems
- Requiring and overseeing mandatory pre-enrollment counseling for prospective students and parents or guardians
- Establishing procedures for awarding high school credit and issuing diplomas for MOWR coursework
- Providing guidance on high school re-enrollment for students who withdraw from the program
- Collaborating with the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) and the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) to provide program oversight and publish annual reports



Alabama State Department of Education

Guidelines and Procedures for Move on When Ready (MOWR)

Local Education Agency Responsibilities

Local education agencies (LEAs) must fulfill the following responsibilities:

- By April 1 of each year, notify all eligible students in Grades 11 and 12 and their families about the MOWR program and provide required informational materials and forms
- Ensure that each interested student and parent or guardian participates in mandatory pre-enrollment counseling and signs an acknowledgment of completion
- Verify all eligibility requirements, including grade level, GPA, and required administrative approvals, before endorsing a student's MOWR application
- Maintain documentation verifying the student's enrollment in a participating Alabama public college or university.
- Update the student's enrollment record using the appropriate exit code, WB6-Transfer Within State (Move on When Ready), within the Student Information System (SIS)
- Award high school credit and record coursework to the student's high school transcript upon successful completion of approved college courses
- Issue the Alabama High School Diploma once all graduation requirements are met through MOWR eligible coursework
- Facilitate re-enrollment for students who withdraw from the program in accordance with ALSDE guidelines and only under approved extenuating circumstances

College and University Responsibilities

Participating Alabama public colleges and universities are required to:

- Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with ACHE and comply with all MOWR policies and procedures
- Offer only credit-bearing college courses and maintain the same course content and academic standards applied to all postsecondary students
- Collaborate with ALSDE to determine which courses are approved for high school credit
- Provide academic advising and access to disability services in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
- Submit a Certified Participation List of enrolled MOWR students to ACHE each academic term for funding purposes
- Maintain required records for auditing and compliance reviews



Alabama State Department of Education

Guidelines and Procedures for Move on When Ready (MOWR)

Student and Parent Responsibilities

Students and parents or guardians participating in the MOWR program must adhere to the following requirements:

- Students must maintain full-time enrollment of at least 12 credit hours per academic term and remain in good academic standing
- Students must comply with all college policies, academic calendars, and codes of conduct
- Students may not participate in high school classes or extracurricular activities while enrolled in MOWR
- Parents or guardians must attend mandatory counseling sessions and sign all required consent forms
- Families are responsible for providing transportation and understanding that daily supervision and K–12 special education services do not transfer to the college setting
- Families are responsible for any tuition, fees, or textbook costs that exceed state MOWR funding

Enrollment Process

The MOWR enrollment process includes the following steps:

- Local school systems provide program information and mandatory counseling by April 1 of each year
- Students apply for admission to an eligible Alabama public college or university
- Students submit all required MOWR forms through both the high school and the participating college
- High school counselors and students collaboratively select approved college courses that satisfy remaining high school graduation requirements
- Students enroll in a full-time college course load for each participating term

Course Approval and High School Credit

High school credit is awarded only for courses jointly approved by ALSDE and the participating college or university. Remedial or developmental courses do not qualify for MOWR credit. Approved co-requisite support models may yield one high school credit for the combined course.



Alabama State Department of Education

Guidelines and Procedures for Move on When Ready (MOWR)

Successfully completed courses are recorded on the student's high school transcript and applied toward the Alabama High School Diploma. Courses taken outside the approved course list may not count toward graduation requirements.

[ALSDE Approved ACCS Dual Credit and MOWR Courses](#)

[ALSDE Approved IHE MOWR Courses](#)

Guidance and information for LEAs regarding the MOWR Program, including ALSDE-approved course lists, maybe also be accessed [here](#).

Student Status While Participating in MOWR

While enrolled in the MOWR program, students are considered full-time college students and are not counted as high school students for attendance or state funding purposes. Students do not attend high school classes or activities, except for graduation ceremonies, as permitted by local policy

Continued eligibility requires students to maintain full-time enrollment and successfully complete all coursework. Failure to meet these requirements results in program ineligibility.

Withdrawal from MOWR and High School Re-Enrollment

Re-enrollment in a local high school is permitted only under compelling, extenuating circumstances and requires approval by the local superintendent. All requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Funding and Costs

The MOWR program is funded through the state Move on When Ready Fund. The fund pays tuition, mandatory fees, and textbooks up to the lesser of:

- The actual college costs minus a \$200 records fee retained by the local school system, or
- The equivalent per-pupil state funding amount



Alabama State Department of Education

Guidelines and Procedures for Move on When Ready (MOWR)

Funds are disbursed directly to the participating college or university. Families are responsible for any costs that exceed the state allocation, as well as transportation expenses. Students may not receive other state-funded scholarships for courses funded through MOWR.

Reporting and Accountability

ALSDE publishes an annual MOWR participation and outcomes report by July 1 of each year. ACHE publishes an annual financial report by September 1.

Participating institutions and local school systems are subject to audits and compliance reviews and must maintain all program records for a minimum of five years. Failure to comply with program requirements may result in suspension from the program and/or repayment of funds.