COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAM

a) *Program Requirements*

If allowed by its open-enrollment charter, TLPS may implement a program under which students may earn the equivalent of at least 12 semester credit hours of college credit in high school. The college credit may be earned through:

1. International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, or dual credit courses;
2. Articulated postsecondary courses provided for local credit or articulated postsecondary advanced technical credit courses provided for state credit; or
3. Any combination of the courses in items 1 and 2.

The program may provide a student the opportunity to earn credit for a course or activity, including apprenticeship or training hours:

1. That satisfies a requirement necessary to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate or an associate degree, and is approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board ("THECB"); and
2. For which a student may earn credit concurrently toward both the student's high school diploma and postsecondary academic requirements.

A dual credit course must be:

1. In the core curriculum of the public institution of higher education, providing college credit;
2. A career and technical education course; or
3. A foreign language course.

These requirements do not apply to a dual credit course offered as part of the early college education program established under Texas Education Code § 29.908 or any other early college program that assists a student in earning a certificate or an associate degree while in high school.

TLPS is not required to pay a student's tuition or other associated costs for taking a course under this policy. *Tex. Educ. Code § 28.009*.

b) *Eligible Course Requirements*

To be eligible for high school credit, a dual credit course must be provided by an institution of higher education that is accredited by any of the following regional accrediting associations:

1. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;

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2. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools;
3. New England Association of Schools and Colleges;
4. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;
5. Western Association of Schools and Colleges; or
6. Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

Additionally, the course shall provide advanced academic instruction beyond or in greater depth than the essential knowledge and skills for the equivalent high school course. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 74.25*.

Sec. 1. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR DUAL CREDIT COURSES

A high school student is eligible to enroll in academic dual credit courses and workforce education dual credit courses as permitted by 19 Texas Administrative Code § 4.85(b). To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course offered by a public college, students must meet all the college's regular prerequisite requirements designated for that course (e.g., minimum score on a specified placement test, minimum grade in a specified previous course, etc.). An institution may impose additional requirements for enrollment in courses for dual credit. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 4.85(b)*.

a) *Partnership Programs*

An eligible student may enroll in a partnership program with a Texas college or university in accordance with an agreement between TLPS and the college or university. TLPS shall award credit toward high school graduation in accordance with the agreement between TLPS and the college or university.

b) *Other College-Level Courses*

TLPS may award a student credit for completing a college-level course at an accredited college or university that is not in a partnership program with TLPS. Award of credit shall be based on administrator approval in accordance with guidelines established by the Superintendent or designee.

c) *Texas Virtual School Network*

According to guidelines established by the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) and the course provider, TLPS may enroll a student in college-level courses through the TxVSN. When the student successfully completes a course, credit shall be applied toward graduation requirements.

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Sec. 2. ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

The time that a student attends a dual credit course, including a course provided under the college credit program, shall be counted as part of the minimum instructional hours required for a student to be considered a full-time student in average daily attendance. *Tex. Educ. Code § 48.005(g)*.

Additionally, the Commissioner of Education may approve instructional programs provided off campus by an entity other than TLPS in which participation by a student may be counted for purposes of determining average daily attendance. *Tex. Educ. Code § 48.007(a)*.

TLPS may adopt a policy that allows a student to participate in an off-campus instructional program. The program must be provided only by an institution of higher education that is accredited by one of the regional accrediting associations specified in 19 Texas Administrative Code § 74.25.

To be eligible, a student must:

1. Be in grade 11 or 12; Grade 10 with administrative approval.
2. Have demonstrated college readiness as outlined in the requirements for participation in dual credit programs in the Student Attendance Accounting Handbook;
3. Meet any eligibility requirements adopted by the institution of higher education; and
4. Have the approval of the Principal or other school official designated by TLPS.

The off-campus program must comply with rules adopted by the THECB in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, with respect to teacher qualifications.*19 Tex. Admin. Code § 129.1031*.

Sec. 3. ANNUAL REPORTS

TLPS shall annually report to the TEA:

1. The number of TLPS students, including career and technical students, who have participated in the program and earned college credit; and
2. The cumulative number of courses in which participating students have enrolled and college credit hours the students have earned.

Tex. Educ. Code § 28.009(c).

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