

What is Dual Enrollment?

Dual Enrollment allows high school students to take college-level courses and earn dual credit (high school and college). College courses can be taken online or in-person at local community colleges or online at larger colleges and universities.



What are the benefits?

Students are exposed to college-level instruction and experience an online class. This not only helps prepare students for college, but shows college admissions officers that they are challenging themselves and will be successful in college classes. Students can use this opportunity to adjust to college-level work before their freshman year when they are often living away from home without as much parental involvement or support.

Dual enrollment courses are also tuition-free or reduced tuition, depending on where the credit is earned. This can save families money when students enroll in an undergraduate program of study after high school, needing fewer credits toward their degree.

What are the challenges?

Students need to have strong study skills, time management, and an ability to succeed independently. They may be the only person at their high school enrolled in a section of a college course. Students also need to be able to juggle their high school courses and college course(s) simultaneously. Dual enrollment courses are likely to not be taught from a Biblical worldview.

What are the qualifications?

Qualifications vary, depending on where the student is earning the college credit. Generally, students need a minimum unweighted GPA of 2.8 and an “A” average in previous courses. PSAT, SAT, and ACT scores can also be used if a student does not meet the GPA requirement in some cases.

What colleges does HPCA work with for dual enrollment?

Students at HPCA can participate in the Career and College Promise program, which includes North Carolina community colleges. Our most utilized option is through Guilford Technical Community College. We also have a partnership with The College at Southeastern for students who take English IV Honors and Understanding the Times at HPCA to earn college credit from these institutions. Other colleges and universities with dual enrollment offerings can be utilized with administrative approval.

Is there a fee for this program?

Career and College Promise classes through Guilford Technical Community College are tuition-free. Students only pay for books and fees. The College at Southeastern partnership is \$245 per class. Tuition for dual enrollment courses at other colleges or universities ranges from \$200-\$500 per three-credit course.

How do courses transfer to college?

Classes taken at GTCC as a part of the Career and College Promise program are guaranteed to transfer to UNC System Institutions as part of the [North Carolina Comprehensive Articulation Agreement](#). This is a statewide agreement governing the transfer of credits between NC community colleges and NC public universities. This list contains courses accepted for transfer between the NC community college system and the UNC system institutions.

For courses taken at other colleges or universities, students and families are encouraged to look at the transfer equivalency guides for specific dual enrollment courses and the college where students may attend for their undergraduate studies.

The College Board also has an [AP Credit Policy Search tool](#) that can be used to find colleges that offer credit or placement for AP scores.

Which is more favorable when college admissions officers review student applications for undergraduate admissions decisions: dual enrollment or AP?

This is a great question to ask college admissions officers at college fairs or on college visits, as the answer may vary depending on the college or university. Our experience has shown that college admissions officers view both dual enrollment and AP courses equally as ways that students can challenge themselves and prepare for college.

What is the difference between Dual Enrollment and AP?

AP (Advanced Placement)	Dual Enrollment
<i>Both are great opportunities to earn college credit!</i>	
AP courses are taken and taught by HPCA faculty. Students meet with a familiar teacher in-person for 90 minutes every other day throughout the entire school year, with additional support available outside of class time.	Dual enrollment courses are often taken online with an unfamiliar instructor. Dual enrollment courses may be semester-long or year-long.
AP courses are limited to certain days and times dependent on the HPCA high school schedule.	Dual enrollment online courses offer more flexible scheduling. Online courses are often asynchronous, allowing students to log on and complete work any time.
AP courses require a certain grade on the AP Exam in May for students to receive college credit.	Dual enrollment courses require a grade of "C" or higher in the course to receive college credit.
AP Exams are a standard way to measure how well students have mastered the subject matter developed by the College Board.	Dual enrollment programs don't offer a standard way to measure whether students have mastered college-level work. This can make it difficult for college admissions officers to know the quality or difficulty level of any dual enrollment course.
The AP Exam fee is \$97.	Cost varies depending on where students take dual enrollment courses. Classes at GTCC are tuition-free while other college courses can be \$200 or more.

