

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT DUAL CREDIT COURSES

What is a dual credit course?

A “dual credit” course is a course taken through a two- or four-year institution of higher education for which a student earns high school and college credit upon successful completion of the same course.

What is the difference between dual credit and early entry courses?

Students participating in dual credit courses earn both college credit and high school credit and can use the same course to meet high school graduation requirements. Students participating in early entry coursework are **ONLY** receiving college credit. Early entry coursework is not used to meet high school graduation requirements, nor is it factored into high school GPA calculations.

Who is eligible to enroll in a dual credit course?

Students in grades 10, 11, or 12 who have the written permission from the student’s school district superintendent are eligible to enroll in a dual credit course.

How does a student enroll in early entry coursework?

Students interested in enrolling in college courses while in high school can enroll at North Dakota University System colleges and universities as an early entry student. The students would contact the college or university website to apply as a high school student taking college courses. Tuition and fees are the same as those paid by other college students taking the course. The students receive **ONLY** college credit upon successful completion of the course.

How does dual credit appear on the high school transcript?

A dual credit course will appear on the student’s official high school transcript as “DC”. The earned grade will be calculated into the student’s cumulative high school GPA. The students earn both high school and college credit upon successful completion of the course.

How is dual credit recorded on the college transcript?

The dual credit course is recorded on the college transcript of the college or university that coordinated the dual credit course.

How are dual credit courses provided to other colleges and universities in North Dakota?

If the high school participates in eTranscripts, the dual credit course and college course appear on the eTranscript. If an eTranscript is provided to a North Dakota University System (NDUS) college or university at the time of application, the dual credit courses taken in high school will be listed and official on the eTranscript. The students will not need to contact the other NDUS college or university notes a discrepancy or additional college courses were taken from the high school.

Can early entry/dual credit courses be sent out-of-state or to non-NDUS institutions?

eTranscripts are not widely used at the national level. A college or university outside the North Dakota University System may require a student request and pay for an official college transcript from each college or university from which a dual credit or early entry course was taken.

What benefits will be provided to students taking dual credit courses?

Taking challenging dual credit courses has been shown to provide students with the following benefits:

- Increases likelihood of high school graduation.
- Provides a more streamlined transition to college.
- Improves the persistence needed to complete a college degree or credential.
- Increases likelihood of college enrollment.
- Decreases the time spend in college so students can enter the workforce earlier.
- Saves potential tuition costs and thus reduces student loan debt.

Where can students learn more about the dual credit reimbursement scholarship?

Criteria for this scholarship may be found in NDCC15-10-38.4.