

## **District of Columbia Dual Enrollment Consortium Program**

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Overview

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is committed to providing high-quality dual enrollment opportunities for students in both public and public charter schools in the District of Columbia. Dual enrollment allows high school students to experience the academic rigor of college courses, and understand what is required for success in college. High school students participating in the District of Columbia Dual Enrollment Consortium Program enroll in approved college courses at postsecondary institutions, and may earn college and/or high school credit.

# **Background**

As DC's state education agency, OSSE works urgently and purposely, in partnership with education and related systems, to sustain, accelerate, and deepen progress for DC students. The DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program aligns with that mission and offers meaningful and challenging academic experiences to all qualified students.

Local education agencies (LEAs) have noted a need for more dual enrollment offerings for high school students in the District. Based on that feedback, OSSE is playing a stronger leadership role in identifying dual enrollment opportunities, coordinating priorities and access around advanced coursework for high school students, and serving as a facilitator for strong partnerships between LEAs and institutions of higher education (IHEs). Member LEA and school staff are responsible for supporting students in completing the program application process. OSSE serves as the intermediary to manage the online application system and the exchange of information. IHEs make all enrollment decisions.

# Question 1: What is dual enrollment?

**Answer:** Dual enrollment programs enable students who have not yet received a high school diploma or secondary credential to enroll in approved college courses, taken in various settings, including in-person at a secondary school or at an accredited postsecondary institution, using an online/virtual-learning platform through the accredited postsecondary institution, or a hybrid of these settings, that may result in one of the following:

- (1) Postsecondary credit only for coursework;
- (2) Secondary and postsecondary credit for coursework; or
- (3) Completion of an associate degree.

Question 2: What is the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program?

**Answer:** The DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program is a partnership facilitated by OSSE that is designed to provide all students attending public and public charter schools equal access to the various dual enrollment programs available locally. OSSE works with colleges to identify their enrollment requirements and LEAs to identify interested, eligible students. OSSE also manages funding to offset the cost of dual enrollment for eligible students.

**Question 3:** Who is eligible for the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program? **Answer:** 

- Students must be enrolled in an eligible District of Columbia public or public charter school and pursuing a secondary credential such as a high school diploma or GED.
- Click here to view each IHE's minimum grade point average (GPA) requirements.

**Question 4:** Which IHEs are currently enrolling students to participate in the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program?

#### Answer:

- American University
- Bay Atlantic University
- Catholic University of America- Metropolitan School of Professional Studies
- Marymount University
- Montgomery College
- Northern Virginia Community College
- Trinity Washington University
- University of the District of Columbia-flagship campus

Question 5: When does the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium application open for students?

Answer: March 3, 2022

**Question 6:** When does the application close?

Answer: Students must submit their information and all supporting documents by April 1, 2022.

Question 7: Where can I find the application?

**Answer:** <a href="https://octo.quickbase.com/db/bmsi2h8z2">https://octo.quickbase.com/db/bmsi2h8z2</a>

**Question 8:** What documents do I need to upload in order to apply for the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program?

# Answer:

- 1. A copy of your transcript (representing coursework from ninth grade forward)
- 2. A copy of one of the following:
  - GED Ready,
  - SAT, **OR**
  - ACT scores;
- Personal statement/essay;
- 4. Letter of recommendation from high school teacher;
- 5. Counselor or Principal Recommendation Form; and
- 6. Signed Release of Information Form.

Question 9: When and how will I know if I am accepted to my college of choice?

**Answer:** May 2, 2022. Students receive notification directly from their LEA/school dual enrollment coordinator. All enrollment decisions are made by the colleges/IHEs.

Question 10: May I participate more than once?

**Answer:** Students must apply annually to the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program. This current application is applicable for the fall 2022 semester. The application will reopen in the upcoming semester if seats are available.

**Question 11:** How many classes can I take?

**Answer:** Students may take up to two (3-credit) courses per semester through the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program.

**Question 12:** How much will the program cost?

**Answer:** There is no cost to students or parents if selected for the DC Dual Enrollment Consortium Program. OSSE will fund the cost of tuition and books for up to two (3-credit) courses per semester. The number of courses in which a student may enroll is at the discretion of the institution of higher education (IHE) and local education agency (LEA) depending on the student's academic performance to date.