



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

**EDUCATION**

## 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 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 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 either on a high school or college campus, 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 Program?

**Answer:** The DC Dual Enrollment 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 local funding to offset the cost of dual enrollment for eligible students.

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

**Answer:** Across all IHEs at a minimum, sophomores with a 3.3 grade point average (GPA) or higher; juniors and seniors with a 3.0 or higher; and GED students who earned a 145 or higher on two GED Ready tests, one of which is English language arts. Students must be District of Columbia residents to be eligible to participate in the DC Dual Enrollment Program. For the Catholic University of America Metropolitan School of Professional Studies program students must be adults (18 years old and older). For the Marymount University program, only juniors and seniors are eligible to participate and the minimum GPA for participation is 3.5.

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

**Answer:**

- Bay Atlantic University
- Catholic University of America – Undergraduate Admissions
- Catholic University of America- Metropolitan School of Professional Studies
- Marymount University
- Montgomery College
- Trinity Washington University
- University of the District of Columbia-flagship campus

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

**Answer:** October 1, 2020

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

**Answer:** Students must submit their information and all supporting documents by October 16, 2020.

**Question 7:** Where can I find the application?

**Answer:** <https://octo.quickbase.com/db/bmsi2h8z2>

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

**Answer:**

1. A copy of your transcript (representing coursework from ninth grade forward) and/or current report card;
2. A copy of one of the following:
  - GED Ready,
  - SAT, **OR**
  - ACT scores;
3. 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:** November 9, 2020. 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 Program. This current application is applicable for the spring 2021 and summer 2021 semesters. The application will reopen in the upcoming semester if seats are available.

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

**Answer:** Students may take one class per semester through the DC Dual Enrollment 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 Program.