Dual Credit Legislative Update

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Dual Credit
Statute & Rules

Texas Education Code (TEC) 130.008

- Outlines how agreements between public junior colleges and school districts are established for offering college courses which also satisfy high school graduation requirements.

Texas Education Code (TEC) 28.009

- Requires that each school district implement a program under which students may earn at least 12 semester credit hours of college credit in high school.

Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 4, Sub. D

- Sections 4.81 through 4.85

Passed Dual Credit Legislation 84th Legislature

- HB 505
- HB 18
- SB 2812
- SB 1004
- SB 206

HB 505

SECTION 1. …**A rule may not limit:**

(1) the number of dual credit courses or hours in which a student may enroll while in high school;

(2) the number of dual credit courses or hours in which a student may enroll each semester or academic year; or

(3) the grade levels at which a high school student may be eligible to enroll in a dual credit course.

SECTION 2. **Section 130.008(f), Education Code, is repealed.**

SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the **2015-2016 school year.**

130.008 Prior to 84th Legislature

Sec. 130.008. COURSES FOR JOINT HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE CREDIT.

(d) A public junior college may enter into an agreement with a school district, organization, or other person that operates a high school to offer a course as provided by this section **regardless of whether the high school is located within the service area of the junior college district.**

(d-1) Repealed by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 211, Sec. 78(a)(6), eff. September 1, 2013.

(f) Except as provided by this section, a student **may not enroll in more than three courses under this section at a junior college if the junior college does not have a service area that includes the student's high school.** A student enrolled at an early college high school may enroll in a greater number of courses to the extent approved by the **commissioner of education.**

130.008 After 84th Legislature

Sec. 130.008. COURSES FOR JOINT HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE CREDIT.

(d) A public junior college may enter into an agreement with a school district, organization, or other person that operates a high school to offer a course as provided by this section **regardless of whether the high school is located within the service area of the junior college district.**

HB 18

…A rule may not limit the number of dual credit courses or semester credit hours in which a student may enroll while in high school or limit the number of dual credit courses or semester credit hours in which a student may enroll each semester or academic year.

SB 2812

The commissioner may, based on criteria developed by the commissioner, approve **instructional programs provided off campus by an entity other than a school district or open-enrollment charter school** as a program in which participation by a student of a district or charter **school may be counted for purposes of determining average daily attendance.**

SB 1004

A public junior college with a service area located wholly or partly in a county with a population of more than three million **shall enter into an agreement with each school district located wholly or partly in a county with a population of more than three million to offer one or more courses as provided by this section.** A student enrolled in a school district to which this subsection applies may enroll in a course at any junior college that has entered into an agreement with the district to offer the course under this subsection. **Subsection (f) does not apply to a student who seeks to enroll in a course under this subsection.**

SB 206

Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(1), a child who exits the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services and is returned to the child 's parent, including a parent whose parental rights were previously terminated, **may be exempt from the payment of tuition and fees** if the department determines that the child is eligible under department rule.

Dual Credit Basics

Dual Credit Partnership

- Dual credit partnership must be approved by governing boards of college and public or private high school prior to offering courses.

Eligible Courses for Dual Credit

- ACGM
- WECM
- University's approved undergraduate course inventory
- No developmental education or remedial courses

Grade Level Eligibility

- Ninth through twelfth grade

Dual Credit Course Load

- No limit in rules

Dual Credit Basics

Student Demonstration of Eligibility to Enroll

- Demonstration of TSI college readiness or exemption
  - TSI Assessment
  - SAT (combined 1070 with minimum of 500 on critical reading and/or math)
  - ACT (Composite of 23 with minimum of 19 on English and/or math)
  - Algebra II STARR EOC (4000)
  - English III STAAR EOC (TBD)
- Dual credit course enrollment eligibility **(not college readiness)**
  - English II STAAR EOC (4000)
  - Algebra I STAAR EOC (4000) plus passing grade in Algebra II course
  - **PSAT** (combined 107 with minimum of 50 on critical reading and/or math)
  - Aspire (English-435; math-431)

Dual Credit Basics

Curriculum

- The college shall ensure that a dual credit course and the corresponding course offered at the main campus of the college are equivalent with respect to curriculum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of student evaluation.

Faculty

- Faculty must meet the same standards and approval procedures used by the college to select faculty responsible for teaching the same courses at the main campus of the college.
- The college shall supervise and evaluate instructors of dual credit courses using the same procedures used for faculty at the main campus of the college.

Dual Credit Basics

Funding

- An institution of higher education **may** waive all or part of tuition and fees for students enrolled in dual credit courses.
- An institution of higher education may only claim funding for dual credit courses contained in the institution's core curriculum, career and technical education courses, and foreign language courses.

Junior/Community College Service Area

- No service area restrictions for dual credit courses.

Implications

- Increased access to college credit for high school students.
- Dual credit rule changes.
- Possible additional dual credit eligibility requirement changes.
- Districts able to “shop around” for dual credit.
- Dual Credit vs ECHS.
- Increased monitoring of student outcomes, transferability, and degree applicability.
- Advising is crucial!!!

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