

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DUAL ENROLLMENT

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) 2013-14

1. **Who do I contact if I want my child to be a dual enrolled student?**

The law requires a conference with your child's high school counselor. In addition, the school counselor has a form for your signature ensuring that you have been advised about the dual enrollment/dual credit programs that are of interest to your child.

2. **What is "Move on When Ready"?**

House Bill 149 (Move on When Ready) is an arrangement whereby an eligible student entering eleventh or twelfth grade who spent the prior school year in attendance at a public high school in Georgia, takes all of his/ her courses at or through an eligible institution (college, university or public technical college) and receives secondary credit from his/her high school with the goal of completing graduation and high school diploma requirements.

3. **How is Move on When Ready different from other dual enrollment programs?**

Move on When Ready students take all their coursework at or through a college, and do not take any courses at the high school. Local school systems would not receive FTE funding for the student, but instead would receive a records fee of \$100/per semester for the student.

4. **Who is eligible for Move on When Ready?**

To be eligible for participation in Move on When Ready, a student must:

- a. Be a high school junior or senior seeking a high school diploma from an eligible Georgia high school,
- b. Be reported as enrolled in a public school for funding purposes during the preceding October and March full-time equivalent (FTE) program counts,
- c. Be enrolled full time in an eligible college or university or public technical college as a dual credit student taking approved college-level courses,
- d. Be a legal resident of Georgia,
- e. Be on track to graduate and maintain satisfactory academic progress towards fulfilling applicable high school graduation requirements,
- f. Meet all college admission and registration requirements, and
- g. Meet local system requirements.

5. **Who is eligible for the other dual enrollment programs?**

To be eligible for participation in dual enrollment a student must:

- a. Be a high school student in grade 9-12,
- b. Be legal resident of Georgia,
- c. Be on track to graduate and maintain satisfactory academic progress towards fulfilling applicable high school graduation requirements,
- d. Meet all college admission and registration requirements,
- e. Meet local system requirements.

6. How do students enroll in a dual enrollment program?

Eligible students and their parents/guardians must schedule an advisement session with the high school counselor to discuss and select the appropriate program to meet both secondary and postsecondary program requirements.

7. What is a full-time dual student?

A student is full-time at an eligible institution as long as the student is enrolled a minimum of 12-15 semester hours or the equivalent quarter hours. The student must maintain full-time status after the drop/add period of the eligible institution. Move on When Ready students, who drop below full-time status for any reason during the term, forfeit immediately the eligibility to continue in the Move on When Ready program, and must return to their local high school at that point in the semester.

8. Do dual students have to be full-time?

Full-time enrollment is required with some, but not all dual enrollment/dual credit programs. Please see guidance regarding the type of needed dual enrollment/dual credit program. Students have the option of taking one course or as many as required for full-time enrollment status.

9. What happens to a student who drops or withdraws from a dual course? Dropping or withdrawing from a dual course will cause the student **not** to receive the college credit and **not** to receive the equivalent high school credit. Dropping a course could affect the following: graduation requirements, class rank, grade point average, and in the case of the Move on When Ready program, the student may have to drop all classes immediately, if the enrollment status is no longer considered full-time.

10. How is the payment handled?

The dual-enrolled student's eligible institution will receive payment either from the Georgia Department of Education or the Georgia Student Finance Commission, depending on the participating dual enrollment/dual credit program. The student/parents will be responsible for some of the costs, which may vary depending on the type of dual enrollment program. In all programs, the student/parents would be responsible for parking, transportation, meals, and possible other costs.

11. Are tuition, books and materials included in the payment?

Payment for tuition, books, and materials would be dependent on the type of dual program. Tuition for Move on When Ready students is always paid in full.

12. Should the local system ever be billed for any charges for dual enrolled students?

No, dual students/parents will be billed and pay for any costs above what is covered by the dual program.

13. What courses are eligible for dual enrolled students?

There are approved state course lists for the different dual enrollment/dual credit programs, including the Accel list, Dual Enrollment Matrix Course Directory, and the Move on When Ready Supplemental List. Dual enrollment/dual credit courses must count toward the student's high school graduation requirements and meet the local school system's graduation unit requirements.

14. Who is responsible for notifying the schools if a student withdraws/drops out of any their course(s) during the semester/quarter?

The student has the responsibility of contacting **both** the college and the high school counselor immediately, if the student is making the decision to drop, withdraw or change any dual courses. This decision may have serious consequences affecting: the student's ability to graduate on time, the Grade Point Average (GPA), and the continuation of dual enrollment, etc. As with all dual enrollment/dual credit courses, the local school district is responsible for developing policies that provide for the assignment of high school classes to dual students who return to the high school during the semester.

15. Do students have to do dual credit all year long?

No, all the dual programs are semester to semester programs with entry or stopping points between semesters. Students may **not** enter or change dual courses or programs during the semester.

16. Can students continue in Move on When Ready if they fail any courses?

The student must still be on track to graduate on time in order to continue in the Move on When Ready program. If the student fails any course(s), a decision must be made by the parents of the student and the high school counselors to determine whether the student could still be successful and meet graduation requirements in the program.

17. Will students receive credit for coursework taken through Dual Enrollment?

Students who successfully complete any dual enrollment coursework receive both secondary and postsecondary credit.

18. How much credit will students receive?

Beginning in 2010-2011 the conversion chart is as follows:

1 to 2 college semester hours will earn one-half high school unit, while 3 to 5 college semester hours will earn one full high school unit. Postsecondary quarter hour credit shall be converted to high school unit credit as follows:

1 to 3 quarter hour credits will equal one-half high school unit, and
4 to 8 quarter hour credits will equal one full high school unit.

19. Can Move on When Ready students transfer to another University System of Georgia institution during an academic term?

Students may not transfer to another college institution during an academic term and receive credit or payment for the coursework.

20. Will college credits from one institution transfer to another postsecondary institution?

College credits earned while in a dual enrollment program are transferable, based on postsecondary agreements between institutions. Students should be advised to consider these post-high school institution agreements when planning dual enrollment coursework.

21. What are the benefits of dual-enrollment participation?

- Eases the transition from high school to college
- Provides students an early start on their college careers
- Offers meaningful and challenging academic experiences to qualified students
- Provides early college opportunities for students to try who normally would not attend college.
- Students will have flexible scheduling opportunities because courses can be taken anytime and on-line.
- College tuition and expenses are fully or mostly paid for saving the parents/students money and time.
- Reduces college courses and attendance time after high school graduation.

22. What is the grade conversion for dual enrollment/dual credit students?

Usually, colleges provide letter grades for courses. Therefore, it is up to the local system to create a conversion chart for letter grades that would apply to all dual enrollment/dual credit courses.

23. Can participating in dual enrollment affect a student's class rank, eligibility for valedictorian or salutatorian, etc.?

Yes. Local systems may have policies that exclude dual students from being considered for these awards or honors. Local systems make the decision regarding class rank and eligibility for valedictorian or salutatorian.

24. Can students still participate in high school extracurricular activities and sports?

Students are eligible to participate in competitive interscholastic activities in grades 9-12, following the provisions of State Board Rule 160-5-1-18. However, the student has the responsibility to be able to meet all the requirements, schedules, and conditions. Colleges are not required to allow for absences or make up work; therefore, in some cases participation may not be possible.

25. What colleges and universities are considered eligible institutions?

All University System of Georgia institutions qualify as an eligible postsecondary institution as defined in paragraph (7) of Code Section 20-3-519. All colleges in the Technical College System of Georgia qualify as eligible institutions.

26. Do students have to complete a FAFSA?

FAFSAs are not required for dual or joint enrolled students, if the student is under age 18. However, if the student is age 18 at the beginning of the term or will turn 18 during the term funding is sought; the student must complete a FAFSA.

27. Can students earn more than 4 units of high school credit in one semester?

Yes, but only if the local system agrees to accept it. The local system would accept the classes taken at the high school first then any taken at the college above the total combined 4 units of credit would be optional to the local system. Any dual courses not accepted for credit would not be dual funded and would only receive college credit.

28. Can dual enrollment be taken during the summer?

No, dual enrollment courses may only be taken during the normal high school fall and spring semesters. Also, dual enrollment courses may not be used for remediation, learning support, or non-credit courses.