

In response to Code of Virginia §§ 23.1-907 and 23.1-905.1 the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia established a committee to develop a passport credit program and establish a policy for granting undergraduate general education course credit to any entering student who has successfully completed a dual enrollment course. The Advisory Committee on Dual Enrollment and General Education Transfer consists of representative(s) from each public four-year institution, several two-year institutions, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), SCHEV, and the Virginia Association of School Superintendents.

Thus far, the advisory committee has developed draft dual enrollment policy principles, a dual enrollment policy outline, and established general education course equivalents between a number of VCCS course offerings and each public four-year institution. The core of the dual enrollment policy is to treat dual enrollment coursework the same as the community college transfer equivalent. The general education course equivalents will be used to develop a 15- and 30-credit hour passport program that has universal or near universal transferability to each public four-year institution and satisfy specific general education requirements. The passport course list will be provided to high schools as an advising tool to ensure students interested in dual enrollment receive maximum transferability of their coursework.

### Dual Enrollment Quick Facts:

- 1) General education requirements vary by institution and program; thus, dual enrollment coursework will not have universal transferability or application.
- 2) In most cases, dual enrollment courses are accepted and applied the same as the community college transfer equivalent.
- 3) Not all dual enrollment coursework will satisfy specific general education or program requirements.
- 4) There is a distinction between application of a course and not accepting the course. Courses that are not used at all towards a credit program are considered to be not accepted; however, transferable dual enrollment coursework that does not satisfy specific general education or programmatic requirements are often still applied toward satisfaction of the 120-credit hour baccalaureate requirements.
- 5) Many institutional general education curricula require one or two courses in a specific content area. Additional dual enrollment coursework taken beyond the institutional requirements in the content area may be applied to program or total-credit hour requirements. As an example, University A requires one course in sociology to satisfy general education requirements but the dual enrollment student takes four courses in sociology. The student will receive general education credit for the one course while the remaining courses *may* be applied to program or total-credit hour degree requirements.
- 6) Some dual enrollment courses are more transferable than others. Career and technical education coursework is less likely to be accepted and applied toward baccalaureate requirements.

### Where can students learn more?

The most accurate sources of information about credit awards are the institutions themselves. SCHEV has a webpage with profiles of each of Virginia's institutions (see link below). Students and advisors can visit the page and select their institution to view contact information and link to the school's admissions webpage. Students should contact institutions directly to ask about the transferability of credits and any program-specific exception, as they consider their college plans. Each institution maintains a transfer guide that provides VCCS course equivalents, often found on the institution's transfer or admission webpage.

**Link:** Institution Profiles: <http://research.schev.edu/iprofile.asp>