

At-A-Glance: Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment



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Dual credit and dual enrollment courses are similar in that both can result in high school students earning postsecondary credits. They are different in that dual credit courses are high school courses and dual enrollment courses are postsecondary courses.



Tennessee has two types of dual credit courses: statewide and local.

Statewide dual credit courses are high school courses that are aligned to postsecondary standards. Students can earn credit that can be applied to any Tennessee public postsecondary institution. High school and postsecondary faculty work together to develop the learning objectives and a challenge exam for each course, which are tied to current postsecondary expectations.

A local dual credit course is provided through a partnership with an individual postsecondary institution. High school students earn credit through an assessment that is developed and/or approved specifically for credit at that institution.

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Under dual enrollment, a high school student is enrolled at the postsecondary institution and earns postsecondary credit after successfully completing a course. High school credit is awarded based on local policy.



Dual enrollment courses may be taught at the postsecondary campus, the high school, or online.

Dual enrollment instructors must meet postsecondary requirements, but do not have to meet specific Tennessee teacher licensure or endorsement requirements.