

Possible Changes to the Dual Enrollment funding Program

Changes to the state-funded Dual Enrollment Program are expected in House Bill 444, with an effective implementation of Summer term 2020. Please be advised actual program requirements for the new year have not been finalized. Final program rules are subject to the final passage and adoption of a bill and approval of regulations by the GSFC Board of Commissioners. Final rules are expected in May 2020, but updates on anticipated changes will be posted on GAfutures as they are available.

Who is eligible to participate in Dual Enrollment?

- 11th/12th graders: Students in the 11th or 12th grade may take any approved Dual Enrollment courses at an eligible participating postsecondary institution (USG, TCSG or private).
- 10th graders: Students in the 10th grade may enroll in Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) courses at a participating TCSG institution only.
- High Achieving 10th graders: Students in the 10th grade with a SAT score of 1200 or an ACT score of 26 prior to the term may enroll in any approved Dual Enrollment courses at a TCSG, USG or private eligible participating postsecondary institution.
- SB2/Option B students: Students designated by their high school pursuing High School Graduation Option B (SB2) for high school graduation as of Spring term 2020, may enroll in any approved Dual Enrollment courses at a TCSG, USG or private eligible participating postsecondary institution.
- Students in the 9th grade are not eligible to participate in Dual Enrollment funding Program.

What are the limits on state-funded Dual Enrollment?

- Participation and funding is capped at 30 semester or 45 quarter hours* for all first-time students effective Summer term 2020 and beyond.
- If a student has received Dual Enrollment funding for 18 semester hours or less through Spring term 2020, the 30 semester hour funding cap applies.
- If a student has received Dual Enrollment funding for 19 or more semester hours through Spring term 2020, the student may receive an additional 12 semester hours.
- If the student is designated by their high school as a High School Graduation Option B (SB2) student effective Spring term 2020, the student will be allotted the hours needed to complete their pathway.
- After reaching the 30 semester hour funding cap, a student may choose to continue pursuing college credit through a joint or dual enrollment arrangement at his or her own expense.

How does a student apply to participate in Dual Enrollment?

- A new online student application is scheduled for release mid-March 2020 for Summer term 2020 and after. It will be accessible on GAfutures and may be completed by high school and home study students.
- The high school/home study and postsecondary institution must approve the student's online application prior to the term.

*semester and quarter hour conversion applies

What options are available after a student reaches the state-funded Dual Enrollment funding cap of 30 semester hours?

- Students may choose to self-pay for additional courses
- Students pursuing a program of study in one of the 17 high-demand industry areas eligible for HOPE Career Grant may use HOPE funding as a “bridge”. The student must meet all eligibility requirements of the HOPE Grant Program, including residency, citizenship, and all academic requirements. Students may be responsible for any charges not covered by the HOPE funding.
- Students pursuing a high school diploma through High School Graduation Option B (SB2) may use HOPE Grant funds in pursuit of the two certificates or diploma required for high school graduation. Students’ program of study may qualify for HOPE Career Grant as well. This “bridge” funding requires the student to meet all eligibility requirements of HOPE Grant. Students may be responsible for any charges not covered by the HOPE funding. The course credit hours will be applied to the 63 semester Paid-Hours limit and the grades will be included in the HOPE GPA calculation.

What courses are available?

- Approved courses will include all courses in the five core academic areas (English, math, science, social studies and world (foreign) languages), that are currently used to calculate high school HOPE GPAs, plus Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) courses at eligible participating postsecondary institutions. Colleges and DOE work together to determine course equivalencies.
- The new approved courses will be listed in an updated *Dual Enrollment Approved Course Directory*.

Can a student retake or withdraw from a Dual Enrollment course?

- Effective Summer term 2020 (FY2021), a student may not receive funding for the same course twice. Courses cannot be retaken and receive funding.
- Effective Summer term 2020 (FY2021), a student becomes ineligible to continue to receive funding from the program after their 2nd withdrawal.

Is there consideration for extenuating circumstances with withdrawals or retaking a course?

- GSFC will draft standards for the types of extenuating circumstances that will be considered and will present those to the GSFC Board of Commissioners, but it is expected that such circumstances might include circumstances related to a serious illness or injury or death of an immediate family member during the term of the withdrawal or attempt of course to be retaken.
- A student may submit an Extenuating Circumstance Appeal Request with supporting documentation and approval from the high school and postsecondary institution.
- Appeals do not extend or add additional hours of funding. The 30 semester hour funding cap still applies.