

# Understanding Minnesota's Dual Credit Programs

	College in the Schools/Concurrent Enrollment**	Advanced Placement (AP)	Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)	International Baccalaureate (IB)	Project Lead the Way (PLTW)
<b>Location</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taught at some high schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taught at some high schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taught on many Mn college/university campuses or online</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taught at an IB-authorized high school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taught at some high schools</li> </ul>
<b>Student eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies by high school; legislation allows 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade participation, subject to qualifications set by high school and college/university</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies; some high schools may enroll students beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10<sup>th</sup> graders must have passed 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading MCA or equivalent test; additional 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade entrance requirements may be set by college/university</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies; some high schools may enroll students beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies by high school</li> </ul>
<b>Cost to student</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free. The high school pays all costs of the courses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course is free.</li> <li>• Final exam free for low-income students and a pro-rated amount for non-low-income students. Full fee is \$89 per exam.</li> <li>• Some schools charge an administrative fee to help cover final exam costs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free. No cost to student for tuition, books and fees</li> <li>• Transportation funds are available for low-income students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course is free.</li> <li>• Final exam free for low-income students; Pro-rated amount for non-low-income students. Full fee is \$255 for first exam, \$104/student for each subsequent exam</li> <li>• Some schools charge fee to help cover final exam costs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free. The high school pays the annual cost of the program.</li> </ul>
<b>Type of course</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-secondary courses that are offered by a college/university and taught to HS students at their high school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College-level courses taught in high school to prepare students for AP exams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10<sup>th</sup> graders may begin by taking one career/technical education course. If they earn a "C" or better, they can take additional courses</li> <li>• For 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade: Regular post-secondary courses taught on the college campus or online.</li> <li>• HS student enrolls directly with the college/university</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school courses taught using IB-approved curriculum to prepare students for IB exams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school courses taught with PLTW approved curriculum, PLTW courses are offered in STEM (Science/technology, engineering/math) areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Taught by</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school teachers who have been approved by the college</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school teachers selected by the high school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College faculty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school teachers selected by the high school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school teachers</li> </ul>
<b>Number of courses available</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies by high school</li> <li>• Students may take one, multiple, or a full-time load of courses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies by high school</li> <li>• Students may take one, multiple, or a full-time load of courses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available at many Mn colleges/universities</li> <li>• Students may take 1 course, multiple, or a full-time load.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies by high school</li> <li>• Students may take one, multiple, or a full-time load of courses; Diploma program available at some schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies by high school</li> </ul>

<p><b>How college grades and credit are earned</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students earn grade and possible college credit upon completion of the course; student receives college transcript with grades and credits earned</li> <li>• High school credit and grade is earned upon completion of the course</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students earn high school credit and grade based on their performance in the course</li> <li>• National AP exams in May</li> <li>• College credit may be awarded based on AP exam scores. Colleges &amp; universities typically give credit for scores of 3-5; some give credit only for scores of 4 or 5; some colleges don't award credit for some or all AP exams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students earn grade and possible college credit upon completion of the course; student receives college transcript with grades and credits earned</li> <li>• High school credit and grade is earned upon completion of the course</li> <li>• Acceptance varies – Mn public colleges &amp; universities must accept for credit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students earn high school credit and grade based on their performance in the course.</li> <li>• College credit may be awarded based on IB exam scores after student enrolls in college. Colleges &amp; universities generally give credit for scores of 5-7; some grant credit for scores below 5; some may not grant credit</li> <li>• Standardized exams given at the end of each course.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depends on the college/university. Award of college credit may involve a combination of what grade did the student earn in the PLTW class and what score did she earn on the final, end of PLTW course exam</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recognition of credit earned</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2006 national report<sup>1</sup> shows that 92% of public institutions and 78% of private institutions recognized concurrent enrollment credits as required credits; 77% of public and 67% of private post-secondary institutions recognized concurrent enrollment credit as elective credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2006 national report<sup>1</sup> shows that 91% of public institutions and 92% of private institutions recognized AP scores as required credits; 75% of public and 80% of private post-secondary institutions recognized AP scores as elective credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2006 national report<sup>1</sup> shows that 92% of public institutions and 78% of private institutions recognized dual credits as required credits; 77% of public and 67% of private post-secondary institutions recognized dual credit as elective credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2006 national report<sup>1</sup> shows that 40% of public institutions &amp; 63% of private institutions recognized IB scores as required credits; 39% of public and 60% of private post-secondary institutions recognized IB scores as elective credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PLTW website states that “more than 150 colleges and universities recognize and reward” work by PLTW students.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Registrations or exams taken; credits or scores earned (2012-13)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 196,882 college credits earned.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 64,705 exams taken in MN; 42,029 earned scores of 3 or better (range 1 – 5); usually scores of 3+ are eligible for college credit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 151,997 credits earned (latest data available)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7,373 exams taken, 3,917 earned scores of 4 or better (range 1 – 7), making test takers eligible for college credit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not available</li> </ul>

\*CLEP (College Level Exam Program) is another option for students to earn college credit. Credit is earned through a one-time exam; no course is necessary. There are 33 CLEP exams available in a variety of subject areas, including Spanish. Exams can be taken at local colleges: check <http://www.clep.collegeboard.org> for testing sites and how to register. Exams cost \$80 each and can earn 3 or more credits per exam. According to CLEP's website, credits earned are accepted at 2,900 colleges/universities.

\*\*Concurrent enrollment programs often have their own name. For example, the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities calls its program College in the Schools (CIS)

1 Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education, *Accelerated Learning Options: Moving the Needle on Access and Success*. June 2006. Chapter 3: Policies and Practices at Postsecondary Institution, p.31, Table 3.10. Please note: This study is the most recent source of published data about credit recognition.

Produced by Center for School Change, an independent research/advocacy group. More free information at [www.centerforschoolchange.org](http://www.centerforschoolchange.org)

(Updated 9/4/2015)