

Dual Credit: Making It Work



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Definitions and Terms

- Articulated non-credit
- Dual enrollment
- Dual credit

Also: Credit in escrow, articulated credit, Tech Prep credit, retroactive credit

History of Dual Credit/Enrollment

ORIGINS

- Advanced Placement
- Tech Prep
- Articulation agreements

RECENT EVENTS

- Huge growth of programs

Types of programs (from Clark, 2001)

- College-level classes in high schools
- College-level classes in colleges
- Exam based
- Career pathways

All involve high school students.

Why the excitement about dual credit/enrollment?

- Opportunities for accelerated education
- A more productive senior year
- Lower costs for families and the state
- Wider access to college resources and facilities
- Greater likelihood of continuation into further postsecondary education

Why the concern?

- Quality and rigor
- Financial/ administrative burdens
- Transferability of credit (especially to 4-yr)
- Faculty roles and compensation
- Student access

National Picture (from ECS)

- 21 states have *comprehensive* programs
 - Minimal or no costs to students
 - Dual credit earned
 - Few course restrictions
- 26 states have *limited* programs (including IL)
 - Students pay tuition
 - More academic credit restrictions
 - Stringent criteria on eligible courses.

Annual Participants (From Clark, 2001)

- Exam prep- 1.5 million students
- School and college based- 560,000 students
- Career prep- 1.4 million (including Tech Prep)

In total, this involves 50% of all US high school juniors and seniors

Typical program

- Colleges recruit
- Students pass college entrance exam
- Classes are offered at high school or college
- There may be an early warning system for students who aren't coping well
- Students receive high school and college credit
- Credit may transfer.

Illinois' implementation status in articulation/dual credit

(Based on Andrews survey 2000-2001)

- **503** secondary schools in the program
 - **73%** increase over 1999-2000
 - **406%** increase since ICCB funding change (96-97)
- **733** courses offered with **11,117** students enrolled
- **98** new secondary schools added this year (2001-02)

Illinois' implementation status in articulation/dual credit

(Based on the survey results from Dr. Andrews in 2000-2001)

Main strength of programs:

- Relationship with secondary schools (15)
- Opportunities for students (12)
- Saving time and money (7)
- High quality instructors and courses (6)
- Recruitment and marketing tool (3)
- Serving community (3)

Illinois' implementation status in articulation/dual credit

(Based on the survey results from Dr. Andrews in 2000-2001)

Concerns expressed:

- Course and instructor quality (6)
- Student readiness (4)
- Better and more funding (4)
- University's unwillingness to accept dual credits (3)
- Use of ACE grants (3)
- Blurring the lines between high school and college (2)
- Inconsistency (2)

Debate and Decisions



- *Small groups*
- *Discuss 3 issues*
- *Select a position*
- *Compare with others*

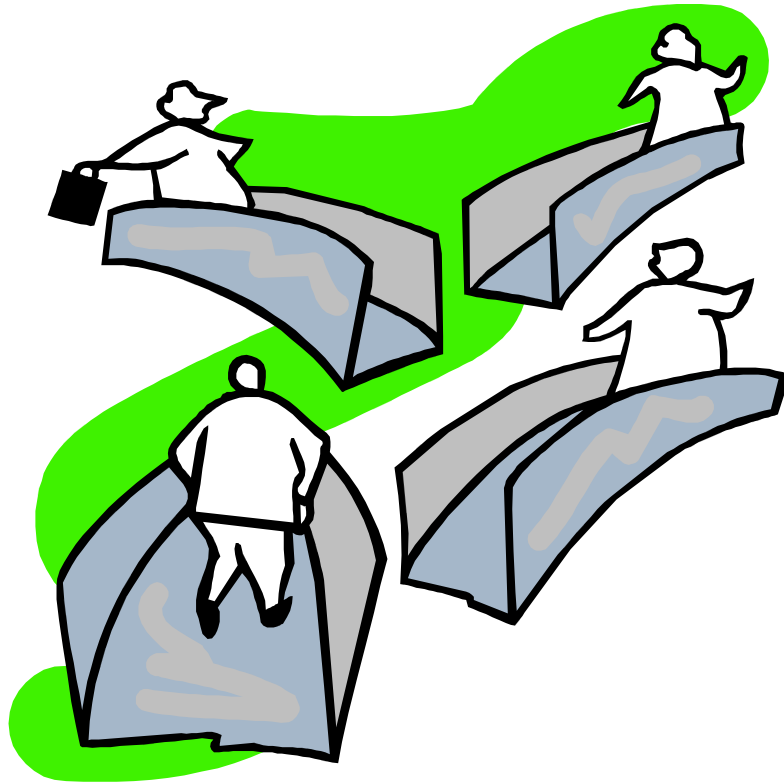
What we know about best practices



STUDENT SELECTION

- Should meet college entrance requirements
- May enter college remedial programs
- Need a “reality checklist” and/or an early warning system
- Counseling important

What we know about best practices



CURRICULUM

- College needs to guarantee that courses are college-level
- Should use college texts and syllabi
- May be taught by qualified HS or college faculty

What we know about best practices



ADMINISTRATION

- Best when guided by state policies
- Requires good S/PS communication
- Systems for credit transfer are needed
- Evaluate and ponder

What we know about best practices



MONEY

- S/PS commitment is associated with who gets the funding
- Charging tuition screens out students
- Cost savings may be substantial

What we know about best practices



TECH PREP

- Dual credit attracts students to Tech Prep
- Many career pathways are a natural fit with dual credit
- College Tech Prep is a natural fit with dual credit

RESOURCES

OCCRL website: <http://occrl.ed.uiuc.edu>

ICCB website: www.iccb.state.il.us

Education Commission of the States:
www.ecs.org

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