



Elgin
Community
College



*The
Einstein
Academy*

DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM GUIDE

PARENTS AND STUDENTS SCHOOL YEAR 2021-22

elgin.edu/dualcredit

What is Dual Credit?

Elgin Community College and its partner School Districts offer several dual credit programs that allow high school students to enroll in college courses. Students earn simultaneous high school and college credit. The programs provide a way to save time and money towards attaining a higher education, experience college life, and prepare for a successful transition after high school.

A quick summary of the programs available are outlined below. Each Dual Credit program offers a unique opportunity to students. Depending on students' academic, behavioral, or social needs.

Full-Time Dual Credit Program

- Senior enrollment (One-year program)
- Junior enrollment (Two-year program)
- Earn 30+ transferable credits each year
- Minimum of 12 credit hours each semester
- Courses are chosen from the Associate of Arts or Science degree plan

Why Enroll?

High school leader embraces college life

Yessica Tello is a political science student who plans on going to law school so she can advocate for individuals who have been wrongly accused of crimes. Tello, one of the first members of her family to attend college, is among 11 dual-credit students who will graduate in May 2019. She will earn her associate degree from ECC concurrently with her high school diploma from Harry D. Jacobs High School in Algonquin.

Tello was the first dual-credit student elected president of ASPIRE 1G, a student club dedicated to supporting first-generation students at ECC. Through her experience as president, Tello built a strong personal

network and gained valuable social, leadership, organizational, and time-management skills.

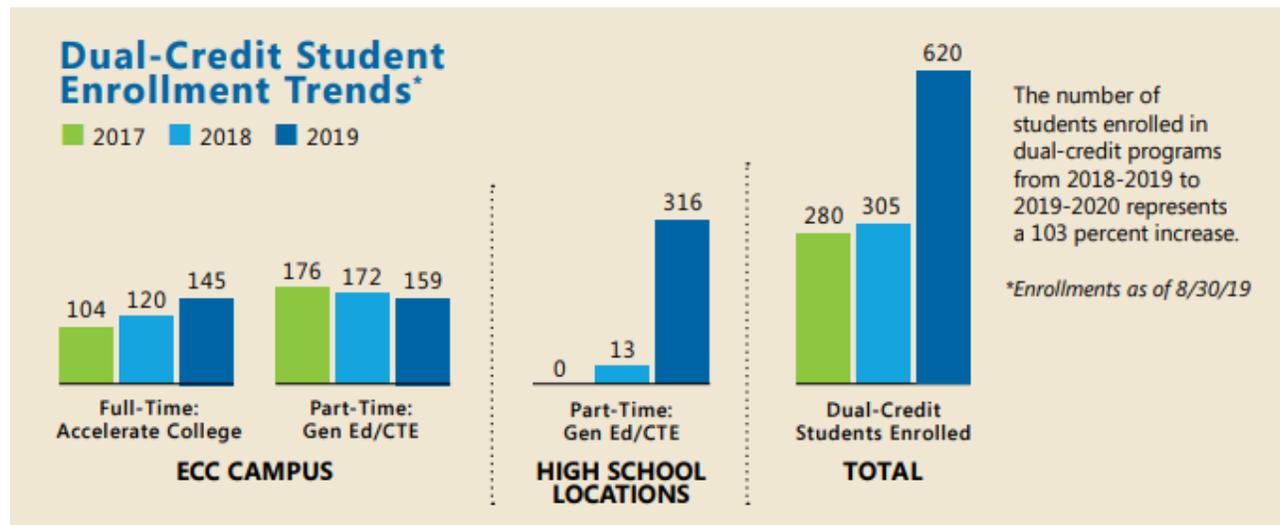
At ECC, she's had the opportunity to take classes that weren't available at her high school, meet new peers, and experience college before she transfers to a four-year university.

For Tello, the best part of being a dual-credit student is showing people how much she's capable of when given the room to grow and the opportunity to succeed. "I've always been a hard worker," she said. "It gives me a great sense of pride knowing that I'm doing everything I can to achieve my dreams."



Students opt to participate in Dual Credit courses for a variety of reasons. Why might a student decide to enroll in a Dual Credit program:

- Experience more rigorous coursework and try out the college environment
- Earn college credit to help get ahead in college
- Stand out in college admissions
- Develop skills, behaviors, and knowledge to support your transition to college
- Save money – students should follow up with their district to see what costs are covered



How Do I Get Started?

In learning about each program, it is important students meet with their high school counselor and discuss the specifics of each program. Below is a summary of the programs' structure, expectations, and qualifications. Students should direct questions about the program options to their high school counselor.

This information should help students determine which option best aligns with their academic plan and interests. For dual credit options where the student attends classes on the ECC campus, students are responsible for their transportation. A representative from the high school will share information about tuition, fees, and other costs related to the different dual credit programs.

Each School District or Private School determines the dual credit programs that students are eligible to participate in as part of their high school education. District 300 has elected to offer the following options in partnership with Elgin Community College.

FULL-TIME DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM

High school juniors and seniors enroll in a minimum of 12 college credits each semester. Juniors must stay on pace to complete the 60-credit hour degree requirement within their two academic years (i.e. 15 credit hours in each fall/spring semester). All courses are completed at the ECC main campus. These courses meet the postsecondary requirements of the general education core curriculum as well as high school graduation.

Students work in partnership with the ECC Academic Advising Office and their high school counselor to choose the appropriate transferable courses. Students that enroll as juniors need to complete the course requirements to earn an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree. D300 district approves the enrollment of their students. Enrollment is limited – For more questions, please contact your high school representative.

FULL-TIME DUAL CREDIT

SENIOR ENROLLMENT (1-YEAR PROGRAM)

- Students enroll in 4-5 courses each semester at the ECC campus
- Courses add up to a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester
- Students may earn 30+ transferable credits
- Students complete COL 101-College Success during their first semester
- Course options are selected by ECC and the school district to ensure they meet the student's high school graduation requirements
- Students meet with ECC's academic advising department to develop an academic plan
- Participation in high school activities may be limited

JUNIOR ENROLLMENT (2-YEAR PROGRAM)

- Students enroll in 4-5 courses each semester at the ECC campus
- Complete 60 credits/degree requirements in two years (i.e. 15 credits per semester)
- Summer courses may be required between junior and senior year
- Students complete COL 101-College Success during the first semester
- ECC academic advisors guide students in selecting classes that meet their college plans
- Participation in high school activities may be limited

Courses will be scheduled Monday-Friday. Students may be in class from 8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Some courses may be scheduled outside of this timeframe. If courses are offered outside of this timeframe, the dual credit office will ensure that students and school counselors are informed in advance. Students are expected to commit to this timeframe and must understand that scheduling of classes is managed by the dual credit office.

Class sections (days, times, and instructors) are pre-selected by ECC to meet the needs of the program. Class schedules will not accommodate students' work schedules if it falls within the timeframe noted above. The ECC academic calendar may differ from the school districts' calendar.

PROGRAM QUALIFICATIONS

- Current sophomore or junior at the time of application
- Have at least a 3.00 unweighted high school GPA
- Demonstrate college-readiness – Reading, English, and Mathematics
- Must have qualifying scores – PSAT/SAT/ACT or ECC Placement Tests
- Meet other high school requirements as noted by district policies, including an interview with school staff
- Enrollment is limited and determined by the high school

What Is Next?

1. Review the dual credit program options carefully
2. Follow up with your school counselor or school representative
3. Submit the Dual Credit contract to your school counselor
4. If you meet The Einstein Academy and ECC Dual Credit Program requirements, your counselor will provide you with instructions on next steps to submit an application
5. **Application Deadline:** February 1, 2021
6. **Placement Testing Deadline:** February 15, 2021
7. **Admission Decision:** March 5, 2021