

High School Redesign: Dual Credit

New Master Agreement and Rules SB943 (2007) and SB31 (2008)

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SB561 (2007): High School Redesign

By 2008-2009, each district shall offer program of courses for dual credit, in cooperation with an institution of higher education, and a program of distance learning courses

"District" means public school districts, charter schools and state-supported institutions

SB561 (2007): High School Redesign

By 2009-2010, students *entering grade 9* shall earn **at least one credit** as an:

- honors,
- advanced placement,
- **dual credit**, or
- distance learning course

What is the Statewide Dual Credit Program?

SB943 (2007) and SB311 (2008) create a dual credit program that allows public high school students in school districts, charter schools and state-supported schools in the state to earn **both** high school and college credit for qualifying dual credit courses.

What is a dual credit course?

Dual credit courses are courses taken for **both high school and college credit** by high school students while in high school. Courses must be **academic or career technical** in nature, which means they must apply toward a degree or certificate program. Remedial and developmental courses may not be taken for dual credit, since they do not count toward a degree or certificate program.

Who pays for the dual credit program?

Every party bears some financial responsibility:

- **Districts** pay for textbooks and course supplies
- **Colleges/Universities** waive general fees and have agreed to waive tuition
- **Students/Parents** pay for course-specific fees and are responsible for arranging transportation to the site of the dual credit course

Student Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, each student **must**:

- be enrolled in a public high school, charter school or state-supported school in one-half or more of the minimum course requirements approved by the Public Education Department for public school students.
- obtain district and postsecondary approval through the Dual Credit Request Form, as well as meet course prerequisites for dual credit courses.
- meet the academic standing established by the district and public college or university.

Eligible Semesters

As long as students are enrolled in one-half or more of the minimum course requirements approved by PED for public school students during the fall and winter semesters and are academically eligible for dual credit, students can take dual credit courses year-round (**fall, spring *and* summer**)!

Dual Credit Master Agreement

- Specifies the means by which the state will provide **equal opportunities** to all public high school students who wish to participate in the dual credit program
- Districts and postsecondary institutions providing dual credit programs shall complete the agreement and the district shall submit the completed agreement to PED
- A completed agreement includes an appendix developed **collaboratively** by the district and postsecondary institution that specifies eligible dual credit courses
- Districts may complete agreements with multiple postsecondary institutions.

Dual Credit Master Agreement

- specifies eligible courses, academic quality of dual credit courses, student eligibility, course approval, course requirements, required content of the form, state reporting, liabilities of parties, and student appeals; and
- states the roles, responsibilities, and liabilities of the district, the postsecondary institution, **student, and the student's family.**

Dual Credit Request Form

In order for the State of New Mexico to track the impact of the Statewide Dual Credit Program on students, districts and public colleges and universities, **each student** must complete the form **and** gain approval to take dual credit **each semester**.

The form will be available online (Excel) and in hard copy from your district and/or public colleges and universities.

Dual Credit Rules

Dual Credit Implementation Guidelines:

6.30.7 New Mexico Administrative Code (for public education):

<http://www.nmcpr.state.nm.us/nmac/parts/title06/06.030.0007.htm>

5.55.4 New Mexico Administrative Code (for higher education):

<http://www.nmcpr.state.nm.us/nmac/parts/title05/05.055.0004.htm>

Dual Credit Council

- Composed of three representatives each from NMHED and PED
- Council members shall hear appeals from school districts and postsecondary institutions
- Council shall make recommendations to the NMHED and PED Cabinet Secretaries, whose decisions are final

Dual Credit Council Members

•NMHED:

- Elizabeth R. Gutierrez, P20 Policy & Program Director
- Tanya I. Garcia, P20 Policy Analyst
- Len Malry, Workforce Education Director

•PED:

- Patricia Parkinson, Assistant Secretary for Secondary Education
- Edward Bortot, Humanities Bureau Program Manager
- Tim Snyder, IDEAL-NM/Cyber Academy Director

Dual Credit Council

Advisory group that issues recommendations to the NMHED and PED Cabinet Secretaries regarding dual credit issues outside of the scope of the Agreement, including determination of alignment of course content to determine the appropriate credit ratio.

Dual Credit Transcript Ratio

High school and college faculty must jointly propose credit ratios for **non-elective** dual credit courses to present before Dual Credit Council

Dual Credit Transcript Ratio

A 3:1 ratio applies to elective courses offered for dual credit.

e.g. a 3 credit hour college course will count as 1 high school unit.

Next Steps

- Dual Credit Rules
 - Become effective June 30, 2008
- Encourage meetings between your districts and colleges/universities to implement the new program (NMSU and its branch campuses have already started having these meetings)

For More Information

- Visit Dual Credit Committee page:
- <http://inst.hed.state.nm.us/content.asp?CustComKey=199036&CategoryKey=317187&pn=Page&DomName=inst.hed.state.nm.us>
- **Where you'll find:**
 - Dual Credit Regulations - How to implement the new program
 - Dual Credit Master Agreement - Developed by over fifty higher education and public education leaders for use by higher education institutions and districts
 - Dual Credit Request Form - Before students can take and enroll in a dual credit course, students must fill it out with their high school **counselor. A student's parents, district administrator and higher education administrator** must approve this form by signing in the appropriate locations
 - Dual Credit Legislation - sponsored by Senator Cynthia Nava

NMHED and PED Contacts

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Thank You!