



# **Early College High School Dual Credit Legislative Update**

**Andrew Lofters, Ph.D.**

Program Director

Academic Quality and Workforce

Community and Technical Colleges

June 18, 2015

## **ECHS Laws & Rules**

- ✓ Sec. 29.908. TEA shall establish and administer an early college education program for students who are at risk of dropping out of school or who wish to accelerate completion of the high school program.
- ✓ ECHS Rules found in Ch. 4, Sub. G, sections 4.151 through 4.161
- ✓ ECHS designation allows eligible students with freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior high school standing to enroll in more than two dual credit courses per semester
- ✓ Applications approved by TEA will be automatically forwarded to the CB, serving as Notifications of Institutional intent to Develop an ECHS



## ECHS Rules

### TAC 4.155

(a) Students participating in an ECHS **must meet eligibility requirements governing dual credit in accordance with §§4.81 - 4.85** of this title (relating to Dual Credit Partnerships Between Secondary Schools and Texas Public Colleges).

(b) An ECHS **shall assess each student for readiness** to engage in any college-level curriculum offered for college credit prior to the student's enrollment in such curriculum.

(c) For this assessment, an ECHS may use **any instrument otherwise approved by the Board for Texas Success Initiative** purposes in accordance with **§4.54 (relating to Exemptions, Exceptions, and Waivers), §4.56 (relating to Assessment Instrument), and §4.57 (relating to College Ready and Adult Basic Education (ABE) Standards)** of this title.

## ECHS Rules

### TAC 4.160

(a) State funding for high school and college credit will be available to the public school district and the C/U based on the current funding rules of the State Board of Education and the Board.

(b) The C/U may claim funding for all ECHS students receiving college credit.

## **ECHS Rules**

### **TAC 4.161**

(a) **Rules governing dual credit in accordance with §§4.81 - 4.85 of this title (relating to Dual Credit Partnerships Between Secondary Schools and Texas Public Colleges) pertain to an ECHS and its participating students.**

(b) An ECHS that has notified the Commissioner in accordance with §4.154 of this title (relating to Notification of Institutional Intent to Develop an Early College High School) **may allow its eligible students to enroll in more than two dual credit courses per semester. An ECHS may allow its eligible students to enroll in dual credit coursework with freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior high school standing.**

## Dual Credit Statute & Rules

Texas Education Code (TEC) 130.008

- ✓ Outlines how agreements between public junior colleges and school districts establish which college courses also apply for high school credit.

Texas Education Code (TEC) 28.009

- ✓ Requires that each school district implement a program under which students may earn at least 12 semester credit hours of college credit in high school.

Texas Administrative Code TAC Ch. 4, Sub. D

- ✓ Sections 4.81 through 4.85



# Dual Credit Rules

## TAC 4.85

(b) Student Eligibility.

(1) A high school student is eligible to enroll in dual credit courses in the eleventh and/or twelfth grade if the student:

(A) demonstrates college readiness by achieving the minimum passing standards under the provisions of the Texas Success Initiative as set forth in §4.57 of this title (relating to College Ready and Adult Basic Education (ABE) Standards) on relevant section(s) of an assessment instrument approved by the Board as set forth in §4.56 of this title (relating to Assessment Instrument); or

(B) demonstrates that he or she is exempt under the provisions of the Texas Success Initiative as set forth §4.54 of this title (relating to Exemptions, Exceptions, and Waivers).

# Dual Credit Rules

## TAC 4.85

(b) Student Eligibility.

(2) An eleventh grade high school student is also eligible to enroll in dual credit courses that are TSI liable in reading, writing, and/or mathematics under the following conditions:

(A) Courses that require reading/writing TSI complete:

(i) if the student achieves a Level 2 final recommended score, as defined by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), on the English II State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness End of Course (STAAR EOC); or

(ii) if the student achieves a combined score of 107 on the PSAT/NMSQT with a minimum of 50 on the reading test; or

(iii) if the student achieves a composite score of 23 on the PLAN with a 19 or higher in English or an equivalent score on the ACT-Aspire as determined by ACT.



# Dual Credit Rules

## TAC 4.85

(b) Student Eligibility.

(2) An eleventh grade high school student is also eligible to enroll in dual credit courses that are TSI liable in reading, writing, and/or mathematics under the following conditions:

(B) Courses that require mathematics TSI complete:

(i) if the student achieves a Level 2 final recommended score, as defined by TEA, on the Algebra I STAAR EOC and passing grade in the Algebra II course; or

(ii) if the student achieves a Level 2 final recommended score, as defined by TEA, on the Algebra II STAAR EOC; or

(iii) if the student achieves a combined score of 107 on the PSAT/NMSQT with a minimum of 50 on the mathematics test; or

(iv) if the student achieves a composite score of 23 on the PLAN with a 19 or higher in mathematics or an equivalent score on the ACT-Aspire as determined by ACT.



# Dual Credit Rules

## TAC 4.85

(b) Student Eligibility.

(C) An eligible high school student who enrolls in a dual credit course requiring TSI completion in reading, writing, or mathematics during their junior year under the STAAR EOC provisions **shall not be required to demonstrate further evidence of eligibility to enroll in dual credit courses in the twelfth grade.**

(D) An eligible high school student who enrolls in a dual credit course requiring TSI completion in reading, writing, or mathematics during their junior year under the PSAT/NMSQT, PLAN, or Aspire provisions and **earns a grade of C or better has demonstrated eligibility to enroll in dual credit courses in the twelfth grade.**

(E) An eligible high school student who enrolls in a dual credit course requiring TSI completion in reading, writing, or mathematics during their junior year under the PSAT/NMSQT, PLAN, or Aspire provisions and **does not earn a grade of C or better must demonstrate eligibility to enroll in dual credit courses in the twelfth grade.**



# Dual Credit Rules

## TAC 4.85

(b) Student Eligibility.

(3) A high school student is eligible to enroll in workforce education dual credit courses contained in a Level 1 certificate, at a public junior college or Level 1 certificate program, or a program leading to a credential of less than a public technical institute in the eleventh and/or twelfth grade and shall not be required to provide any additional demonstration of college readiness.

## Dual Credit Rules

### TAC 4.85

(b) Student Eligibility.

(7) To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course offered by a public college, students must have at least junior year high school standing. Exceptions to this requirement for students with demonstrated outstanding academic performance and capability (as evidenced by achieving TSI college readiness standards on SAT, ACT, or TSI Assessment) may be approved by the principal of the high school and the chief academic officer of the college. Students with less than junior year high school standing must demonstrate eligibility as outlined under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

# Dual Credit Rules

## TAC 4.85

(b) Student Eligibility.

(8) High school students shall not be enrolled in more than two dual credit courses per semester. Exceptions to this requirement for students with demonstrated outstanding academic performance and capability (as evidenced by grade-point average, ACT or SAT scores, or other assessment indicators) may be approved by the principal of the high school and the chief academic officer of the college to a maximum of 15 semester credit hours.

# Dual Credit Rules

## TAC 4.85

c) Location of Class.

(1) A student may not enroll in more than three courses per academic year at a community college if the community college does not have a service area that includes the student's high school, except to the extent approved by the Commissioner of Texas Education Agency.

(2) This provision does not apply to students enrolled in approved early college high school programs.

# Introduced Legislation that Addressed Dual Credit 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature

- HB 505
- SB 13
- HB 1414
- SB 2812
- HB 2349

# Passed Legislation that Addressed Dual Credit 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature

➤ HB 505



# HB 505

SECTION 1. Section 28.009(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The agency shall coordinate with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as necessary in administering this section. The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary concerning the duties under this section of a school district. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may adopt rules as necessary concerning the duties under this section of a public institution of higher education. **A rule may not limit:**

**(1) the number of dual credit courses or hours in which a student may enroll while in high school;**

**(2) the number of dual credit courses or hours in which a student may enroll each semester or academic year; or**

**(3) the grade levels at which a high school student may be eligible to enroll in a dual credit course.**

SECTION 2. **Section 130.008(f), Education Code, is repealed.**

SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.



## 130.008 Prior to 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislature

### Sec. 130.008. COURSES FOR JOINT HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE CREDIT.

(d) Except as provided by Subsection (d-1), a public junior college may enter into an agreement with a school district, organization, or other person that operates a high school to offer a course as provided by this section **regardless of whether the high school is located within the service area of the junior college district.**

(d-1) A public junior college may enter into an agreement described by Subsection (d) with respect to a high school located within the service area of another junior college district **only if the other junior college district is unable to provide the requested course to the satisfaction of the school district.**

# 130.008 Prior to 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature

## Sec. 130.008. COURSES FOR JOINT HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE CREDIT.

(d) A public junior college may enter into an agreement with a school district, organization, or other person that operates a high school to offer a course as provided by this section regardless of whether the high school is located within the service area of the junior college district.

(d-1) Repealed by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 211, Sec. 78(a)(6), eff. September 1, 2013.

(f) Except as provided by this section, a student may not enroll in more than three courses under this section at a junior college if the junior college does not have a service area that includes the student's high school. A student enrolled at an early college high school may enroll in a greater number of courses to the extent approved by the commissioner of education.

# 130.008 After 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature

**Sec. 130.008. COURSES FOR JOINT HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE CREDIT.**

(d) A public junior college may enter into an agreement with a school district, organization, or other person that operates a high school to offer a course as provided by this section regardless of whether the high school is located within the service area of the junior college district.

# Passed Legislation that Addressed Dual Credit 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature

➤ HB 2812

## HB 2812

Sec. 42.0052. OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAMS APPROVED FOR PURPOSES OF AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE. (a) The commissioner may, based on criteria developed by the commissioner, approve instructional programs provided off campus by an entity other than a school district or open-enrollment charter school as a program in which participation by a student of a district or charter school may be counted for purposes of determining average daily attendance in accordance with Section 42.005(h).

(b) The commissioner shall adopt by rule verification and reporting procedures concerning time spent by students participating in instructional programs approved under Subsection (a).



# Passed Legislation that Addressed Dual Credit 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature

➤ HB 1992

## HB 1992

SECTION 1. Section 51.968, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c-1) In establishing the minimum required score on an Advanced Placement examination for granting course credit for a particular lower-division course under Subsection (c), an institution of higher education **may not require a score of more than three unless the institution's chief academic officer determines, based on evidence, that a higher score on the examination is necessary to indicate a student is sufficiently prepared to be successful in a related, more advanced course for which the lower-division course is a prerequisite.**





## Implications

- Increased access to college credit for high school students.
- Dual credit rule changes.
- Possible dual credit eligibility requirement changes.
- Districts able to “shop around” for dual credit.
- Competition with ECHS from regular dual credit programs.
- Increased monitoring of transferability.
- Advising is crucial!!!

## Dual Credit Contact:

**Andrew Lofters, Ph.D.**

Program Director

Academic Quality and Workforce

[Andrew.Lofters@thehb.state.tx.us](mailto:Andrew.Lofters@thehb.state.tx.us)

(512) 427-6239