



JOINT NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – December 8, 2014

KDE Contact: Nancy Rodriguez
Phone: (502) 564-2000, ext. 4610
nancy.rodriquez@education.ky.gov

CPE Contact: Sue Patrick
Phone: (502) 573-1652, ext. 308
Sue.Patrick@ky.gov

KHEAA Contact: Tim Ballard
Phone: (502) 696-7372
tballard@kheaa.com

NEW POLICY, FINANCIAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON DUAL CREDIT PROPOSED

(Frankfort, KY) – More Kentucky students would have the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school based on recommendations that will be presented today to the Interim Joint Committee on Education during its 1 p.m. ET meeting at Kentucky State University in Frankfort.

A new [proposed dual credit policy](#) and [financing options](#) came from a collaborative work group made up of representatives from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) and the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA). The work group has been meeting in order to create a new dual credit policy that would eliminate barriers and create solutions that maximize access, quality, and credit transfer at affordable costs for students.

“Dual credit is a key strategy for creating a seamless path of education and career training for our students,” Department of Education Commissioner Terry Holliday said. “Effective dual credit programs have an impact at both the secondary and postsecondary level and beyond. Ultimately, they will help the state develop a highly skilled, highly educated workforce that will enable Kentucky to attract high paying jobs.”

(more)

Page 2 – New Dual Credit Proposal

"Dual credit is a win-win for our state and our students," Council on Postsecondary Education President Bob King said. "Earning college credit while in high school saves students time and money, and gives them confidence they can do college-level work."

The new policy seeks to: increase access to dual credit courses; promote quality and rigor in the courses offered; guarantee transferability of courses among postsecondary institutions; and ensure dual credit courses remain affordable to all eligible students.

"The opportunity for Kentucky high school students to take dual credit courses is an important way for families to keep postsecondary education affordable and for students to have a greater likelihood of completing degree requirements in a timely manner," said Dr. Carl Rollins, executive director of the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority. "It is the responsibility of the General Assembly and all the agencies involved with the work group to ensure that every Kentucky student has access to dual credit courses at a price that is not prohibitive."

The work group's key recommendations include:

- Participating postsecondary institutions shall work together with schools and districts to provide at least three courses in general education and three career and technical education courses in an appropriate career pathway to eligible students.
- Working together, secondary and postsecondary institutions will increase student access to accelerated learning opportunities, such as dual credit, by promoting college- and career-readiness and providing degree and career pathway information to secondary students and their families.
- Participating postsecondary institutions will work to create capacity for more secondary teachers to be credentialed to teach dual credit courses, which will help assure access and affordability for dual credit programming.
- Postsecondary institutions must provide an orientation program for all new secondary and postsecondary faculty teaching dual credit coursework. The program should be available to school administrators, teachers, faculty, and secondary and postsecondary coordinators of dual credit.
- All participating postsecondary institutions are strongly encouraged to pursue accreditation of concurrent enrollment programs through the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP).
- The costs of delivering dual credit courses should be shared by a combination of state, postsecondary institutions, secondary districts, state-funded scholarships, and students and families so that no one entity is solely responsible for financing.
- Tuition and other fees for dual credit courses will be outlined in writing and provided to each student, parent and/or guardian, and secondary school by the postsecondary institution prior to student enrollment in such courses.
- Career and technical education courses (CTE) shall be transferrable to any participating community and technical college and meet requirements for a certificate, diploma, or associate degree within the related program of study. To ensure the transferability of CTE credit, a standardized course number system for CTE courses shall be established and maintained.

(more)

Page 3 – New Dual Credit Proposal

- Upon course completion, dual enrollment courses must appear on both the secondary and postsecondary transcripts for all dual credit courses.
- The use of dual credit rather than matriculated credit agreements is strongly encouraged by CPE and KDE in order that students create a strong connection to colleges and universities and understand their ability to complete credential and degree programs.

A Dual Credit Advisory Council would be established to provide oversight and monitor the state implementation of the policy and continuous improvement of dual credit programming and to provide annual reports to participating state agencies and elected officials.

The Council on Postsecondary Education still must approve the new dual credit policy and funding must be allocated before the policy would take effect.

###