

Hamilton County Board of Education

Monitoring: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Early Postsecondary Opportunities	Descriptor Code: 4.206	Issued Date: 12/16/04
		Rescinded:	Revised: 12/08/22

1 Early postsecondary opportunities (EPSOs) provide students with the opportunity to earn college credit
2 while in high school, develop the confidence and skills necessary for success in postsecondary, make
3 informed postsecondary and career decisions, and decrease the time and cost of completing a
4 certificate of degree.

5 6 **ADVANCED PLACEMENT, INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE, CAMBRIDGE 7 INTERNATIONAL AND COLLEGE LEVEL EXAM PROGRAM COURSES**

8 College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) courses, International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma
9 Programme courses, Cambridge International Examination (CIE) courses and College Board's College
10 Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams offer motivated high school students the opportunity to
11 take challenging college level courses while in high school. Courses follow the learning objectives
12 and course descriptions as defined by the College Board, International Baccalaureate, or Cambridge
13 International and prepare students for culminating national exams that, if passed, can provide students
14 college credit, advanced standing, or both. The cost of AP courses to the student is the examination
15 fee and the cost of IB course work is the registration fee and any individual course costs.

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17 While these courses are open to all students, those who choose to take Advanced Placement,
18 International Baccalaureate, or Cambridge International courses, as well as their parents, must be
19 committed to the college level academic demands necessary to the course as defined by the respective
20 programs. In addition, students are expected to complete the exams that are required for students to
21 earn college credit. Whenever possible, the district will seek to support families who need financial
22 assistance to pay examination fees, through waiver applications with program sponsors and/or direct
23 funding from school or district budget.

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25 Grades earned in college level courses will be included in determining class rank, grade point average,
26 and class valedictorian or salutatorian.

27 28 **LOCAL DUAL CREDIT**

29 Local dual credit is a high school course aligned to a local postsecondary institutions course and exam.
30 Students who pass the exam earn credits that are accepted and/or recognized by the specific
31 postsecondary institution(s) participating in the articulation agreement. Courses are taught by licensed
32 high school teachers or certified college instructors approved by Hamilton County Schools and the
33 postsecondary institution.

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35 Grades earned in college level courses will be included in determining class rank, grade point average,
36 and class valedictorian or salutatorian.

37 38 **STATEWIDE DUAL CREDIT**

39 A statewide dual credit (SDC) course is a high school course that incorporates postsecondary learning
40 objectives and is aligned with an approved dual credit challenge exam. These college level courses are
41 taught at the high school level by trained high school teachers.

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1 All students enrolled in an identified statewide dual credit course offered through the district must sit
2 for the challenge exam. Students which meet or exceed the exam 'cut score' receive college credit
3 that can be applied to any Tennessee public postsecondary institution. Grades earned in college level courses
4 will be included in determining class rank, grade point average, and class valedictorian or salutatorian.
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7 **DUAL ENROLLMENT**

8 Dual enrollment (DE) is a postsecondary course, taught either at the postsecondary institution or at the
9 high school, by postsecondary faculty or credentialed adjunct faculty. Dual enrollment instructors
10 must meet postsecondary requirements, but do not have to meet specific TN teacher licensure or
11 endorsement requirements. Dual enrollment courses can be taught at the postsecondary campus, the
12 high school, or online. The location of the course does not affect its status as a dual enrollment course.
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14 Students who are in good standing in their high schools and who met the registration requirements of
15 the college and successfully complete the course earn both college credits and credits toward their high
16 school diploma. Approval by the principal shall be required before enrollment. The state
17 department of education currently provides funding for five enrollment courses for all students.
18 Beyond those state funds, students are expected to pay college tuition, purchase college textbooks, and
19 provide transportation when the college class is not on the high school campus.
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21 Grades earned in college level courses will be included in determining class rank, grade point average,
22 and class valedictorian or salutatorian.
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24 **INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION**

25 Industry certifications (IC) are earned through secondary and postsecondary career and technical
26 education programs and courses. High school students are encouraged to focus their elective credits on
27 robust, career-aligned learning pathways. Robust learning pathways should culminate with the
28 achievement of nationally recognized industry certifications, meaningful work-based learning
29 experiences, and/or attainment of postsecondary credit hours through early postsecondary
30 opportunities. As it pertains to industry certifications, all department-promoted certifications are
31 aligned with postsecondary and employment opportunities and with the competencies and skills that
32 students should have acquired through their chosen programs of study.
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34 **HAMILTON COUNTY COLLEGIATE HIGH**

35 Hamilton County Collegiate High is a partnership between the Hamilton County Schools and
36 Chattanooga State Community College where students earn both a high school diploma and college
37 credits with the potential of earning an associate's degree. Students who attend the Hamilton County
38 Collegiate High and who meet the admission requirements for the sponsoring college pay tuition,
39 purchase textbooks, and furnish transportation. Students must meet Hamilton County graduation
40 requirements.
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42 **EARLY ADMISSION**

43 In keeping with the State Board of Education's endorsement of the Early Admission Program, a high
44 school student may complete the twelfth grade at a participating institution of higher learning.¹ The
45 student will earn a year's credit in college at the same time that he earns credit for his/her senior year
46 in high school.
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Legal References:

1. TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.06(4)(a)
2. TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.04(3)(h)