



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are dual enrollment and the Dual Enrollment Grant?**

Dual enrollment allows students to take college courses and receive high school and postsecondary credit at the same time. Dual enrollment is one of the many early postsecondary opportunities (EPSOs) that are available to students. Other EPSOs include Advanced Placement, dual credit, Cambridge International, etc. You can find more information on all EPSOs [here](#).

In Tennessee, students who take dual enrollment courses are eligible to receive the Dual Enrollment Grant for up to 10 total courses, which uses proceeds of the state lottery to award financial aid to high school juniors and seniors who are also enrolled in college courses or programs at eligible postsecondary institutions. Students who are completing high school in a home school program can also take advantage of the Dual Enrollment Grant. For more information about the Dual Enrollment Grant, visit the Dual Enrollment Grant website [here](#).

### **How has dual enrollment changed with the passage of the Governor's Investment in Vocational Education (GIVE) Act?**

Following the passage of the Governor's Investment in Vocational Education (GIVE) Act, 11th and 12th-grade high school students now have new opportunities to take dual enrollment courses in Tennessee. Students taking courses or programs of study that lead to a high-need occupation now have access to four fully funded dual enrollment courses.

### **What college courses or programs are eligible for increased funding through GIVE Dual Enrollment Grant funding?**

Courses or programs of study that lead to a certificate, diploma, or associate degree aligned with an occupation that is high-need in Tennessee are eligible for expanded Dual Enrollment Grant funding via the GIVE Act. General education courses are not eligible for GIVE-funded Dual Enrollment Grants but may be eligible for traditional Dual Enrollment Grants. A comprehensive list of eligible courses and programs is available [here](#).

### **What funding is available through the Dual Enrollment Grant?**

An outline of Dual Enrollment Grant funding at Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology is available [here](#). An outline of Dual Enrollment Grant funding at 2-year or 4-year colleges is available [here](#).

### **How are GIVE-eligible courses and programs determined?**

Each year, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) partners with the Tennessee Department of Labor and the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development to identify high-need occupations in Tennessee. THEC staff identify higher education certificates, diplomas, and associate degree programs that prepare students for high-need occupations using a federal crosswalk. The Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) uses this program list to identify the requisite courses and programs of study offered at Tennessee community colleges and Tennessee

Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs) that provide training for the high-need occupations. Finally, the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC) Board of Directors approves the list of eligible programs at both the TCATs and community colleges. Upon approval by the TSAC Board, THEC/TSAC staff review the community college course list to finalize the GIVE-eligible courses. A comprehensive list of eligible courses and programs is available [here](#).

**Is the coursework approved to receive enhanced Dual Enrollment Grant funding under the GIVE Act listed as individual programs of study or individual courses?**

GIVE-eligible Dual Enrollment Grants at TCATs are approved at the program level (i.e., the Computer Information Technology program offered at a TCAT). Dual Enrollment Grants at community colleges are approved at the individual course level (i.e., the Introduction to Networking course offered at a community college). A comprehensive list of eligible courses and programs is available [here](#).

**How do students apply for a Dual Enrollment Grant?**

Students apply for Dual Enrollment Grants by visiting the [TSAC Student Portal](#). After a student creates an account or logs in using their existing account, students will click “Apply” at the top of the page and choose the option for “Dual Enrollment Grant” (including GIVE). Detailed instructions on how to apply for a Dual Enrollment Grant are available [here](#).

**Who should I contact with questions about the Dual Enrollment Grant?**

For questions about the Dual Enrollment Grant, contact Jana McCall at [Jana.McCall@tn.gov](mailto:Jana.McCall@tn.gov) or (615) 253-7466.

**Can a student receive multiple grants during a semester?**

Yes, if the student has achieved an ACT composite score of 21 or higher on a single test date or has earned a 3.0 cumulative high school GPA at the time of taking the dual enrollment course, then the student may receive Dual Enrollment Grants for up to three courses per semester and a maximum of 10 total while enrolled in high school.

**Can a student receive Dual Enrollment Grants at two colleges concurrently?**

Yes. Students should contact the financial aid office of the college they have selected on the Dual Enrollment Grant application to make them aware that they are taking courses at two colleges simultaneously during a given semester. To accommodate the payment of Dual Enrollment Grants to two higher education institutions during the same semester, one of the institutions will enter into a consortium agreement with the second institution. The institution’s financial aid office will work with the student to ensure that the Dual Enrollment Grant funding is received at both institutions. If, for any reason, the student has challenges securing funding for courses at both institutions, please contact Jana McCall at [Jana.McCall@tn.gov](mailto:Jana.McCall@tn.gov) or (615) 253-7466.

**Academically, what must a student do to maintain Dual Enrollment Grant eligibility?**

A student must earn a minimum 2.75 dual enrollment GPA to remain eligible for the grant. If a student fails to earn a minimum 2.75 dual enrollment GPA, then the student forfeits remaining grant eligibility.

**If a student loses the Dual Enrollment Grant, do they also forfeit the HOPE Scholarship?**

No. The HOPE Scholarship is earned by achieving either an ACT composite score of 21 or higher on a

single test date or a 3.0 final cumulative GPA upon high school graduation. The application for the HOPE Scholarship is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**Is the application process the same for the Dual Enrollment Grant and GIVE Dual Enrollment Grant?**

Yes. Students must complete the Dual Enrollment Grant (including GIVE) application via the TSAC Student Portal ([www.tn.gov/tsacstudentportal](http://www.tn.gov/tsacstudentportal)) by the application deadline.

**What are the application deadlines for the Dual Enrollment Grant?**

Dual Enrollment Grant application deadlines for students attending two- and four-year institutions:

Term	Deadline
Fall	September 15
Spring	February 1
Summer	May 15

Dual Enrollment Grant application deadlines for students attending TCATs:

Term	Deadline
Fall	November 1
Spring	March 1
Summer	May 15

**Must a student apply for the grant each semester?**

No. The grant application now covers the entire academic year. For example, the 2021-2022 grant application opened in January, 2021. Many high schools will have their prospective dual enrollment students complete the application in spring 2021, which will satisfy all semester deadlines during the 2021-2022 academic year regardless of dual enrollment college type.

**As a school administrator, is there a report our school can monitor to ensure students have applied for the grant each semester?**

Yes. There is a Dual Enrollment Grant application status report available within the FAST system (formerly called e\*GRandS). For system access or to inquire about who may already have access at your high school, please contact Journey Ellison at [Journey.A.Ellison@tn.gov](mailto:Journey.A.Ellison@tn.gov).

**Answers to other Dual Enrollment Grant Frequently Asked Questions are available [here](#).**