

EPSO 101: What You Need to Know for Students

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Welcome and Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of Early Postsecondary Opportunities (EPSOs) in Tennessee
- State-Recognized EPSOs
- Resources and Key Contacts
- Ideas to Consider
- Questions and Next Steps





BEST FOR
ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

ACADEMICS

**ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE
ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION,
NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE**

STUDENT READINESS

**TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE
EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC
AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL
STUDENTS IN THEIR CAREER PATHWAYS**

EDUCATORS

**TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR
THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE
THE TOP STATE IN WHICH TO BECOME AND
REMAIN A TEACHER AND LEADER FOR ALL**

Objectives

- Attendees will have a deeper understanding of the state-recognized EPSOs available to them and how students can earn postsecondary credit while still in high school.





Overview of Early Postsecondary Opportunities (EPSOs)

POP QUIZ!

- **How many early postsecondary opportunities are recognized in Tennessee?**
 - Eight

POP QUIZ!

- **How many state-recognized early postsecondary opportunities can you name?**

Advanced Placement (AP) • International Baccalaureate (IB) • Cambridge International (CIE) • CLEP • Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) • Local Dual Credit (LDC) • Dual Enrollment (DE) • Industry Credentials (IC)

POP QUIZ!

- **True or false: EPSOs only benefit students if they pass the associated challenge exam and earn college credit**

False: Participation in EPSOs help develop confidence and study skills necessary for success in postsecondary coursework. Research shows that students who participate in EPSOs are more likely to enroll and persist in college.

POP QUIZ!

How does a district enroll in EPSOs?

- It depends 😊

State Recognized EPSOs

External Organizations

Advanced Placement



- A **high school course**, taught by **high school staff**, via a recommended **college-level curriculum** created and developed by the College Board.
- TN AP facts:
 - Over 35K students participate in at least 1 AP exam annually
 - 65% take only 1 exam; 35% take 2 or more
 - 58% score 3 or higher
 - Most common exam is English Language and Composition
- Benefits of Advanced Placement (AP)
 - National in Scope
 - Extensive support and resources
- AP Pre-Calculus, AP Seminar, AP Career Kick Start



STUDENT READINESS

AP Access for All



- AP Access for All (APAA) is a partnership between TDOE and Niswonger Foundation to offer **virtual AP courses** to students across the state.
- The program also provides **professional development** opportunities to current and new AP teachers.
- The primary goal of the program is to give **every public TN high school student** the opportunity to take **free** and online AP classes for college credit.
- Over **97 percent** of the public school districts have signed on to participate in APAA.
- Over **4,200 students** have taken courses through APAA over the last two years.
- Nearly **600 teachers** have completed AP Summer Institute to become qualified to teach AP courses; hundreds more are planning to complete training this summer.



STUDENT READINESS

International Baccalaureate



- International curriculum (“programme”) offering four educational programs, which can be offered individually or as a continuum of international education.
- Diploma Programme (DP): Assessed program for students age 16-19.
- Career-Related Programme: Framework that incorporates DP elements with a unique Career Programme core.
- School must be authorized as an IB World School, which involves extensive district, principal, and teacher training.
- Certain courses taken may substitute for graduation requirements.



STUDENT READINESS

Cambridge International Education



- Grew out of Cambridge University in Cambridge, England.
- Upper Secondary: Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary
Cambridge Advanced: Cambridge A and AS level exams; Cambridge AICE diploma.
- Required application process through CIE.
- Certain courses taken may substitute for graduation requirements.
- TN CIE Facts:
 - 700 students across the state were candidates for a Cambridge exams
 - Exams include Global Perspectives and Research, Environmental Management, Travel and Tourism, Marine Science, Thinking Skills, and Psychology
 - English Language is most common exam taken

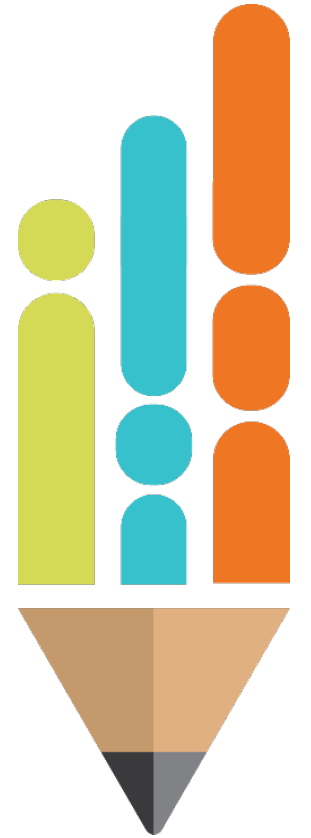


STUDENT READINESS

Dual Credit EPSOs

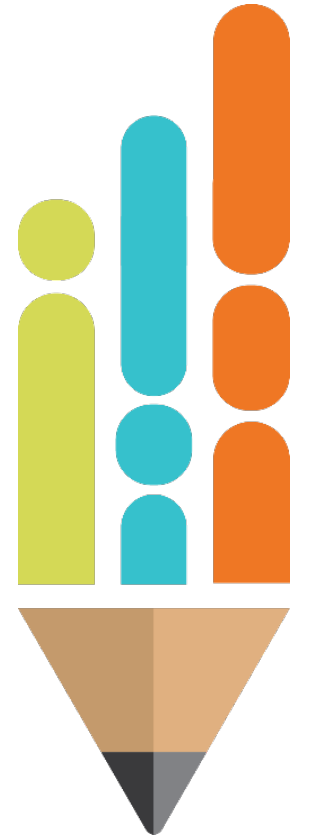
Local Dual Credit

- High school course aligned to a local postsecondary institution's course and exam.
- Students who pass the exam earn credits that are accepted and/or recognized by the **local** school district and **local** postsecondary institution.
- Process, decision, and approval is determined at the local level.
 - Little to no TDOE involvement
- Example:
 - Dyersburg State



Statewide Dual Credit

- College-level courses taught in high school classrooms by TBR trained high school teachers.
- No cost for teacher training.
- Dual-managed by TDOE and TBR.
- Students enrolled in SDC take the online challenge exam at the end of the course – no cost for student exam.
- SDC courses are accepted at all TBR, UT, and 4-year institutions in Tennessee.
- 3 SDC staff at TBR: Steven Berryhill, Nellie McCollum, Christian Babyak



Dual Enrollment



Dual Enrollment

- Postsecondary course taught at institute of higher education or on a high school campus by postsecondary faculty.
- Course request via EPSO Course Code Request Form.
- Be sure to search the course catalog first.
- Dual enrollment grant:
 - Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship
 - Overseen by Tennessee Higher Education Commission
 - Freshman eligibility for TCAT enrollment
 - Up to 10 credits: Courses 1-5 @ \$538.65; Courses 6-10 @ \$100/credit hour



Industry Credentials



Industry Credentials

- Credentials earned through secondary and postsecondary career and technical education courses.
- Credentials must be aligned with a Program of Study (POS) as well as with postsecondary and employment opportunities and the skill acquired through their POS.
- Any student may earn any credential.
- 3 tiers: Recognized, Valued, Preferred
- Industry credentials may be added to the IC Promoted List on a three-year rotating basis.
- Specific information can be found on the department website.
- Contact: John Mummert: John.Mummert@tn.gov



Ideas to Consider

TDOE Goals

- 100% of LEAs offer at least 1 EPSO
 - Difference from 0 EPSO to 1 EPSO
- 5% increase of EPSOs for students year-over-year
- Increased access for economically disadvantaged students to EPSOs



100% EPSO Offerings

- District, principal, teacher capacity
- No cost EPSOs: Statewide Dual Credit, AP Access For All
- Extensive support from TDOE and TBR
- Difference from zero EPSOs to one EPSO



Increase EPSOs

- Every program of study should offer students one EPSO
- Dual enrollment: Freshman can enroll at TCAT
 - Course substitutions



Increase Access

- EPSO fee waiver program
 - AP, CIE, IB tests
 - \$\$ waiver from the state; additional waiver for AP tests
 - New for 23-24:
 - Student estimates due in December 2023
 - announcements via department newsletters
 - Assurances and final rosters due May 2024
 - Payment to schools (ideally) by June 2024



Questions and Next Steps



Key Contacts

EPSO	Name	
Advanced Placement	Mark Yoho MYoho@collegeboard.org	
AP Access For All	Chelsea Rose Chelsea.Rose@tn.gov	
International Baccalaureate	iba@ibo.org	
Cambridge International Education	Janet Swandol Janet.Swandol@cambridge.org	
Local Dual Credit	Varies – Local Postsecondary Partner	
Statewide Dual Credit	Steven Berryhill Steven.Berryhill@tbr.edu	
Dual Enrollment	Liza Ambrose Liza.Ambrose@tn.gov	Local Postsecondary Partner
Industry Credentials	John Mummert John.Mummert@tn.gov	



Thank You!

Contact Info or Questions?

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