

“Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Dual Credit But Were Afraid to Ask”

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Guidance & Counseling Dept.

Dual Credit

*Introduction: If you are an **exceptional** student, dual credit is an excellent opportunity for you to start earning college credits early.*

*By taking a college course while in high school, you are able to get a taste of what college is like and how academics are different on that level. You will find these courses **rigorous** and **time-consuming**. You will need **strong study skills**. You will be **on your own** to manage your time and prepare your assignments to meet strict deadlines.. This can be done gradually in the comfort of your familiar surroundings, without having to adjust to being away from home, where housing, food, roommate, and car issues could also complicate your life!*

*If you are registered into a course, this will be a **permanent part of your academic record**, and **will follow you from college to college**. Any time you apply for admission to another college, the state of Texas will require that you submit an official transcript from Lone Star College. Therefore, your course name and grade will be reported to all other colleges to which you apply.*

1. What is Dual Credit?



- Cypress Fairbanks ISD and Lone Star-Cy-Fair College have entered into an agreement allowing students, who meet specified criteria, to earn both high school credit and college credit for certain high school courses.

High school students who meet district requirements for enrolling in a dual-credit course must have:

- Acceptable college scores on the SAT, ACT or TAKS
- Acceptable scores on the COMPASS or ASSET to be placed in college-level courses

Dual credit courses are COLLEGE LEVEL courses!

2. *Do I need approval to take a Dual Credit course?*

- A student will be awarded credit toward graduation only if he/she obtains prior approval from the appropriate Dual Credit liaisons, *Carol Morris* or *Brenda Lamb* in the Counselors' Office.



3. What about the college transcript?

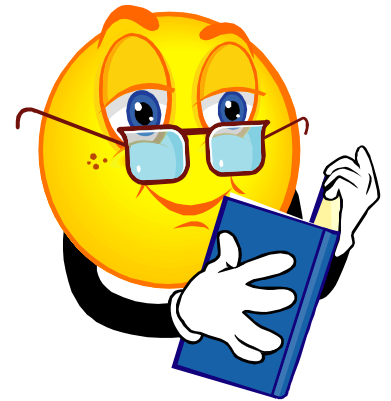
- Students who enroll in a Dual Credit course at Cy-Ridge HS will build a transcript with Lone Star Cy-Fair College as well as Cy-Ridge High School.



4. What Dual Credit courses will be offered at Cy-Ridge next school year?

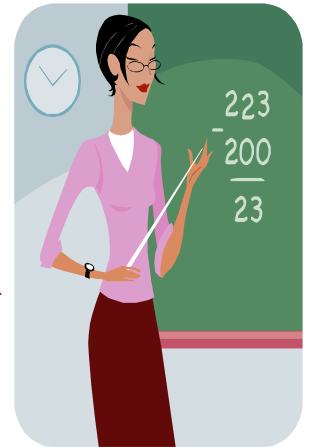
- English IV AP/Dual
(Eng 1301; Eng 1302 college credit)
- US History AP/Dual
(Hist 1301; Hist 1302 college credit)
- Government AP/Dual
(Govt 2301 college credit)
- College Algebra (Spring Semester)
(Math1314 college credit)

*Courses subject to change




5. Who are the Dual Credit teachers?

- English IV AP/Dual – J. Easto
- Government AP/Dual – P. Knock
- US History AP/ Dual – J. West
- College Algebra – K. Spears
- Networking I – S. Veazy@ Cy-Fair HS



*Teachers are subject to change.

A green chalkboard with two pieces of pink chalk and a white arrow pointing upwards.

6. What is the criteria to be eligible to apply for the opportunity to earn high school credit through college courses?

- The student must have completed his/her sophomore year in high school.
- The student must have an overall average for all courses of at least 80, or the student must have an average of at least 80 in the last course taken in the general subject-area of the college-level course.
- The student must have acceptable scores on college placement exams.
- The student must meet THEA requirements or alternative test(s).
- The student must have completed an application, submitted a transcript, and received prior approval from the high school counselor.
- The student must have received approval for college admission through the exceptional admissions program.

7. What's the difference between *Dual Credit* and *Advanced Placement (AP)*?

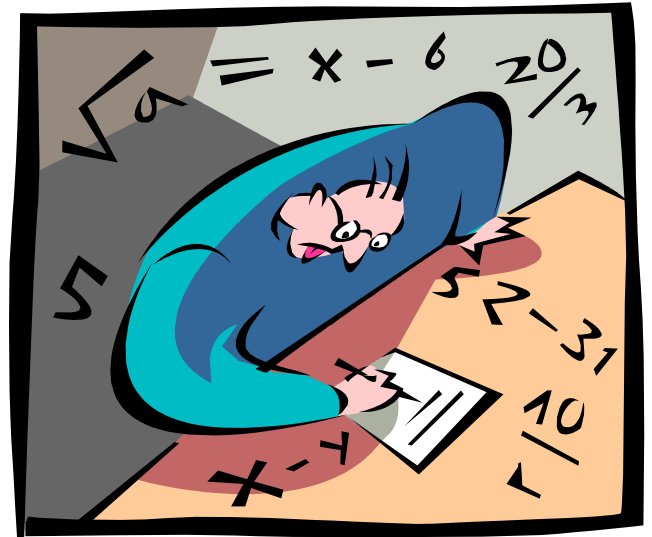
<i>Dual Credit</i>	<i>Advanced Placement</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Enrolled on high school campus <u>and</u> college campus•Must pay tuition: approx \$45 per semester course•Passing grade = Credit earned•Each university has specific policies concerning awarding credit for dual credit courses. <u>It is the student's responsibility to consult their prospective university for more details.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Enroll in high school campus course only•Pay for exam: approx \$56•Score on the exam determines credit/advanced placement (depending on the institution's AP policy). <u>Each university has specific policies concerning awarding credit for AP/dual credit courses. It is the student's responsibility to consult their prospective university for more details.</u>

8. What is the Texas Success Initiative? (TSI)

- The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program that requires students to be assessed in reading, writing, and math skills and to be advised based on the results of that assessment **prior to** enrolling in college.
- The Student Success Initiative (SSI) is a Lone Star College program that includes TSI, new prerequisite requirements, and reading, writing, and math performance standards before graduation.

9. Do all new Dual Credit students have to take an assessment test?

- All new Dual Credit students must take a test or be exempt from testing. Students with appropriate ACT, SAT, and TAKS scores may be exempt from testing for TSI purposes. However, additional testing may still be required to meet course prerequisites.



10. What are the testing requirements?

Students must meet state requirements for college readiness before they will be allowed to register for a dual credit course .

Test	Score(s)
TAKS	ELA: 2200+ <u>AND</u> Composition subscore of 3+ Math: 2200+ (still need assessment testing to take a Math class)
SAT	Reading/Writing: 500+ (Critical Reading) Math: 520+ Composite: 1070+ (Total of above two scores only)
ACT	Reading/Writing: 19+ (English) Math: 19+ Composite: 23+

11. What if I don't have scores that exempt me from testing?

- Students must take the entire COMPASS or ASSET test (Reading, Writing, Essay and Math) and have scores that meet the prerequisites for the class they desire to take in the Dual Credit Program.



12. How do I register to take an approved test?

- See the Dual Credit Liaisons, **Carol Morris** or **Brenda Lamb**, in your high school for registration information and testing information.



13. Do I have to pay to take the tests?

- Dual Credit students do not have to pay to take the assessment tests unless a re-test is needed.

Re-Test COMPASS/ASSET

All Parts: \$29.00 or Reading Skills: \$10.00

Writing/Essay: \$10.00

Math Skills: \$10.00



14. How can I prepare for the assessment test?



- Review materials and practice exams are available @
- <http://www.cy-faircollege.com/goto/placement>



15. If I'm approved for testing, what should I do next?



- Testing may be offered at Cy-Ridge – see Mrs. Morris or Ms. Lamb for more testing information.
- If testing is not available at Cy-Ridge or you would prefer testing at Lone Star College call the Lone Star College Cy-Fair Assessment Center @ (281) 290-3220 or visit the Web site: cyfair.testingcenter@lonestar.edu
- Choose one of the special dates reserved for Cy-Ridge students.
- Obtain the Dual Credit Testing Referral form from Mrs. Morris or Ms. Lamb after you reserve your date. This form must be completed and signed by one of the dual credit liaisons. **This form is required. You will not be able to test unless you bring the form with you!**
- Bring photo ID and social security number with you.

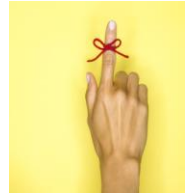
16. What scores will allow me to take college-level courses?

(For students that do not have acceptable TAKS, SAT or ACT scores)



<i>Compass</i>	<i>Asset</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Preferred for immediate results•Un-timed/Computer-based	Timed - Paper/pencil test
Writing – 85+ and 6 on the essay OR 7 on the essay only	Writing - 45+ and 6 on the essay OR 7 on the essay alone
Reading – 81+	Reading 41+
Math – Algebra 67+ OR College algebra 0-50	Math – Intermediate algebra 47+ OR College algebra 25+

17. Important Testing Reminders



- COMPASS & ASSET TESTS (taken at Lone Star Cy-Fair College) may take between 3 ½ to 4 hours. Allow this much time to test before the Assessment Center closes.
- Students will not be allowed to start the test if this much time is not available before the Center closes.
- COMPASS and ASSET consist of four subtests: **Reading**, **Writing** (objective test), a written **Essay**, and **Math**. The COMPASS test is not timed and is taken on the computer. The ASSET test is taken with paper and pencil and each subtest has a time limit.
- In order to meet state testing requirements, students needing the entire test must initially take all sections of the test in one testing session. **However, re-tests may be taken one subtest at a time.**

18. More Important Testing Reminders



- The same test may NOT be retaken within a 30-day period.
- Cell phones are not allowed in the testing rooms.



19. *What happens if I do not make the scores needed for placement into college-level courses?*

- Students who fail to meet the scores needed for their Dual Credit class selection will not be allowed to take the class.

