



Dual Enrollment: Opportunities for College Coursework for Oregon H.S. Students

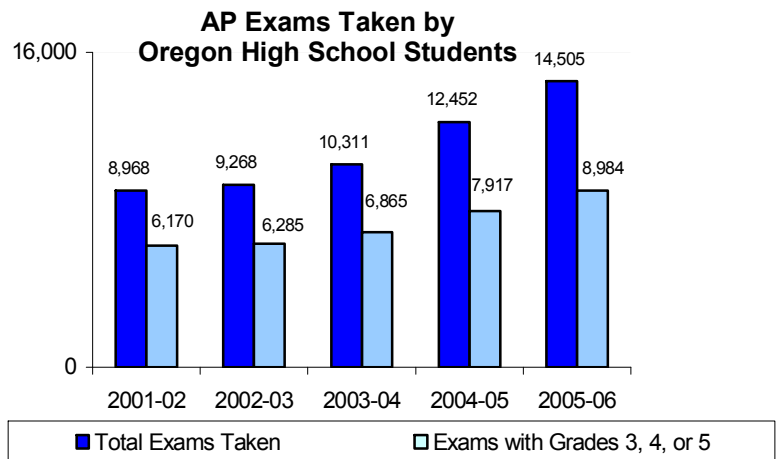
Dual enrollment is defined as the participation by high school students in college-level courses and through these, the earning of college credit. This is also sometimes referred to as “dual credit,” “concurrent enrollment,” and “joint enrollment.” Oregon has many options for students to obtain postsecondary education while still in high school, and these programs constitute an effective way to strengthen preparation for college academics and the workforce. These accelerated learning opportunities can be one means of increasing rates of college entry, academic success in college, and college retention rates, and have the potential to keep our top performing high school graduates in Oregon. Most programs offer some form of **tuition assistance and allow students to affordably start investing in their college education**. As a lower-cost postsecondary credit option, dual enrollment offers the possibility of savings in tuition and fees once students enter college.

Dual enrollment opportunities are a common service provided by post-secondary institutions. A national 2005 study showed that 57 percent of degree granting institutions across the nation had high school students taking college credit courses, either within or outside of formal programs.¹ **All seven OUS institutions offer dual enrollment or other accelerated opportunities to high school students at this time.** OUS institution offerings span a wide variety of program types, delivered on OUS campuses, at high schools, or through distance education. In addition to the formal programs listed below, high school students throughout the state may take individual courses at OUS institutions as non-admitted part-time students.

Advanced High School Coursework

The rigor of Advanced Placement Program® (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) coursework is ensured through external assessment. Advanced high school coursework has proven a strong factor in college entry and success. Studies show that students who take even one AP course are more likely to enroll and graduate from college.²

The College Board's 2005 report shows encouraging news of **increases in AP participation in Oregon**. The College Board, which administers the AP assessment exams, reported that in 2005-06, Oregon students, including low-income and minority students, took 16.5% more exams than the previous year. The number of examinations with grades of 3, 4, and 5 increased 13% from 2004-05 to 2005-06. Recently OUS and Oregon community colleges agreed on alignment of scores and credits awarded for Advanced Placement Program® exams, ensuring that students will always be awarded the same number of credits at any of the 7 OUS institutions and any of the 17 community colleges.



Source: College Board, State Reports 2006

¹ Dual Enrollment of High school Students at Postsecondary Institutions: 2002-03, 2005, U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Summary, page 4, Title IV degree-granting institutions.

² Does Success on Advanced Placement Program® Exams Predict College Success? A Summary of AP® Research, College Board Press Release, 2.21.06, <http://www.collegeboard.com/press/releases/50405.html>

Programs Delivered at OUS Campuses

A variety of OUS programs allow high school students to take college coursework, along with college students, on OUS campuses. Most of these programs offer reduced tuition rates and provide student support services such as advising. Examples include:

Eastern Oregon University: Weekend College and Summer Institute Programs provide credit-bearing and early start for high school students

Portland State University: LINK (Leap Into New Knowledge) Program which makes it possible for intellectually gifted high school students to attend the University for part-time advanced study.

Oregon Institute of Technology: High School Transition Program by which high school students may get a head start on college general education requirements.

Oregon State University: College Credit for High School Students, offering 100-200 level courses taught on campus and online; Expanded Options Program opportunities (description to right); A Taste of College Program, a summer program offering college credit; and OSU K-12 online offering college preparatory classes for high school students.

Southern Oregon University: Early Entry Program, offering concurrent high school and college coursework.

University of Oregon: DuckLink program offering UO courses to area high school students.

Western Oregon University: High School Dual Enrollment program offering concurrent high school and college coursework.

OUS Programs Delivered at High Schools

OUS dual credit programs offer students **college-level courses taught by qualified college- or university-approved high school teachers within high schools**. Most of these programs offer concurrent high school and college credits, reduced tuition rates, and support services such as advising. Examples include:

EOU: Dual Enrollment program, Dual Credit Overlay, and distance education programs, offering reduced tuition college coursework for high school students.

OIT: Advanced Credit Program, by which high school teachers have the teaching assistance of OIT faculty to deliver college-level curriculum.

PSU: Challenge Program by which high school teachers have the assistance of PSU departments to teach college-level coursework, serving 1,653 students in 2005-06.

SOU: Advanced Southern Credit Program, in which SOU faculty teach approved courses at high school campuses, serving 1,380 students in 2005-06.

Oregon community colleges also offer a broad array of College Now programs across the state. These are of two types:

1. Postsecondary opportunities in technical fields corresponding to the Tech Prep Federal Initiative, and
2. Dual enrollment college programs at the lower division level.

Expanded Options

Expanded Options was established by the 2005 Legislature in Senate Bill 300, which increases the likelihood that all students will have access to accelerated academic and professional/technical courses by requiring that high schools offer such opportunities and notify students of their eligibility.

The bill targets 11th and 12th grade students, giving priority to academically able students who are at-risk for socio-economic reasons, or who have left school prematurely. School districts pay for the students' tuition costs.



Oregon University System