



**Rockdale County
Public Schools**

Office of Teaching & Learning Advanced Academics January 16, 2020

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Advanced Placement®

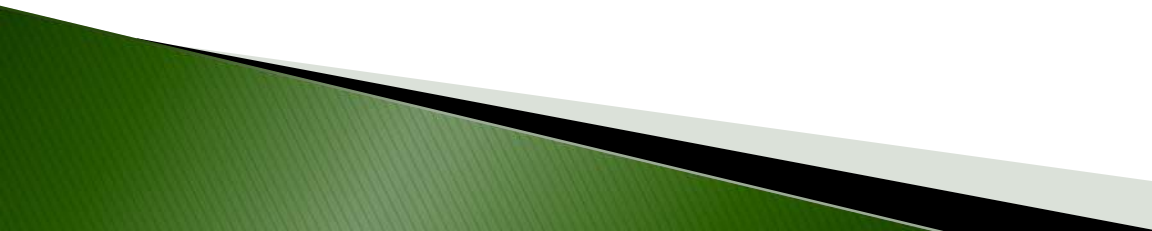
What are Advanced Placement Courses?

- Advanced Placement (AP) courses are specially designed classes for secondary students seeking to earn college credit or take more challenging courses.
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Benefits for taking AP Courses

- There are many benefits for taking AP courses. Students can:
 1. challenge themselves academically;
 2. set themselves apart in college admission;
and/or
 3. earn college credit, placement, or both with an exam score of 3 or higher.
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Benefits for taking AP Courses

- Select AP classes will no longer require both the AP exam and Georgia Milestone End of Course test .
 - Students who score a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP Exam are offered credit, placement, or both by a majority of U.S. colleges and universities.
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Benefits for taking AP Courses

- Research shows that students who have taken an AP Exam, even if they scored a 1 or 2, are more likely to graduate college on time than their academically matched peers who do not take an AP course or exam.
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Advanced Placement Support

- Students have access to digital tools to help improve their performance all year long.



Sign in for Your AP or
Pre-AP Resources

Teacher Credentials for AP Courses

- Teachers must design a syllabus that meets the curricular requirements of an AP course and receive authorization through the AP Course Audit process.

Who Is Eligible?



Any student enrolled in 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade at a public or private high school in Georgia



Some courses have prerequisites, but many do not.



Students interested in obtaining college credit while still in high school.

Prestigious colleges often require a challenging course selection for admission.

For example, at the University of Georgia last fall, the middle 50% of students who applied and were accepted for admission through **Early Action** scored 1300-1430 on the SAT, scored 30-33 on the ACT and took 6-11 AP and/or Dual Enrollment courses.



Advanced Placement Exams

AP Exams

- AP Exams are administered by schools worldwide on set dates in May each year.
- Students can score between a 1 and a 5. (Every college sets its own policy about AP credit.)
- Exams are typically 2-3 hours and include:
 - ❖ Multiple-choice questions
 - ❖ Free-response items such as essays, problem solving, document-based questions and oral response

AP[®] Exam Fees

- The exam fee for 2020-2021 is \$94 per exam
- Assistance is available for eligible students with financial needs:
 - ❖ The Georgia Department of Education will pay for one AP[®] STEM exam excluding AP[®] Research for all students.
 - ❖ Low income households are eligible for a reduced fee of \$53 per exam.

AP[®] - Myths & Realities

Myth

Reality

AP[®] courses are for students who always get good grades.

AP[®] courses are for any students who are academically prepared and motivated to take college-level courses.

AP[®] courses are too stressful.

It's no secret that AP[®] courses are challenging, but the support you receive from your classmates and teachers can help you manage the workload.

I don't think I will score high enough on the AP[®] Exam to get college credit.

You don't need to score a 5 – many colleges grant credit and placement as well – based on a 3 or higher on an AP[®] Exam.

Taking AP[®] courses could hurt my GPA.

RCPS AP[®] courses are weighted on a 5.0 scale. Taking AP[®] courses shows colleges that you are willing to challenge yourself academically.

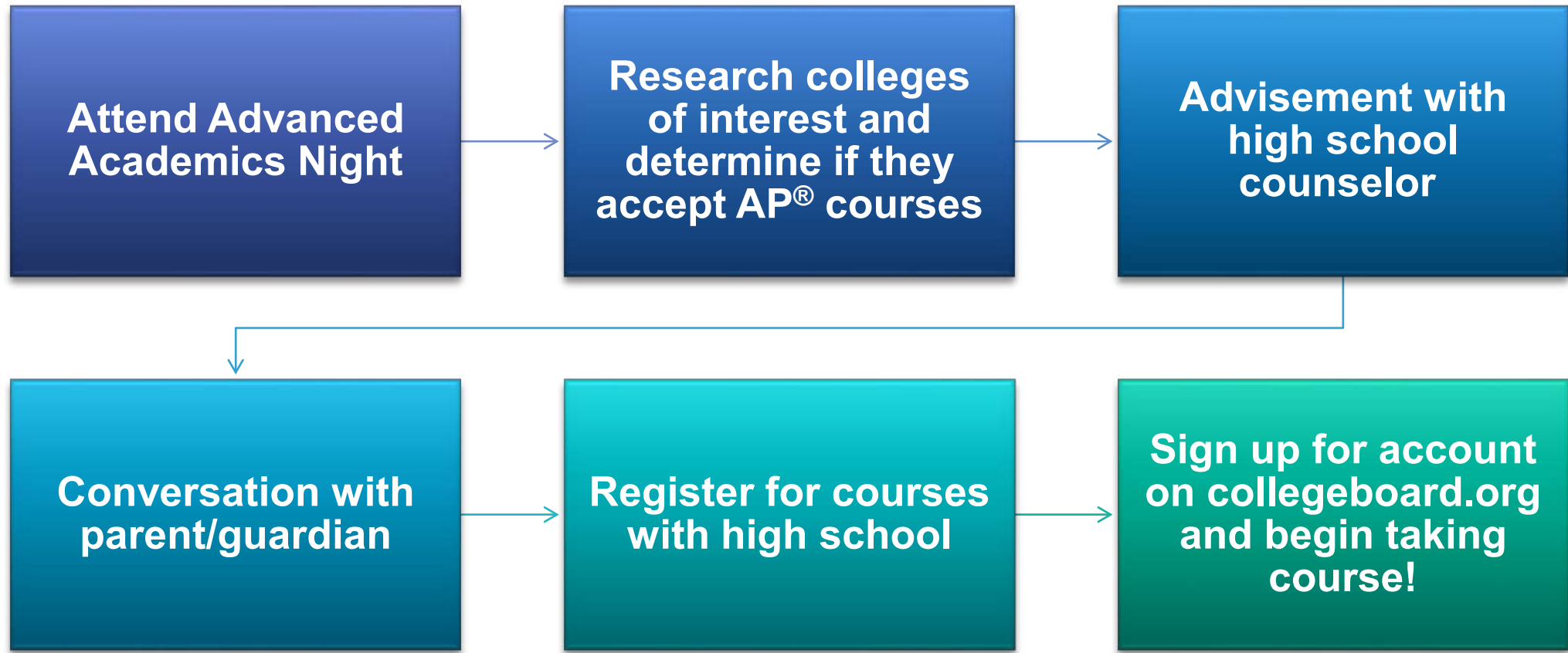
I can't take AP[®] courses because no one has recommended me.

If you think you're ready to take an AP[®] course, then you are ready to advocate for yourself – just talk to a teacher or counselor.

Possible RCPS Advanced Placement Course Offerings

- Art
- Biology
- Calculus
- Chemistry
- Computer Science A
- Computer Science Principles
- Drawing
- Language and Composition
- Literature and Composition
- Environmental Science
- Economics
- Physics
- Psychology
- Research
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Government
- Geography
- Music Theory
- US History
- World History

What is the Process to Register for Advanced Placement Courses?



Considerations

- Coursework is more challenging than traditional high school courses.
- Credit transfer is not a guarantee – you must do research!
- In order to be considered for college credit, students are required to take the AP Exam and score a 3 or above. (Every college sets its own policy about AP credit.)

Where do I get more information on AP?

- www.collegeboard.org
- Guidance Counselors
- AP[®] Teachers
- School Administration

Dual Enrollment

What is Dual Enrollment?

Dual enrollment is:

- a program that allows high school students to earn college credit while also earning a high school diploma;
- administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission;
- offered for students to enroll in a maximum 15 semester hours or twelve quarter hours per semester for 3 semesters or 4 quarters per year;
- a program that offers core classes, electives, academic and technical classes;
- available for students to attend full or part time; and
- available at Georgia public, private, and technical colleges.

** Dual Enrollment requirements are subject to change for the 2020-2021 school year.*

Who Is Eligible?



Any student enrolled in 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade at a public or private high school in Georgia



Any student enrolled in a home study program in the state of Georgia



Students must be enrolled in an eligible, participating school within the University System of Georgia, the Technical College System of Georgia, or a private college or universities

**** Dual Enrollment requirements are subject to change for the 2020-2021 school year.***

What Costs Are Covered?

- Tuition
- Mandatory fees
- Textbooks
- Some courses may have additional fees outside of mandatory college fees that may not be covered

Why Participate?

- ▶ Students are introduced to college level work
- Expanded course offerings
- Opportunities to explore potential careers
- Possible early college graduation and entry into the workforce
- A full high school credit is earned for a 3-hour college course
- Courses are weighted at .5 for the HOPE GPA
- No EOC or AP[®] exams

Studies show that students who participate in Dual Enrollment show an increased likelihood of:

- General academic achievement in high school
- Attendance
- College readiness
- College access and enrollment
- Credit accumulation
- College degree attainment

Considerations

- Courses are challenging and taught by college professors who may not know/care that a student is in high school
- Professors will **only** communicate with the student
- Because most courses are worth a full credit, grades are counting "double" for one semester – great for a good grade but harmful for a bad grade!
- Credit transfer is not a guarantee – you must do research!
- Competitive colleges may not consider Dual Enrollment as rigorous as AP[®] courses

Eligibility vs. Readiness

Look beyond GPA and standardized test scores!

A SUCCESSFUL DUAL ENROLLMENT STUDENT

- Is self-motivated (will communicate with the professor)
- Mature
- Organized
- Takes Initiative
- Responsible
- Has good time management skills
- Meets deadlines and avoids procrastination

CHALLENGES

- Disorganization
- Perfectionism
- Easily Overwhelmed
- Unassertiveness
- Unwilling to ask for help
- Over-reliance on parents
- Poor time management skills
- Procrastinator

High School vs College

High School

- Parents and teachers remind you of your responsibilities and priorities.
- Study time may be limited and last-minute.
- You seldom need to read anything more than once and sometimes listening in class is enough.
- Teachers approach you if they feel you need help.
- Teachers present the material and help you understand, often writing on board and/or providing notes.
- Teachers carefully monitor attendance.
- Testing is frequent and covers small amounts of material.
- Homework and/or extra credit assignments are offered to balance low test grades.

College

- Students must be responsible and set priorities.
- You need to study at least 2-3 hours outside of class for each hour in class.
- You need to review class notes and text material regularly; test preparation requires multiple reviews of all course material.
- Professors expect you to initiate contact if you need assistance.
- Professors may not follow a textbook but expect you to read and relate content. Professors may lecture nonstop and expect you to take relevant notes.
- Attendance may not be monitored.
- Testing is usually infrequent and cumulative.
- Grades on tests and major papers usually provide the course grade.

College Credits and Grades

How does that work?

- Students will be given a syllabus at the beginning of the semester – the expectation is to read it and to keep up with due dates and test dates. Keep an agenda or calendar.
- Independent reading and work at home is expected. There is more "outside of class" work.
- Attendance is important.
- Classes move at a faster pace.
- Students should be independent learners, self-starters and organized. They must advocate for themselves.
- There are no DE classes on Fridays, except labs for science courses.
- Professors do not communicate with parents. There are no parent/teacher conferences.
- Grades are not available on Infinite Campus. Grades are only available through the college's/university's learning management system. Parent/student communication is key.
- Students will receive communication from the college via email. They need to check their email, read the email, and follow through.

College Credits and Grades

How does that work?

1. The college/university issues the grades – NOT the high school.
2. The grades count for both high school AND college credit.
3. Most courses count as a full high school credit and are weighted courses.
4. These are college credits and begin a student's college transcript.
5. Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) at the college and be progressing towards on-time high school graduation.
6. Many colleges require a "C" or better for college credit and to progress to the next course. High schools will award credit for a "D".
7. Colleges provide letter grades and RCPS will convert to a numerical grade.
A=95 B=85 C=77 D=72 F=60
8. Colleges will be on a different academic calendar so start/end dates and schedule change and withdrawal dates WILL NOT align to the high school calendar and very likely will have consequences to student's schedule and grade.

2 Options for Dual Enrollment

OPTION A

Meet traditional high school graduation requirements through a combination of high school courses and Dual Enrollment courses for a minimum of 24 credits

OPTION B

- ▶ Meet high school graduation requirements by completing :
 - 9 high school course requirements (2 English, 2 Math, 2 Science, 2 Social Studies, PE/Health)
- ▶ AND
 - Any Associate degree OR
 - Any technical college diploma program OR
 - At least two technical college certificate of credit (TCC) programs in at least one specific career pathway
 - The TCSG will annually identify eligible programs of study

Technical Programs

OPTION A

Welding

- 2 TCC's can be completed in 1 year
- 6 Welding courses and technical English and math
- Requires a full day on B days at RCA

OPTION B

- Computer Programming
 - Manufacturing
 - Welding
- Computer Information Systems

Potential Dual Enrollment Courses offered in RCPS

- Advanced Composition
- American Literature
- Public Speaking
- College Algebra, Statistics, Precalculus, Calculus
- Economics
- American Government
- U.S. History
- Biology
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Psychology, Sociology

Dual Enrollment Technical Course Options

Offered at RCA:

- 911 Operator
 - Emergency Medical Technician
 - Welding
 - Fire
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Gafutures.org Your one-stop shop

All Dual
Enrollment
students must
create an account
on [gafutures.org](https://www.gafutures.org)



DUAL ENROLLMENT: [HTTPS://WWW.GAFUTURES.ORG/HOPE-STATE-AID-PROGRAMS/SCHOLARSHIPS-GRANTS/DUAL-ENROLLMENT/](https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/scholarships-grants/dual-enrollment/)



Participating colleges and universities:
https://www.gafutures.org/media/187999/dual-enrollment_eligible_institutions.pdf



Course directory:
https://apps.gsfc.org/securenextgen/dsp_accel_course_listing_s.cfm



Course Transfer
information: <https://www.gatracs.org/planning>

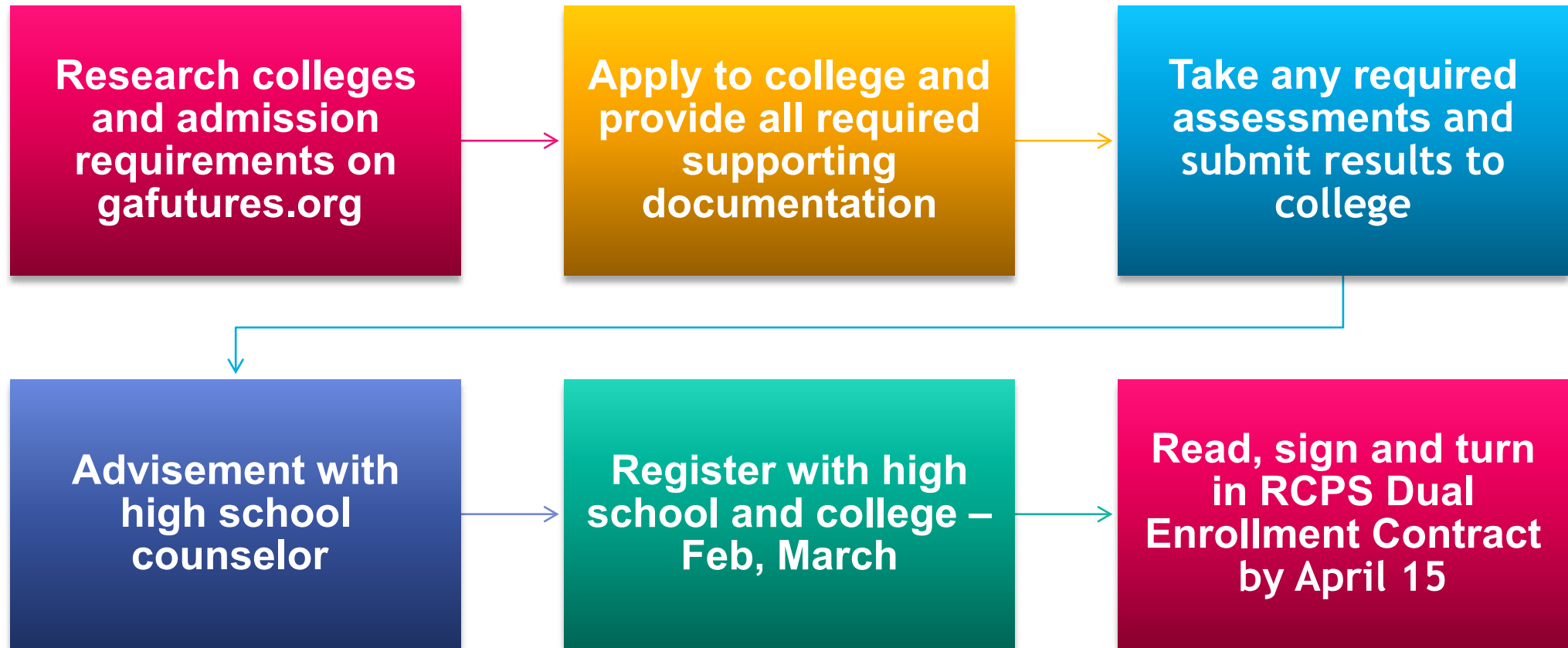


FAQ's: <https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/scholarships-grants/dual-enrollment/frequently-asked-questions/>



Your HOPE GPA

What is the Process to Register for Dual Enrollment Classes?



Documents for Dual Enrollment Participation

- 1) College application (very often online)
- 2) Any supplemental documents required by the college – i.e., high school transcript, test scores, immunization record
- 3) Dual Enrollment Funding Application – located on gafutures.org
- 4) Student Participation Agreement for the college
- 5) RCPS Dual Enrollment Contract

IMPORTANT NOTE

- Being "registered" into a Dual Enrollment class at RCA during the high school registration process is only an **unofficial placeholder** in that class. A student is not officially registered into the class until the student has been accepted and registered by the COLLEGE.
- It is the STUDENT'S responsibility to be accepted and registered at the college.

Dual Enrollment at RCA



- ▶ Georgia Piedmont Technical College
 - Open to 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students
 - 9th and 10th graders MUST take the Accuplacer and meet admission minimums
 - 11th and 12th graders can be admitted with a 2.6 HOPE GPA (located on gafutures.org), or acceptable PSAT, or SAT, or ACT or Accuplacer or >525 EOC 9th grade Lit to take English
 - Offers academic and technical courses at RCA
 - <https://www.gptc.edu/technical-education/high-school-students/>

**** Dual Enrollment requirements are subject to change for the 2020-2021 school year.***

Dual Enrollment at RCA



Point University

- Accepts 11th and 12th graders only
- Must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Offers academic classes at RCA
- <https://point.edu/admissions/apply/>

Dual Enrollment Online Option



Georgia Military College

- Accepts 10th -12th graders
- Requires a 2.5 cumulative GPA **and** Accuplacer or acceptable SAT or ACT scores
- Classes are taught online with support from GMC Milledgeville campus
- <https://www.gmc.edu/admissions/join-dual-enrollment.cms>

** Dual Enrollment requirements are subject to change for the 2020-2021 school year.*

Accuplacer for Dual Enrollment Admissions to Georgia Piedmont Technical College

- The Accuplacer is scheduled to be given:
 - Wednesday, January 29 @ RCA for RCHS students
 - Thursday, January 30 @ RCA for HHS students
 - Friday, January 31 @ RCA for SHS students
- Register in home high school counseling office
- Bus transportation provided
- Testing seats are on a "first-registered, first-tested" basis as seats are limited
- The Accuplacer is offered continuously at GPTC, Newton Campus, in the Testing Center

Important Information for IEP/504 Students

- **Are students with disabilities required to meet the admission criteria?**

Yes. Admission criteria and prerequisite courses are determined by the individual postsecondary institution.

- **Do accommodations listed in the student's IEP apply to college classes?**

No. Reasonable accommodations that allow equal access will be determined by the college.

Students as well as parents must understand that not all accommodations, services and/or supports available at high school will be deemed necessary at the college level.

- **How are accommodations secured for dual enrollment courses?**

The student must:

- Apply to the Office of Disability Services at the college to self-identify the disability.
- Request accommodations and provide necessary supporting documentation.
- Follow other required steps as identified by the postsecondary institution.
- The special education case manager should assist the student and family in this process as a transition service.

Important Information for IEP/504 Students

- ▶ **Does the IEP team make decisions about accommodations provided in the college classes?**
 - **No.** The IEP plays an important role in recommendations and documentation for requested accommodations but the decision rests with the receiving college.
- ▶ **How will compliance with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) be addressed in dual enrollment programs?**
 - Services will be covered by 504/ADA. IDEA requirement for a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) do not apply to the postsecondary level. Services described in the IEP would not be ensured with college course work completed through dual enrollment. The student would continue to receive accommodations, services and supports outlined in the IEP for all high school course work.

Important Information for IEP/504 Students

- **If a student requires interpreter services or text in alternate format, does the college provide the services or does the high school?**
 - The college is responsible for providing accommodations for the college class.
- **Is the student with a disability held to the same grade requirements as other students?**
 - **Yes.** Students with disabilities will be required to meet the same academic and behavioral standards.

A Few Final Notes about Dual Enrollment.....



- Dual Enrollment is an incredible opportunity, but does require the right fit between the student and the program.
- Your counselor is here to advise and support the Dual Enrollment participation process, but it is important to remember that the student will be an independent college student while still in high school and must meet the same expectations as an undergraduate student.
- It is the student's responsibility to troubleshoot on any issues with admissions, acceptance, textbooks, a missed quiz, etc.
- All courses taken through Dual Enrollment require the counselor's approval and signature on the Student Participation Agreement.
- Per federal law, college personnel cannot and will not communicate with parents regarding their child, regardless of the student's age or dependency status. All communication is done with the student.

AP vs Dual Enrollment - Similarities

- Both courses are weighted and will give students a GPA boost.
- Both are dual credit programs that allow you to earn high school AND college credit while in the high school setting.
- Both allow students the opportunity to access more rigorous course work while still in high school.
- Both show colleges that the student is taking advantage of rigorous curriculum and challenging him/herself.
- Teachers are experts in their field and offer high levels of academic instruction.
- Both look great on college applications.

AP vs Dual Enrollment - Differences

- AP® students do not get the college credit(s) automatically. AP® students must pass the AP® Exam in May with a minimum score (3, 4 or 5).
- With AP®, there is a cost associated with obtaining the college credit (\$94 per exam).
- AP® credits are recognized nationally, Dual Enrollment credits are not.
- Dual Enrollment credits are based on the scale of partner college.
- Dual Enrollment credit may not transfer to all colleges.
- Most Dual Enrollment courses are taken in one semester while AP® courses are year long.

AP vs Dual Enrollment

Advanced Placement

- Some colleges/universities prefer Advanced Placement to Dual Enrollment when making admissions decisions.
- You only receive college credit for an AP Class if you make the college's required score on the AP Exam.

Dual Enrollment

- You can get credit for classes in both high school and college if you pass the Dual Enrollment class.
- Many out-of-state colleges do not accept Dual Enrollment credits for transfer, but in-state public colleges are more likely to accept them.

How do I get more information?

High schools are offering information sessions:

- ❖ **Rockdale Magnet: January 16**
- ❖ **Heritage High School: March 12**
- ❖ **Salem High School: TBD**
- ❖ **Rockdale County High School: TBD**

Bottom Line –

Weigh all factors and make the best decision for your student!

Are Advanced Academic Classes
REALLY worth
the extra time, energy and effort?

ABSOLUTELY!



**Thank you for your interest in
Advanced Academics!**

Karen Hardy, College and Career Specialist

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