

Issue Date: January 29, 2024

Flexible Pathways Toolkit Talking Points

Dual Enrollment

Is this Flexible Pathway option the best choice? Below are prompting questions to be used with the [Vermont Flexible Pathways Tool](#) to assist in a conversation to determine if this pathway is the best fit. These sources do not represent an exhaustive list but are intended to provide a basis for discussion.

What is Dual Enrollment?

The state's Dual Enrollment Program (DEP) is a potential component of a student's flexible pathway toward secondary school completion and post-secondary continuation. DEP includes college courses offered by an accredited postsecondary institution, on campus, online, or on the campus of a secondary school. DEP offers eligible students the opportunity to experience college-level classes, take coursework not offered at their schools, and explore possible pathways to their postsecondary futures. Students who successfully complete a DEP course will earn college credit and can meet secondary proficiencies and graduation requirements. DEP college credits earned will be considered and accepted by most in-state colleges as transfer credits and considered when determining a student's eligibility for financial aid at that college. For more information on DEP please visit the [Vermont Dual Enrollment Website](#).

Why Dual Enrollment?

- Degree exploration/Career exploration
- Ready to explore subjects not offered in high school/classes of personal interest
- Increased rigor/academic challenge
- Better understanding of college expectations and the role of a college student
- Time and money savings
- Explore college campus/college environment/learn how to navigate college campus
- Interact with college professors, and students
- Learn college classroom management systems and online course platforms
- Access to college tutoring service/library/online resources/learning center
- Develop a college identity
- Diversity

Are you ready for Dual Enrollment?

- Dual Enrollment eligibility requirements met (page 6 [Dual Enrollment Program Manual](#))
- Social emotional reflection
 - Self-awareness - Demonstrates self-advocacy, self-motivated
 - Social awareness – Understanding social and ethical norms
 - Self-management – Critical thinking, problem solving
 - Responsible decision making – Time management
 - Relationship skills – Communication, networking
 - Learning environment aligns with learning style
- Academic Reflection
 - How does this experience meet performance indicators necessary for graduation
 - Academic content area
 - Transferable skill
 - Prerequisite course(s) completed

- Course aligns with learning goals in PLP
- Attendance record
- The IEP team or the 504 team approves
 - Updated IEP/504 documents
 - Become familiar with accommodations/modifications available
- Accuplacer/WorkKey Scores in the specified approved range for the subject and institution
- Completed CCV's Introduction to College and Careers
- Demonstrates skills in:
 - Technology
 - Essay writing
 - Mathematical formula
 - Scientific method

Do you have?

- Family or caregiver, community, and college support outside of secondary school
- Transportation if needed
- Financial support for textbooks, lab fees, materials fees, and any other costs (for some courses these costs can be substantial). Students could be eligible for a need-based (income contingent) stipend, ask your school counselor for more information
- Adequate technology and internet access
- Time built into school schedule to work on course

Have you?

- Scheduled a college orientation
- Spoke with your guardians, School Counselor, and College Advisor
- Located online or in-person college resources
- Researched fees associated with class
- Talked to your schools IT Department to see if your technology will support the colleges platform (i.e., Chromebooks not always compatible)

Have you thought about?

- Time management tools you will use to balance a DEP opportunity with a sports/club activity and meeting other obligations at home and/or at an outside job

Did you know?

- You may have to attend college when your high school is on break
- There will be approximately 10 hours of work each week for a 3-4 credit course
- Some courses may only be offered in person or only online
- Students are responsible for the grade received and it will appear on official college and high school transcripts
- If you don't pass a course, it could mean that you lack the requirements for high school graduation
- Failing college grades could cause future financial aid ramifications
- DEP students are held to the same grading standards and assessments (e.g., papers, portfolios, quizzes, labs, etc.) as post-secondary students enrolled in that college level course