



AP/Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment: What's the Difference?

Knowing the difference between Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, and Dual Enrollment courses will assist you in planning for both high school and college courses.

	Advanced Placement (AP)	Dual Credit (DC)	Dual Enrollment (UT On Ramps Program)
Description	The AP Program allows students to take college-level courses and the related AP exam, to potentially earn college credit while still in high school.	Dual Credit allows students to simultaneously earn high school and college credit by successfully completing Austin Community College (ACC) courses.	Dual Enrollment allows students to earn high school, and potentially earn college credit while still in high school, by taking courses designed by the University of Texas and completing a specialized, college-level curriculum.
College Credit	College credit is granted when students pass the AP exam. Individual colleges and universities, not the College Board nor the AP program, grant college course credit and placement.	College credit is awarded when the student passes the course.	Students receive weighted high school credit when they successfully complete the course. Students also receive college credit if they qualify for and pass the college portion of the course.
Teachers/Instructors	Courses are taught by high school teachers using a curriculum approved by The College Board.	Taught by ACC instructors and/or high school teachers who serve as adjunct professors with ACC	Taught by high school teachers in collaboration with University of Texas faculty
College/University Acceptance	Accepted throughout the nation. Requires a score of 3 or higher on AP exam in TX. Contact individual college/university for their AP policy.	Accepted at public colleges and universities in Texas, and many private institutions. Check with individual college/university for academic requirements.	Guaranteed to be accepted at any public university in Texas. Accepted at most private universities. Check with individual college/university for academic requirements.
Location	AP courses are taught on the HS campus	Some dual credit courses are taught on the HS campus. Students also take dual credit courses on ACC campuses	UT OnRamps Dual Enrollment courses are taught on the HS Campus.
Eligibility	Open to any student. Students are expected to have the skills and knowledge from prior Pre-AP courses, and be motivated to work outside the school day on college level material.	Students must qualify by taking the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) test, or by having an STAAR EOC waiver. The TSI test is offered free of charge in the district, or for a fee at ACC campuses work outside the district.	Open to students who show high achievement, but who wish to experience a college-level course, and are motivated to work outside of the school day on college level material. Most courses may require TSI scores to qualify for college credit in the Spring.
Cost	AP courses are free. There is a fee for the corresponding AP exams. This fee is reduced for students who qualify for the free/reduced meal program.	Up to 12 Dual Credit courses at ACC campuses are <i>currently</i> free with a tuition waiver, providing the student is meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). After 12 waivers, student pay for tuition.	UT <i>OnRamps</i> Dual Enrollment courses are <i>currently</i> free.
Textbooks	Provided by the school	Textbook purchase required	Provided by the school.