

Advanced Placement or Dual Credit– Which One is Right for Me?



Advanced Placement

Organization

Advanced Placement (AP) is a national program created by CollegeBoard.

Description

To earn college credit, students are required to earn a score of 3 or higher (on a scale of 5) on AP Exams.

However, colleges dictate the minimum AP score acceptable for credit at their institution and the specific course credit awarded for the tests taken. Students may begin taking AP courses as early as 10th grade, but the majority of courses are available in 11th and 12th grades. The student cost for an AP class is limited to the cost of the exam (<\$95, unless waived).

Transfer

Exam scores of 4 or 5 are readily accepted at most institutions public and private. Exam scores of 3 may be accepted by some colleges, depending on programs.

Enrollment Requirements

Students must meet and maintain district requirements for Advanced Placement courses. Prerequisites exist for many courses.

Grade Point Average

Pre-AP and AP courses carry an enhanced 1.0 weight for the purposes of calculating high school rank and Grade Point Average (GPA).

Future Opportunities

While MISD works primarily through CollegeBoard, other opportunities may exist in the future to expand student choice for college course work.

AP or DC

Enrolling in college credit courses builds strong academic skills, GPA's, and college applications. College credit courses in high school can also save student's money in college! There are two main options to earn college credit in high school.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program, allows students to take college level courses and exams to earn college credit or placement while still in high school. Students must make a certain score on the AP test to receive any college credit, and how much credit is given is determined by the score.

Dual credit offers high school students the opportunity to earn both high school and college credit for the same class. Unlike the AP system, dual credit does not require an exam to be awarded the college credit, but students must pass the class with a C or higher.

AP and DC

Many Midland ISD college courses are combined AP and DC. Students may take the course dual credit by enrolling through the college or to take the course AP by challenging the test in May. Combined AP/DC courses carry an enhanced 1.0 weight for the purposes of calculating high school rank and Grade Point Average (GPA).

Dual Credit

Organization

The MISD Dual Credit Program is in partnership with Midland College.

Description

Students enroll in a specific college credit course that also earns a high school credit towards graduation. The grade earned in the course awards credit. The student's grade is recorded on their high school transcript and their Midland College transcript, earning college credit that will transfer to future institutions. Students may begin taking Dual Credit as early as 9th grade, but the majority of courses are available in 11th and 12th grades. The cost is \$64 per credit hour and the with the addition of textbooks if the course is taken at the college campus.

Transfer

Most In-State and Out-of-State public and private institutions currently accept Dual Credit. Some exclusive private institutions may not accept Dual Credit. Generally, all "core" credits are transferrable in *some manner* within the State of Texas.

Enrollment Requirements

Students must meet college readiness measures for the Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA) in most cases. Prerequisites exist for many courses.

Grade Point Average

Pure Dual Credit courses are counted as Core (not Enhanced) for the purposes of calculating high school rank and Grade Point Average (GPA).

Future Opportunities

While MISD partners primarily with MC for dual, other opportunities may exist in the future to expand student choice for college programming.