

Tips for Students:

How can I use my Dual Credit experience to prepare for college?

Beyond Earning Credits

Dual Credit can prepare you for college!

Dual Credit is an excellent opportunity for you to prepare for future success. College coursework will be more difficult than what you have experienced in high school. It's like switching from playing checkers to chess. The board looks the same, but the rules and strategies are more difficult to master. College success requires determination and grit. Here are a few tips to help you succeed:

Understand FERPA

The Federal Education Records Privacy Act (FERPA) applies to all college students regardless of age. When you participate in Dual Credit, you own your academic record. If you need help with a situation, you need to be part of the conversation. Your parents are welcome to be with you but they won't be able to get information without you present.

Know Your College ID

Memorize it. Your SPC ID is used to access everything at SPC.

Think About the Future

Start thinking about a career path and choose courses that apply toward your goal.

Check your SPC Email Account

SPC sends official communication through this account. Get in the habit of checking it often.

Ask For Help! Get To Know The People Who Can Help You.

We want you to be successful but you have to put in the work. If you need help, seek out a teacher, counselor, or your SPC advisor. Don't wait until the problem is too big.

Maintain Balance

Choose courses carefully and keep your grades up. Build your schedule to allow for homework and extracurricular commitments. Academics and social development can both lead to scholarships.

Develop Good Study Habits and Time Management Skills

Use a calendar and stay organized. Prioritize your time. Review your coursework and notes every day!

Understand How Your Courses Apply to a College Degree

Take classes for a reason. Many Dual Credit courses fulfill general education requirements that can be used for any degree you choose. Other courses are elective credits that are degree specific. Don't take more than one course in a category unless you have genuine interest and/or know how it applies to a degree. If you're not sure what that means, talk to your high school counselor or Dual Credit advisor.

Work on Your Communication Skills

Employers want people with "soft skills". Talk to your teachers, professors and counselors. Learning how to speak to and relate to others is very important. These skills lead to success in real life!



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