Dual Enrollment

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. I’m interested in Dual Enrollment, what’s my first step?
* It is mandatory that any student attend an information/orientation session prior to participating in Dual Enrollment. Due to COVID-19, this requirement is WAIVED for Fall 2020 applications, but will be back in place for students wishing to participate in Spring 2021. Even if a student and/or parent does NOT attend a meeting, they are BOTH still responsible for ALL information concerning Dual Enrollment.
1. Where can I find more information about Dual Enrollment at PRHS?
* All of the information specific to Dual Enrollment at PRHS can be found on the PRHS website. To find this, go to the PRHS main page. Click on the DIRECTORY, then click on COUNSELING and then COUNSELING INFORMATION. Finally, scroll down to the DUAL ENROLLMENT link. You will see a wealth of information including forms required to participate, the steps necessary to participate, and resources to help you understand more about Dual Enrollment. The GEORGIA FUTURES website, [www.GAfutures.org](http://www.GAfutures.org) has a LOT of information for students and parents to learn more about the program.
1. Who can participate in the Dual Enrollment program for the 20-21 school year?
* Due to the passing of HB 444, the Dual Enrollment Act, only 11th and 12th grade students may take CORE coursework at one of the participating institutions. In some cases, 10th grade students may take core coursework if they meet rigorous eligibility requirements, but all 10th grade students may participate in courses that are CTAE aligned courses. 9th grade students are INELIGIBLE for DE funding at this time.
1. Where can I participate in Dual Enrollment through Peachtree Ridge?
* Students at PRHS can participate in Dual Enrollment through any approved participating GEORGIA institution. A list of participating institutions can be found on the GA Futures website, but the vast majority of our students are attending either Gwinnett Technical College, Georgia Gwinnett College, as well as a much smaller group at Georgia State University.
1. Do I have to attend Dual Enrollment FULL TIME to participate?
* No, one of the beautiful things about Dual Enrollment is the flexibility. Students may take one class, two classes, or attend classes at the college up to 15 hours per semester. There are MINIMUM requirements at PRHS for the TOTAL number of classes between PRHS and the college—this is a minimum of 3. A large majority of students attend PART-TIME, taking one or two classes at the Ridge and then take an equivalent number at the college. Again, this can be arranged any way that works for the student and normally the Dual Enrollment Coordinator can work the PRHS schedule around the college schedule, but this is NOT guaranteed and only done AFTER the student has registered for coursework at the college.
1. Is participation in Dual Enrollment really at no cost to the student?
* In general, YES. Dual Enrollment funding covers BOOKS and TUITION. There are some fees, however, that are not covered like LAB fees, transportation, and program fees that may be charged by local post-secondary institutions. The current Dual Enrollment Act (HB 444) provides funding up to 30 hours for each student. After those 30 hours, DE funding will NO LONGER be provided to the student.
1. Which college or post-secondary institution is right for me?
* In general, students can go to any school for which they meet graduation requirements. The majority of our students attend Gwinnett Technical College which is a two year school. The entry requirements are less rigorous (no SAT or ACT score required, can use Accu-Placer or PSAT). They offer a wide range of programs that 4 year schools do not offer in terms of career oriented pathways. Georgia Gwinnett College is a four-year school with more rigorous entry requirements including a GPA requirement, SAT or ACT requirement, and a transcript—most of the 4 year colleges will require the same. GGC and other 4 year colleges do offer FOREIGN LANGUAGES which are NOT offered at any technical colleges, like GGC. Ultimately, your best decision is made by reviewing the requirements for ALL the schools and determining which one suits you best. Your DE coordinator can help you with that decision as well.
1. Can I start at one college and then change to another college later?
* Absolutely, you can switch each semester if you like or even attend BOTH schools at one time. Generally, students might start out at GTC, but then transfer to GGC as they become more comfortable with college coursework.
1. How do I know what courses I should take at the college?
* Each student should have an advisement appointment with the Dual Enrollment Coordinator prior to registering. During the appointment (email or virtual session can work, too), the DE Coordinator will review graduation requirements and provide options for courses that can be taken to meet PRHS graduation requirements.
1. Can I graduate early by participating in Dual Enrollment?
* No. Currently, PRHS does not allow students to graduate early using DE just as we do not allow early graduation with our block schedule.
1. Does PRHS provide transportation to the Dual Enrollment schools?
* No, the student is responsible for all transportation to the colleges and cannot arrange rides via other students who may be participating. In some cases, friends do work their schedules together (and sometimes the same classes) so that the burden of transportation is eased when they are able to coordinate.
1. Does PRHS register me for classes?
* No, the student is responsible for registering for classes. Each college has its own registration process and it will be communicated to you via email after you are accepted at the school. PRHS will certainly advise you on which courses you should take, but ultimately you are responsible for registering for the correct classes and arranging your schedule to coordinate with any classes you are taking at the Ridge . Again, your DE coordinator will help with the PRHS schedule AFTER you register for classes and will APPROVE/DENY classes to ensure that graduation requirements are being met.
1. What happens if I start a class and then decide to drop it?
* The colleges will allow DE students to withdraw without penalty up to midterm, however, keep in mind that withdrawals can prevent you from participating further in Dual Enrollment. The current bill provides only TWO funded withdrawals for the entire 30 hours. PRHS policy is that NO STUDENT can withdraw without penalty, meaning that we will enroll the student here in a similar course even if the withdrawal is allowed at the college.
1. Can I retake a course at the college that I didn’t make a good grade in?
* Yes, you can. For example, if you took Chemistry at PRHS and didn’t like your grade, you could take a Chemistry course in college and receive a higher grade (both grades will, however, be on your transcript. They are NOT replaced). You cannot, however, retake the same course at the college that you have previously taken at the college level. For example, if you took ENGL 1101 and made an F, you cannot take and be funded for the same course again at the college according to current DE requirements from the Dual Enrollment Act.
1. How do Dual Enrollment courses affect the high school and HOPE GPA?
* The high school will assigned the midpoint of the letter grade received from the school. For example, if a student earns an A in the course at the college, the student would receive the midpoint of an A on their HIGH SCHOOL transcript which is a 95. No points are added to a DE course taken at the college. (The Georgia Tech Calculus class is the only exception to the rule). In rare instances and upon official receipt from a college, the Dual Enrollment Coordinator will be provided a numerical grade from the college and this number will be entered.
* In terms of HOPE, DE courses are considering RIGOR and as such, 0.5 points are added to the 4.0 scale with a maximum of 4.0. So, for example, if a student earned a B on the college transcript in MATH 1111, the student would have a 3.5 on the HOPE transcript for that course (the 0.5 added to the normal 3.0). This is similar to what happens with AP coursework and HOPE.
1. Is participating in Dual Enrollment and taking AP coursework the same thing?
* No, not at all. While students may receive COLLEGE credit for an AP course exam where they have received a score of 3 or better (in most schools), most colleges do NOT consider the level of rigor of a college course to the same as that of an AP course. PRHS strongly encourages students who are considering competitive schools to continue with AP courses and potentially balance the AP coursework with some DE course work. Students should ALWAYS check in with the school they wish to attend after graduation to determine whether AP coursework or DE coursework is a preferred pathway.
1. Can I still participate in school activities as Dual Enrollment student?
* Yes, of course, you are DUALLY enrolled so you get the best of both worlds. You are welcome to participate in ALL clubs, activities, athletics, and events even as a DE student. You are NOT eligible for athletics on the College level, however, but may participate in activities and intramurals that are offered on college campuses.
1. What about GHSAA (athletic eligibility) for Dual Enrollment students?
* In general, the DE coordinators refer all issues of athletic eligibility to the coaches and Athletic Director for the school. The same rules apply for DE students that apply to regular students---they must be enrolled and pass at least 2.5 units of credit each semester—that’s about 3 courses. Students who are only taking 3 courses at the college and fail one, may find that they are no longer athletic eligible. Again, refer to the coach of your sport.
1. What about information that I would normally get in PRIDE, how do I keep up with that?
* Student who are FULL TIME or who are not here during 1st and/or 2nd block are assigned to a DE pride. This way, students participating in DE are NOT marked absent for not attending PRIDE. Information given to PRIDES for distribution will be the responsibility of the student—they can email the DE Coordinator or the sponsor of the activity. They can also stop by the DE coordinator’s office and get the information. In some cases, the DE coordinator will provide this information to student virtually.
1. Can I be on campus if I don’t have a class at PRHS?
* After school, you are welcome to be on campus for afterschool activities. If you are NOT in scheduled class for one of the four blocks, you should NOT be on campus during that time regardless of whether you have a college class. Many students have college classes on two days a week, but that does not mean you can be on campus during that time on the days you don’t have class. Bottom line, you should ONLY be on campus during the times that you have a SCHEDULED class and are supervised by a teacher, coach, or sponsor. This is a liability issue and will be enforced.
1. Can I participate in Dual Enrollment and take do Maxwell or Grayson programs?
* Yes, absolutely, students are allowed to do either of these programs and take Dual Enrollment courses at the college.
1. I’ve attended a meeting, read the FAQ’s, have all my questions answered and am ready to go, what’s the next steps?
* Email your DE Coordinator, Ms. Chrissie Bolt (chrissie.bolt@gcpsk12.org) or stop by her office (E100) and let her know of your interest in participating in DE. Include your plans for Dual Enrollment, where you plan to go, full time/part-time, and what you’d like to take. Make sure that you have included your contact information sheet with the email so she can create a DE file for you, then start working on the steps for enrolled in a DE college on the Dual Enrollment webpage.