

Information for Families

Starting college is an important opportunity for your child!

Parents, did you know that your son or daughter can earn college credit while attending high school. Students who qualify for the NMSU Grants Dual Credit Program simultaneously earn college and high school elective credit. Through this program, some students have been able to also earn NMSU degrees and certificates. Dual Credit opens the door to college and beyond, best of all it is FREE! Encourage your son or daughter to explore this opportunity.

Dual Credit Benefits include:

- Can ease the transition from high school to college by giving students first hand exposure to college-level work, while gaining skills and building confidence.
- Enrich your child's education by exploring programs not available at their high school.
- No tuition or registration fees. Classes are free except for course fees (student responsibility) and your high school pays for textbooks.
- Some dual credit courses will seamlessly transfer to NMSU and other state schools.
- Students have access to all NMSU Grants Student Services including computer labs, libraries, and tutoring services while enrolled in the program.
- The Dual Credit program meets the high school graduation requirement that states all students must take at least one Dual Credit, Distance Learning, Advanced Placement or Honors course.

Important Information:

Dual Credit Success:

Success in the Dual Credit program will require motivation, self-discipline, and good study skills. High School students will need the maturity and initiative to attend class and participate at the same level as regular college students, understanding completely that the grades earned in their dual credit course(s) will be a permanent part of their academic record at both high school and college. Please discuss these important qualities with your child and encourage them to reach out to the many academic resources (found on the resources for you page) available to them on our campuses.

Things to Consider:

- Students must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA or better in their NMSU Grants courses to continue in the Dual Credit Program.

- Most single college courses are equal to 3 credit hours. For every 3 credit course at NMSU Grants, students will accumulate 1 high school elective credit.
- Grades earned through dual credit enrollment are **part of a student's permanent academic record**, at both their high school and NMSU.
- Dual Credit students are admitted as Non-Degree and are not eligible for financial aid.
- If a student does not pass a course, or receives a "W" for withdrawing from a course – it WILL affect the student's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and will impact future financial aid eligibility.
- Dual Credit students are not responsible to pay for tuition and general fees, BUT in some cases, certain courses carry a course specific fee or an online course fee. **These fees will be the student's responsibility.**
- Participating in the Dual Credit Program does not impact Lottery Scholarship eligibility.
- Dual Credit students may not audit a course.
- NMSU Grants Student Services will have final discretion to approve/disapprove eligibility of all students for admission and/or enrollment in courses for dual credit.

Confidentiality:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, also known as FERPA, governs the confidentiality of student records. FERPA applies to all admitted students at the New Mexico State University. Therefore, parents do not have access to their dual credit student's educational records without the student's written consent. Written consent may be obtained by completing a [Release of Information for Dual Credit Form](#).

For more information about NMSU Grants' dual credit program, contact your high school counselor.

For more information about NMSU Grants' academic programs or student services, please contact our campus at 505-287-6678.