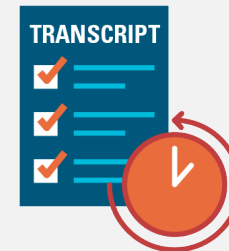




# POSTSECONDARY ACCELERATION

## College Acceleration

*Provide and incentivize a range of options for learners to earn college credit while in high school. Ensure that all learners have access and financial support to accelerate their journey to a postsecondary credential.*



### Florida

Florida offers a robust set of college acceleration opportunities—such as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, dual enrollment, Advanced International Certificate of Education and industry certification—including statewide articulation, accountability and funding.

Florida has statewide articulation agreements for the acceptance of credits for both Florida College System institutions and state universities. The Department of Education is required to annually publish minimum scores, credit limits and the specific courses for which credit is to be awarded by exam for students participating in acceleration mechanisms. Florida provides both weighted and incentive funding for college acceleration programs. Districts can receive additional weighted full-time equivalent membership funds and incentive funds for both the district and teachers for students who earn qualifying scores.

In addition, each district school board must have a three-year strategic plan addressing, among other things, middle and high school career and professional academies or career-themed courses leading to industry certification or postsecondary credit, as well as opportunities for high school students to earn weighted or dual enrollment credit for higher-level CTE courses.

### OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN

Florida can provide for multiple measures for qualifying for college acceleration opportunities. The state can also expand data collection and report outcomes on college acceleration options and equity in enrollment and success, specifically focused on local program- and school-level data. These data can be shared with the program and school to help with improvements and best practices. While Florida has incentive funding for college acceleration, the state can tie incentive funding to success in courses that align to high-demand, high-skill, high-wage fields.

### RESOURCES

- [High School Acceleration Programs](#)
- [Guidance on Common Placement Tests for Dual Enrollment Eligibility](#)

### POLICIES

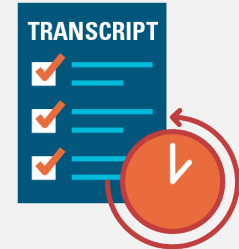
- [FL Statutes 1003.493](#). Career and Professional Academies and Career-Themed Courses
- [FL Statutes 1007.27](#). Articulated Acceleration Mechanisms
- [FL Statutes 1008.30](#). Common Placement Testing for Public Postsecondary Education
- [FL Statutes 1003.491](#). Florida Career and Professional Education Act
- [FL Statutes 1011.62](#). Funds for Operations of Schools



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## College Acceleration

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### Georgia

Georgia has many college acceleration options, but its most prominent is dual enrollment. Students in grades 9–12 may enroll on a part-time or full-time basis and take college courses at their high school or on a postsecondary campus.

From 2013 to 2017 Georgia experienced a 200 percent increase in students participating in dual enrollment. This rapid increase led to HB 444 being revised in 2020 to ensure adequate funding for the program. There is now a funding cap of 30 semester or 45 quarter hours, and course categories such as fine arts, physical education and health are no longer eligible for dual enrollment funding.

Georgia's dual enrollment expansion shows the potential and appetite for dual enrollment when fully funded by the state, but it also shows the importance of considering elements such as cost sharing between K–12 and postsecondary, having a portfolio of college acceleration options, and promoting eligible courses that articulate to college degree programs or are aligned with workforce demand and economic mobility.

### OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN

Georgia can require all high schools to offer a minimum number of college credit hours through a variety of college acceleration programs, such as Advanced Placement (AP), dual credit, etc. Such a requirement would prevent schools and districts from de-prioritizing dual credit and other acceleration options (AP, International Baccalaureate, Cambridge, early college high schools) and ensure more Georgia students have access to these opportunities. Additionally, Georgia should provide multiple measures of course enrollment eligibility, beyond a minimum eligibility score on the ACT or SAT, to increase student equity in access and attainment.

### RESOURCES

- [Georgia Department of Education Dual Enrollment Program](#)
- [Georgia Student Finance Commission Dual Enrollment](#)
- [Georgia Dual Enrollment and Postsecondary Outcomes](#)

### POLICIES

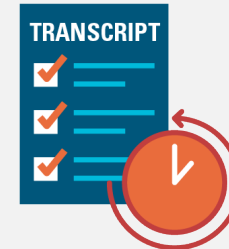
- [O.C.G.A. 20-2-161.3](#). Dual Enrollment Act
- [GA State Board of Education Rule 160-4-2-.34](#). Dual Enrollment
- [GA Administrative Code Rules of the Georgia Department of Education Subject 160-4-8-.01](#). Student Support
- [HB 444](#). Move on When Ready and Dual Credit Act



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## North Carolina

Career and College Promise (SL 2011-145/HB 200) is North Carolina's dual enrollment program for high school students. This program allows eligible high school students to enroll in college classes at North Carolina community colleges and universities. Students who successfully complete college courses earn college credit and in many cases can also earn high school credit. Students can choose between the college transfer pathway (designed to continue on to an associate or bachelor's degree) or CTE pathway (designed to begin a certification or diploma program in a particular technical field or career area).

In 2018 North Carolina passed HB 986, which requires that all students who score a level five (the highest level) on their end-of-year assessments in math to be automatically placed in advanced math the following year. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) estimates that in the next year 10,000 students were given access to advanced courses who otherwise would not have had access. Previously North Carolina had implemented Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge and CTE credential bonuses, but for 2019–20 the funds were repurposed to provide bonuses for all teachers. Additionally, North Carolina was the first state to offer the Microsoft IT Academy program in high schools statewide.

North Carolina has early colleges, often located on the campus of a university or community college, where students simultaneously work toward completion of both the high school diploma and an associate degree, transferable credit or a certificate.

The University of North Carolina (UNC) System has created a policy on awarding undergraduate credit on the basis of AP exam scores. All UNC System schools accept an agreed-upon score for AP, IB, Cambridge Advanced International Certificate and A Level examination scores.

### OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN

North Carolina can continue to strengthen its data collection and reporting of outcomes for all its college acceleration options disaggregated by demographics such as race, socioeconomic status, language and region. This can help target any issues of access and equity that may exist across the state.

### RESOURCES

- [DPI Career and College Promise Program](#)
- [Advanced Coursework](#)
- [North Carolina Community College System Career and College Promise Program](#)
- [Increasing Access to Advanced Math Coursework in North Carolina](#)

### POLICIES

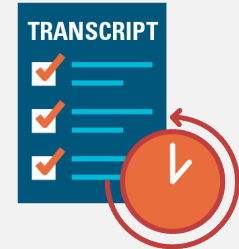
- [SL 2017-57, SB 257](#). Advanced Coursework
- [SL 2011-145, HB 200](#). Career and College Promise Program
- [UNC Policy 700.10.1](#). Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of AP Exam Scores



# POSTSECONDARY ACCELERATION

## College Acceleration

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### Texas

Texas has a long history of policies promoting college acceleration that include dual credit, Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate incentives, early college high school, P-TECH, New Tech and industry certifications. For instance, all Texas high schools are required to offer at least 12 hours of dual credit courses to students, and many school districts make these offerings available to students at no cost to them or their families. Texas also boasts the largest number of early college high schools among states across the nation.

Of recent note, Texas passed HB 3 in 2019, which further incentivizes college, career and military readiness. It establishes an outcomes bonus to schools for each graduate above a certain threshold for readiness (measured in a number of ways). The bonus amounts are tiered with economically disadvantaged students at \$5,000 each, nondisadvantaged at \$3,000 each and special education at \$2,000 each.

### OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN

Texas can regularly collect data and report outcomes related to all of its college acceleration options. Given the size and scope of offerings, the state can provide policymakers, families and students a clear understanding of the return on investment associated with the various options. To support equity, Texas can implement an automatic enrollment policy—for example, all students who score the highest level on the end-of-course assessment in math are automatically enrolled in AP Math. The policy can also consider how to expand multiple measures of eligibility.

### RESOURCES

- [Texas College and Career Readiness School Models](#)
- [Texas Advanced Academics Programs](#)
- [HB 3 Reimbursements](#)

### POLICIES

N/A