

Dual Enrollment, Rule

The Background:

One of the options for students to earn both high school and post-secondary credit is for those students to enroll in college level courses conducted at the post-secondary institutions. However, this option is currently limited to 11th and 12th grade students. The language in the rule also does not contemplate students enrolling in courses through online programs, such as the Tennessee Online Regents Degree program.

In 2007, the State legislature obliged the State's elementary, secondary and post-secondary education governing bodies to establish a consortium to oversee innovative education programs jointly established by secondary and post-secondary institutions (2007 Public Chapter 459).

The current rule limits local education agencies collaborating with post-secondary institutions that may want to develop programs that have high school students in 9th and 10th grade participate in such programs (e.g., "middle college high schools"). In this way, the rule conflicts with the statute.

In order to eliminate this conflict, the rule is revised to state that students enrolled in high school may enroll in college level courses conducted by the post-secondary institution whether on campus or provided online by the post-secondary institution.

The Master Plan Connection:

This item supports rigorous, relevant curriculum and sufficient resources by creating room for innovative partnerships between secondary and post-secondary institutions that have the potential to dramatically increase the percentage of Tennessee students leaving high school with post-secondary credit, ready for success in further post-secondary education and workforce training.

The Recommendation:

SBE staff recommends adoption of the revision on final reading.

Dual Enrollment Rule

Rule 0520-01-03-.06(5) Enrollment In College Level Courses Paragraph (5) is amended by deleting the present language of subparagraph (b) in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

(b) Option #2.

1. A qualified student enrolled in high school may enroll in college level courses which are conducted by an institution of higher education or courses provided online by the post-secondary institution. The student may receive high school credit for participating in such courses in accordance with the policy of the local board of education. State funds to the local school system shall not be diminished because of the student's participation.