
Statewide Dual Credit Agriculture Courses

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-1-302(a)(8) authorizes the State Board of Education to “set policies governing all curricula and courses of study in the public schools.” Additionally, Public Chapter 967 established a protocol for creating, piloting, and implementing statewide dual credit courses.

This item presents two new courses within the Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources career cluster through the Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) program. The proposed new courses within this career cluster are directly aligned to postsecondary courses and provide high school students the opportunity to sit for a challenge exam to earn postsecondary credit at any public institution in the state with an agriculture program.

The proposed new courses in this item include:

- Statewide Dual Credit: Introduction to Plant Science
- Statewide Dual Credit: Introduction to Agriculture Business

These courses are the first to go through the entire three-year development and pilot cycle established under PC 967. Tennessee high school and college faculty worked together to develop the learning objectives and challenge exam for each course. During the initial pilot phase, all courses undergo a validation process to ensure the learning objectives and challenge exam questions meet current postsecondary expectations across the state.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.