



# Dual Credit Partnership Agreement

## August 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026

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### **I. Parties**

This Dual Credit Partnership Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into between McLennan Community College ("MCC") and a homeschool entity (referred to hereafter as "High School") and is designed to allow students from the High School to earn dual high school and college credit by enrolling in MCC credit courses.

### **II. Purpose and Background**

In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), MCC offers regular college credit courses in Core Curriculum, Foreign Language, and Career and Technology for dual credit high school students. If the High School approves these college courses for dual credit, high school students meeting MCC admission requirements can enroll in these courses and receive college and high school credit simultaneously.

In order to ensure the quality of dual credit courses and to facilitate communication and understanding between the High School and MCC, the following provisions are agreed to by MCC and the High School where dual credit courses are offered.

### **III. Statewide Goals for Dual Credit**

Pursuant to Texas House Bill 1638 (85<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 2017), MCC and the HIGH SCHOOL set forth the following goals for dual credit programs in Texas, as prescribed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

1. GOAL 1: Create collaborative outreach efforts.
  - a. The MCC dual credit program will collaborate with the High School to provide information sessions for parents, students, and high school counselors addressing the potential benefits, risks, and costs of dual credit.
  - b. MCC will provide online information regarding the dual credit program, including contact information, eligibility requirements, the enrollment process, cost data, and potential benefits/risks of dual credit coursework.
  - c. MCC recruiters will collaborate with the High School to provide additional assistance to students and families seeking information or assistance with enrolling at MCC.
2. GOAL 2: Improve transition to and acceleration through postsecondary education.
  - a. The MCC dual credit program requires all new dual credit students to complete an online orientation to facilitate the transition to college coursework.
  - b. The dual credit program will collaborate with the High School to provide in-person or video conference orientation sessions upon request.
  - c. The program has identified a Transfer Block of courses that transfer well to Texas public colleges to encourage selection of courses that will apply to a four-year degree.

- d. Dual credit students will be advised by MCC to enroll only in courses applicable to their selected degree plan.
3. GOAL 3: Provide college advising and student support services to promote success.
    - a. The MCC dual credit program requires all students who select courses outside of the Transfer Block, who plan to attend a private or out-of-state institution, or who have goals other than an AA, AS, or bachelor's degree to meet with a college transfer advisor each semester prior to registration.
    - b. All dual credit students will have access to drop-in college advising via regularly scheduled Zoom sessions, email, or by visiting the Dual Credit offices located on the first floor of the Michaelis Academic Center.
    - c. All support services at MCC are available to dual credit students. Note that the College provides online and in-person tutoring, library instruction, and success coaching to promote student success.
    - d. MCC and the High School will collaborate to encourage dual credit students to make use of support services available at the College.
  4. GOAL 4: Ensure quality and rigor of dual credit courses.
    - a. MCC is committed to quality and rigor in its dual credit courses. As required by the THECB and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the quality and rigor of dual credit courses shall be the same as courses taught at the college campus.
    - b. Dual credit faculty, including faculty hired from the High School, will meet the credentialing standards set by the THECB and SACSCOC.
    - c. Oversight of dual credit faculty and course content will occur according to the same standards and processes employed on the MCC campus.
  5. TOOLS: Identify tools to assist students and families with selecting endorsements and dual credit courses as well as navigating the college process.
    - a. MCC will provide degree guides through the online [Student Planning](#) program as well as dual credit specific guides via the [High School Programs website](#).
    - b. The THECB provides the following tools.
      - 1) [College for All Texans](#)
      - 2) [Exploring College Options](#)
    - c. The TEA has made the following tools available to the public.
      - 1) [Graduation Toolkit](#)
      - 2) [CTE Pathways](#)
    - d. The Texas Workforce Commission provides tools to assist with career selection and education planning at <https://twc.texas.gov/students>.

Metrics associated with the state dual credit goals, such as students' future college enrollment and success, will be tracked by MCC's Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness.

#### IV. Eligible Courses

1. [College credit courses](#) approved for MCC Dual Credit for a high school student must be foreign language, in the MCC core curriculum, in a state-approved Field of Study

curriculum, or a course in the Workforce Education Course Manual applicable to an industry-recognized credential, certificate, or associate degree (WECM), [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.83, (10)(B)]

2. Continuing education courses approved for MCC Dual Credit for a high school student must be listed in the WECM, be eligible for conversion as articulated credit, and meet the institution's program or instructor accreditation standards. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.83, (3)(B)]
3. Courses approved for dual credit for a high school student must be applicable to a college certificate or degree.
4. High school students may not audit college credit courses at MCC.
5. High school students may not enroll in dual credit and early admission courses in the same MCC semester.
6. See Appendix A for the crosswalk of MCC courses accepted by the High School with the corresponding high school course information. The High School may add courses to be articulated for credit to the crosswalk by submitting an addendum to this agreement at any time during the academic year.

#### **V. Student Eligibility**

1. High school students must meet all eligibility requirements set forth in the THECB Rules.
2. Dual credit students must meet the testing and placement guidelines stipulated in the MCC catalog, the THECB rules, the Texas Education Code, and the Texas Administrative Code.
3. To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course offered by McLennan Community College, students must meet course prerequisite and corequisite requirements.
4. Eligible students may first enroll in dual credit courses in the fall semester of grade nine (9).
5. Eligibility for High School Pathways courses/programs ends six (6) weeks prior to high school graduation. High school seniors who elect to enroll in a minimester course immediately prior to high school graduation will enroll in the course using the process established for a non-dual credit student.
6. McLennan Community College requires that dual credit students enrolling in college credit courses:
  - a. have the written approval of the high school principal or counselor, parent or guardian, and a Dual Credit specialist at MCC;
  - b. complete the Dual Credit Orientation prior to first course registration and Title IX training prior to registration for the second semester.

7. To receive full admission into the dual credit program for college credit courses, the student must score as college ready on the TSIA or be exempted from the TSIA according to state guidelines. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85, (b)(1)]

The following shall be exempted from TSIA requirements.

- a. Students enrolled in a certificate program with fewer than 42 semester credit hours are exempt from TSIA requirements.
    - i. MCC **recommends** high school students score 945 on the TSI Assessment 2 ELAR multiple choice section before enrolling in a course contained in a certificate program.
  - b. Students who provide evidence of exemplary SAT or ACT scores as defined by the state of Texas ([see score chart](#)).
  - c. Students who complete ENGL 1301 and/or MATH 1314 with a grade of C or better will be considered TSIA complete for the specific subject area.
8. Students who do not qualify for full admission into the dual credit program for college credit courses may receive conditional admission.
    - a. Students conditionally admitted to the dual credit program may enroll in no more than fifteen (15) semester credit hours total. Students should plan to complete the requirements for full admission to the program prior to reaching the fifteen (15) hour limit.
    - b. Students conditionally admitted to the dual credit program will be designated as non-degree seeking in the MCC registration/advising system.
    - c. College readiness standards are not applicable to students designated as non-degree seeking.
    - d. Students seeking conditional admission to the dual credit program should meet criteria set by the school district.
  9. Prospective high school students must complete the MCC admission process prior to registration. Students must also submit a recent Bacterial Meningitis Shot Record (within the past five (5) years) if scheduling a course on the MCC campus.
  10. Each semester, prospective high school students must submit an MCC High School Pathways Schedule Request approved by the high school counselor or principal. The Schedule Request must be on file at MCC at the time of registration. The Schedule Request is available through the MCC High School Pathways online enrollment portal.
  11. High school students may enroll in dual credit coursework offered through the MCC Continuing Education department (not college credit courses) provided the students satisfy the following.

- a. Meet requirements specified by the MCC Continuing Education department for the course.
  - b. Follow the enrollment process employed by the MCC Continuing Education department.
12. Dual credit students with less than a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) in MCC college credit courses after completion of six (6) credit hours will be suspended from the college credit program. MCC enrollment may resume after completion of the high school diploma or upon approval by MCC of a dual credit suspension appeal.
  - a. A dual credit suspension from the college credit program will not affect eligibility for the dual credit Continuing Education program unless required by High School policy.
13. Dual credit students who have three (3) or more withdrawals on their college credit transcript will be suspended from the program. MCC enrollment may resume after completion of the high school diploma or upon approval by MCC of a dual credit suspension appeal.
  - a. A dual credit suspension from the college credit program will not affect eligibility for the dual credit Continuing Education program unless required by High School policy.
14. High school students taking MCC courses for dual credit will be treated as college students. It is expected that high school students taking MCC courses as dual credit will conduct themselves as college students. A collegiate classroom environment is expected. Controversial material may be addressed. The level of maturity of the high school student should be one of the criteria considered by high school officials prior to approving individuals for enrollment.
15. The awarding of high school credit for graduation and/or weighted grades on the high school transcript will be at the discretion and approval of the High School.

## **VI. Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) and Dual Credit Costs**

MCC participates in the FAST program, a state program for dual credit financial aid. MCC and the HIGH SCHOOL agree to the following in support of the FAST program with the intent to accelerate college completion for economically disadvantaged dual credit students.

1. Students are eligible for benefits under the FAST program if they:
  - a. are enrolled at a Texas public or charter school;
  - b. are enrolled in an eligible dual credit course included in the annual dual credit agreement between MCC and the HIGH SCHOOL; and
  - c. were qualified for the national free/reduced-price lunch program in any of the four school years prior to the academic year in which they enroll in the dual credit course.
2. FAST-eligible students will incur no cost for eligible dual credit coursework.

3. Responsibility for dual credit costs will be assigned as follows.

MCC

- a. MCC will waive dual credit tuition and fees for FAST-eligible students for college credit courses.
- b. MCC will waive dual credit tuition for FAST-eligible students for dual credit courses offered through the MCC Continuing Education department.
- c. Computers and Internet connection are provided for all MCC students in the MCC library and other publicly-accessible areas on campus. Devices may be available for check-out on a first-come, first-served basis. These resources are available for FAST-eligible dual credit students in need of such resources.

HIGH SCHOOL

- a. The public/charter high school will provide textbooks and/or required dual credit course materials for FAST-eligible students in the district.
- b. The district will assume the cost of fees and other non-tuition course costs for dual credit courses offered through the MCC Continuing Education department.
- c. Public/charter high schools may provide access to technology, including computers and Internet access, to FAST-eligible students at their discretion.

Student or High School

- a. For non-FAST eligible students, dual credit tuition, fees, textbooks, course materials, and/or computer/Internet access will be the responsibility of the student *unless* the High School elects to cover the expenses for the non-FAST students.
- b. Transportation to/from the MCC campus will be the responsibility of the High School or the student for any dual credit student/course.
- c. Meals for any dual credit student on the MCC campus will be the responsibility of the High School or the student.

4. Dual Credit Semester Credit Hour Rate

- a. MCC will adopt the maximum dual credit tuition rate set annually by the FAST program for all dual credit students.
  - i. The maximum dual credit tuition rate is set by the state and is subject to adjustment each academic year.
- b. Non-FAST students will be assessed the following course fees for college credit courses: General Services fee, Facilities fee, and any required course fee, such as a lab fee.
- c. Course fees for Continuing Education dual credit courses will vary depending on the course/program and may result in an amount higher than the dual credit per semester credit hour rate for college credit courses.
- d. For purposes of the FAST program, for dual credit courses offered through the MCC Continuing Education department, 16 contact hours shall be considered the equivalent of 1 semester credit hour, or 1.6 continuing education units of instruction will equal 1 semester credit hour of instruction. [TAC 19, Part 1,

Chapter 13, Subchapter Q, §13.501, (6)]

- e. The non-FAST tuition/fee billing rate applies to non-FAST public/charter students, all private school students, and all homeschool students.
  - i. For 2025-2026, the per semester credit hour rate for homeschool students will be \$55 tuition, \$16 general services/facilities fees, plus any required course fees.
- 5. Early Admission Courses  
*(college credit only; no high school credit awarded; no courses through MCC Continuing Education)*
  - a. Early admission courses will be billed at the dual credit tuition rate.
  - b. All students will be responsible for the cost of textbooks, course materials, and technology needs for early admission courses.
  - c. MCC will waive early admission tuition/standard fees for FAST-eligible students enrolled in the dual credit program.
- 6. Open Educational Resources
  - a. MCC will consider the use of free or low-cost open educational resources for courses as may be deemed appropriate by the faculty member and MCC.

**VII. Student Composition of Class**

- 1. Dual credit courses will be composed of dual credit students only or of dual and college credit students.

**VIII. Instructional Calendar**

- 1. Both MCC and the High School will maintain their own instructional calendars, to begin in August/September and continue through May/June.
- 2. Students who are enrolled in courses meeting on the MCC campus will be expected to attend classes even when the High School is not in session. Issues of transportation will need to be addressed and resolved by the student and/or High School. MCC will not be required to provide transportation.
- 3. Students enrolled in online dual credit courses will be expected to participate regardless of the High School calendar.

**IX. Faculty Selection, Supervision and Evaluation**

- 1. As required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), MCC controls all aspects of its educational programs. Each educational program for which academic credit is awarded is approved by the faculty and

the administration. MCC will maintain qualified faculty who demonstrate the ability to deliver college-level course content with high quality and effectiveness.

2. In order to serve as an instructor of record at MCC, for freshman and sophomore level courses designed for transfer to a baccalaureate degree, faculty should have a minimum of a master's degree with at least 18 graduate hours in the discipline in which they are teaching. In appropriate areas, work experience, professional licensure, and certification are also considered. Degrees and graduate credit hours held by faculty members, whether full time or part-time, must have been earned at a U. S. regionally accredited institution. [SACSCOC, Principles of Accreditation, 3.7.1]
3. In order to serve as an instructor of record at MCC, for associate degree courses designed to prepare students specifically for employment in career and technical areas, instructors should have a minimum of three (3) years of experience in the field, appropriate certification or professional licensure, and educational background and credentials at the same level as or higher than the certificate or degree being awarded in the program. Degrees and graduate credit hours held by faculty members, whether full time or part-time, must have been earned at a U. S. regionally accredited institution. [SACSCOC, Principles of Accreditation, 3.7.1]
4. MCC shall evaluate instructors of college courses offered for dual credit using the same or comparable procedures used for faculty teaching at the MCC campus. Faculty teaching courses for dual credit shall comply with MCC's standards of instruction and policies. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (e)(2)] [SACSCOC, Principles of Accreditation, 3.7.2]
5. The appropriate representatives of the MCC academic department will evaluate the performance of faculty teaching college courses offered as dual credit. Included in this evaluation will be a determination of how well the faculty member performs in achieving the desired learning outcomes. Additionally, the evaluation will include a review of performance on the items delineated in Section VI, item 9. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (e)(2)] [SACSCOC, Principles of Accreditation, 3.7.2]
6. The MCC Division Chair of the program area oversees instructional content for college courses taught for dual credit. All course content, learning outcomes, and instructional objectives will be consistent with courses taught on the MCC campus. All instructors must have a syllabus that incorporates instructional objectives and intellectual competencies posted on the MCC website, by the MCC deadline.
7. Faculty teaching college courses for dual credit are expected to carry out the following:
  - a. Teach assigned courses, with the same level of rigor of a regular college course, according to approved course syllabi and learning outcomes associated with course. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (f)]
  - b. Provide each student with a syllabus/class outline that explains the expectations of the instructor, learning outcomes, attendance policy, cheating policy, and other information needed by the student (Examples: timelines, required class materials, outside assignments, course pre-requisites, etc.).



- c. Check student enrollment in the course. If a student's name does not appear on the MCC class roll, the student may not attend class. If a student's name does not appear, the student should be instructed to contact the MCC High School Pathways Office to complete the enrollment process.
- d. Arrive on time for classes or notify the High School Pathways Office and the high school as early as possible of an inability to meet a class.
- e. Submit an instructor absence form to the division director to document each absence.
- f. Maintain control of the class. If there is a discipline problem that requires immediate attention, contact the administrator in charge on that campus. Additionally, report any serious classroom discipline issues to the High School Pathways Office and the high school administrator. If there are violations of the MCC General Conduct Policy (E-VIII), you may contact the Associate Director, Accommodations and Title IX.
- g. Submit Textbook Request Forms to the appropriate academic department for each course taught every semester, by the MCC deadline.
- h. Keep class record books, lesson assignments, and other necessary materials or equipment available for substitute instructors.
- i. Submit all required class rosters, student grade reports, and required documentation, by MCC deadlines.
- j. Maintain accurate attendance records for all classes.
- k. Assign both an alphanumeric *and* numeric grade for each dual credit student.
- l. Maintain a copy of grade books for each dual credit class at the high school. If MCC personnel need to review grade books, the High School Pathways Program Director and/or the appropriate Division Chair will request and receive a copy at that time. Detailed records should be saved for one (1) calendar year following the end of the course. If employment with MCC ends, records for the previous year should be submitted to the appropriate Division Chair.
- m. Maintain a Brightspace course shell for each section taught, to include at minimum professor contact information, a course syllabus, grade book, and attendance records.
- n. Check MCC email on a regular basis for information on deadlines, reporting, grades, etc. This is one form of official communication from the college.
- o. Attend faculty meetings and other special meetings called by the High School Pathways Office, Division Chair, Dean of Arts and Sciences, Dean of Health

Professions, Dean of Workforce & Public Service, Vice President of Instruction, or the President, when possible.

- p. Direct students seeking accommodations for disabilities to the MCC Accommodations Coordinator for appropriate action. The instructor should not give opinions about disabilities or provide accommodations for disabilities prior to receiving appropriate direction from the MCC Accommodations Coordinator.
- q. Provide the institution with an updated Curriculum Vitae, which includes educational history.
- r. Keep the High School Pathways Office informed regarding matters affecting the welfare of students, faculty, and MCC.
- s. Participate in evaluation procedures in relation to the above stated requirements under this agreement. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (e)(2)] [SACSCOC, Principles of Accreditation, 3.7.2]

#### **X. Location of Classes**

1. Dual credit courses may be taught on the college campus or on the high school campus, or by distance education, including Internet delivery and/or blended courses. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (c)]
2. For dual credit courses taught exclusively to high school students on the high school campus and for dual credit courses taught electronically, McLennan Community College complies with applicable rules and procedures for offering courses at a distance. In addition, dual credit courses taught electronically comply with the THECB's Principles of Good Practice for Courses Offered Electronically.

#### **XI. Transcription of Credit**

For dual credit courses, high school as well as college credit should be transcribed immediately upon a student's completion of the performance required in the course. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (h)]

#### **XII. Academic Policies**

1. All academic policies applicable to courses taught on MCC campuses shall apply to dual credit high school students enrolled in face-to-face campus, distance education, and courses, as outlined in the MCC policies and catalog. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (g)(1)]
2. Students violating MCC policies relating to academic integrity will be subject to the consequences described in the course syllabus and the relevant MCC policies.

#### **XIII. Student Services, College Credit Courses**

1. Students taking college classes for dual credit may utilize the same services that are available to other MCC students. MCC is responsible for ensuring timely and efficient access to such services as academic advising, learning materials (e.g., library resources), and other services for which the student may be eligible. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (g)(2)]
2. Dual credit students are entitled to access online tutoring or face-to-face tutoring at no cost to the student.
3. Students seeking 504-type accommodations for dual credit courses will arrange for those services through the MCC Accommodations Coordinator in the Accommodations and Title IX office. For details, please visit <http://www.mclennan.edu/disability/> or email [disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu).
4. Dual credit students 17 years of age will have access to mental health counseling on the MCC campus with parental consent. Dual credit students 18 years or older will not require parental consent for counseling services through MCC. Requests for mental health counseling made by students younger than 17 will be referred to the respective school counselor or behavioral intervention specialist for mental health counseling.
5. College Advising and Degree Plans, College Credit Program:
  - a. Academic advising for MCC dual credit courses, **college credit**, will be the responsibility of the High School Pathways Advisor, currently Ms. Abby Valenta. The High School Pathways Advisor may directly advise dual credit students or coordinate advising for students with other MCC academic advisors.
  - b. The High School counselor will be responsible for advising High School students on the alignment between the college and High School courses, for coordinating advising sessions with the MCC advisor, and for referring students to MCC academic advising when made aware a student's college plans may not align well with the High School dual credit course plan. The counselor will also be responsible for academic advising for high school coursework, endorsements and high school graduation.
  - c. Dual credit students are required by state regulation to file a degree plan with the college no later than the end of the regular semester following the semester in which the student earned a cumulative total of 15 or more semester credit hours. Students entering MCC's dual credit program with 15 or more semester credit hours must file a degree plan by the end of the student's first regular semester at MCC.

All dual credit students will be designated as non-degree seeking upon admission to the program. To satisfy the state requirement:

- 1) Programs of study will be updated as necessary following college advising meetings.
- 2) Students who do not file a degree plan in accordance with state policy shall be notified the degree plan is required by law and will be required to meet with an MCC academic advisor in that same semester to select a degree plan.

- 3) Students may not obtain an official transcript from MCC until the degree plan is filed.
- d. Dual credit students who adhere to the MCC Transfer Block, detailed below, will be permitted to enroll without a mandatory college advising visit. However, students are encouraged to seek college advising each semester.

**Dual Credit Transfer Block**

*Pre-approved dual credit courses for students seeking an AA, AS, or bachelor's degree from a Texas public institution.*

- EDUC 1300
- Choose 1: ARTS 1301, DRAM 1310, MUSI 1306
- HIST 1301 and 1302
- Choose 1\*: ECON 2301, PSYC 2301, SOCI 1301
- ENGL 1301 and 1302
- GOVT 2305 and 2306
- SPCH 1315

*\*Check college degree plan or seek college advising to determine best course for a specific degree plan.*

- e. Dual credit students who request a course not included in the Transfer Block, who plan to attend a private or out-of-state institution, or who have plans other than completion of an AA, AS, or bachelor's degree should meet with an MCC advisor at least once per semester prior to registration:
  - 1) to verify the correct degree plan/program of study has been registered at the college;
  - 2) to ensure course selection is consistent with the selected degree plan; and
  - 3) to discuss potential transition to a four-year institution of the student's selection.
- f. Students will be advised for dual credit courses based on self-identified career and educational goals. Students should not enroll in courses not appropriate for those identified goals, particularly in courses unlikely to transfer to the student's intended future college.
- g. MCC does not recommend students enroll in more than six (6) semester credit hours the first semester of dual credit.
- h. MCC recommends that dual credit students with an MCC GPA below 2.5 reduce the MCC course load in order to focus on fewer courses with the goal of raising the overall college GPA.
- i. High school counselors are encouraged to participate in advising sessions with their students.
- j. Advising sessions may be scheduled on the high school campus, on the MCC campus, or online via video conference.

- k. Advising notes will be maintained in the MCC system for each student for future reference.
- l. Common terminology:
  - 1) Applicable toward a degree: Refers to a course that will transfer to a school and apply toward a specific degree plan.
  - 2) Core curriculum: A basic set of course options required of all students at a particular institution; commonly refers to the Texas state core curriculum.
  - 3) Course transfer: Refers to whether or not a course will be accepted by another institution of higher education. It is possible for a course to transfer as an elective but not apply toward a specific degree plan.
  - 4) Degree plan: A detailed set and sequence of courses leading to a specified degree in a major.
  - 5) Maximum time frame: A government stipulation that financial aid will only pay for 150% of coursework toward a post-secondary credential. Dual credit coursework applies toward this limit.
  - 6) Satisfactory progress: A government requirement that high school graduates maintain a 2.0 or higher GPA and complete 67% or more of attempted courses to remain eligible for state/federal financial aid. Dual credit coursework may impact this status after high school graduation.

#### **XIV. Student Conduct**

1. Dual credit students will be subject to the MCC General Conduct Policy (E-VIII) while on the MCC campus and/or while in attendance at MCC classes. Students may also be subject to High School student conduct policies as determined by the High School.
2. Failure to comply with the MCC General Conduct Policy (E-VIII) may result in dismissal of the student from MCC courses.
3. MCC and the partner High School will cooperate in disciplinary issues to the extent possible. When not possible, each institution may impose separate student penalties according to its own policies and practices in matters related to discipline and academic integrity.
4. Disciplinary issues will be reported and addressed according to published college policy. High School employees who are not also employed by MCC may contact the Associate Director, Accommodations and Title IX, or the High School Pathways office for guidance in reporting an issue.
5. The High School will notify MCC of student behavioral issues that would impact a dual credit course, particularly in regards to matters concerning student safety. Please refer to section XXVIII Campus Assessment Response and Evaluation (C.A.R.E.) for *safety* purposes.

#### **XV. Course Curriculum, Instruction, and Grading**

1. The MCC Division Chair of the program area oversees instructional content for college courses taught for dual credit.
2. MCC shall ensure that a college course offered for dual credit at the high school and the corresponding course offered at the College are equivalent with respect to the curriculum, contact hours, course maximum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of evaluation of student performance, regardless of student composition of the class. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (f)]
3. All MCC instructors must have a syllabus on file which incorporates the policy and procedure for learning outcomes, grading policies, and disability services.
4. Instructors shall follow MCC grading policies for awarding college credit.
5. Faculty will participate in providing information for the assessment of student learning outcomes as required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. This includes, but is not limited to, the submission of summary scores/data where such information is needed for evaluating departmental success and the submission of student work for secondary evaluation by the division to ensure that relevant learning outcomes are achieved in any given course.

#### **XVI. Transfer of Courses**

McLennan Community College is fully accredited by the SACSCOC, and basic academic, general education courses are readily transferable to other public institutions of higher education in Texas. However, since each college has its own policy regarding the transferability of courses, students are strongly advised to check with the college they plan to attend after high school, other than MCC, in order to determine the transferability of MCC courses.

CTE/Workforce education courses are not designed for transfer beyond the community college level. However, programs exist at some universities that allow these courses to be applied directly to baccalaureate degree requirements. Students are encouraged to check with prospective universities concerning programs such as the BAAS, BAT, and other similar programs.

Dual credit courses offered through the MCC Continuing Education department are not expected to transfer to another institution of higher education.

#### **XVII. Academic Regulations, College Credit Courses**

1. MCC courses offered as dual credit, regardless of where they are taught, follow the same college calendar, syllabus requirements, course outline, grading procedure, and other instructional and evaluative policies and procedures. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85 (g)(1)]
2. The Texas Education Code and SACSCOC do not allow for outside influence on college grading systems.

3. Letter grades are given in accordance with policies printed in the college catalog. Whenever possible, numerical grades will be provided to the high school counselor by the High School Pathways Office.
4. In the event of a grade dispute, the MCC policy for grade appeals will be followed. Please see the MCC catalog and/or the *Highlander Guide*.
5. Per MCC policy, students who do not participate in a course by the census date will be dropped from the course by the professor.
6. Dual credit students may withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" at any time during the semester on/prior to the MCC official withdrawal deadline specified in the College Calendar located in the class schedule or catalog. After the MCC official withdrawal deadline, dual credit students will follow published MCC policy in regards to withdrawing from courses and the grade recorded for such courses. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from a course or verify that the instructor initiated the withdrawal procedure.

**XVIII. Attendance and Funding**

1. Students enrolled in college credit courses will follow current MCC attendance policies. Attendance will be taken at MCC based on the published College Attendance Policy.

**XIX. Classroom Facilities and Technology**

1. The High School agrees to provide MCC faculty and dual credit high school students with the facilities and technology necessary to support a college learning environment.
2. The High School will ensure MCC faculty and the dual credit students have access on High School devices and through High School Internet service to MCC email, Brightspace, Zoom, MyMCC, the MCC Library, and other software programs approved by MCC for campus-wide use.
3. Dual credit students regularly need access to devices capable of running online exam monitoring programs and devices and/or Internet access unrestricted by the High School internet filter. In addition, some courses may require audio or video recording capability. Such access is vital for academic integrity measures, Internet-based course materials, research, and course projects. Student resources are available on the MCC campus to fulfill such needs should the student choose to implement them.
4. MCC recommends the High School assign students enrolled in online dual credit courses to a computer lab with a facilitator for at least one class period per day.

**XX. Data Sharing**

Student records transferred between MCC and the High School shall remain the sole property of the institution that created the records. Data that is transferred must be used consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), HIPAA, and High School and MCC

policies and procedures for managing student education records and other confidential information.

The Parties expressly understand that MCC and the High School are subject to the requirements of the Texas Public Information Act. In the event that any student records must be released pursuant to state or federal law, as determined by a court or administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter, the Parties shall continue to treat a confidential any student records received or created under this Agreement except to the extent specifically required by the court or administrative order. The Parties shall mark as “CONFIDENTIAL” all records that are released.

Additional details related to data sharing are specified in a separate, data sharing section of this agreement.

#### **XXI. Indemnity and Liability**

1. To the extent allowed by law, the High School does hereby agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless MCC, its Board of Trustees, agents, employees, and representatives, from and against any and all causes of action, claims, liabilities, debts, or judgments arising from or related to: (1) the actions or omissions of High School instructors provided under this Agreement; or (2) the actions or omissions of any employee, agent, instructor, or anyone else acting on behalf of the High School in the performance of this Agreement.
2. To the extent permitted by applicable law, the High School assumes all liability related to or arising from the acts and/or omissions of its employees, contractors, agents, or representatives related to this Agreement or the dual credit program.

#### **XXII. Force Majeure**

Neither Party hereto will be liable or responsible to the other for any loss or damage, or for any delays or failure to perform (other than the performance of payment obligations), due to causes beyond either Party’s reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God; flood; fire; earthquake; explosion; order, requisition, or necessity of the government; war, invasion or hostilities (whether war is declared or not); terrorist threats or acts, riot, or other civil unrest; regional or national emergency; revolution; insurrection; epidemic or pandemic; lock-outs, strikes or other labor disputes (whether or not relating to either Party’s workforce); restraints or delays affecting carriers or inability or delay in obtaining supplies of adequate or suitable materials; telecommunication breakdown or power outage; and/or any other circumstances of like character. Should performance of any obligation (other than any payment obligations) created under this Agreement become illegal, impossible, impracticable, not reasonably possible, or if a Party is otherwise prevented or hindered from complying by a force majeure incident as described in this section or any other cause not enumerated herein but which is beyond the reasonable control of the Party whose performance is affected, then the performance of any such obligation is suspended during the period of, and only to the extent of, such prevention or hindrance, provided the affected Party provides reasonable notice as soon as practicable (within 45 days) following an event of force majeure and exercised all reasonable diligence to remove the cause of force majeure.



**XXIII. Miscellaneous**

1. Both parties agree to have a spirit of cooperation and to endeavor to provide a positive collegiate-level experience for those high school students with the maturity and academic preparation to be successful in college-level courses.
2. All policies and requirements set forth herein are subject to the THECB Rules, and, in the event of conflict, the THECB Rules govern and apply. [TAC 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, §4.85, (i)(2)]
3. This Agreement may only be modified in writing signed by both parties.
4. This Agreement will become effective on the date the last party executes it and will remain in effect until either party decides to terminate same. Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause by giving the other party notice in writing at least thirty (30) days before the beginning of the first day of the MCC semester or HIGH SCHOOL semester, whichever is earlier.
5. Nothing herein shall waive the parties' immunity to suit or liability as established by applicable law.
6. The parties to this Agreement are not in a joint venture, partnership, or otherwise.
7. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of Texas.
8. All parties to this Agreement agree to abide by and comply with all applicable laws regarding student privacy including, but not limited to, FERPA.
9. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this agreement, MCC acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that nothing in this agreement shall be construed as a waiver of any defenses available to the High School under applicable law, including, without limitation, any statutory or governmental immunity from suit and liability.
10. MCC is aware and acknowledges that the High School (a private entity) is subject to constitutional and statutory limitations on its ability to enter into certain terms and conditions of the agreement, which may include those terms and conditions relating to: liens on the school property; disclaimers and limitations of warranties; disclaimers and limitations of liability for damages; waivers, disclaimers, and limitations on legal rights, remedies, requirements, and processes; limitations of time in which to bring legal action; granting control of litigation or settlement to another party; liability for acts or omissions of third parties; payment of attorney's fees; dispute resolution; indemnities; and confidential information. Terms and conditions relating to these limitations will only be binding on the school to the extent permitted by the constitution and the laws of the state of Texas.
11. The signatures below indicate and represent that the governing boards of both MCC and High School have approved this Agreement.

**XXIV. Other Agreements with the High School**

This agreement does not apply to other agreements between MCC and the High School.

**XXV. Accommodations/Disabilities**

Dual credit students who qualify for accommodations in order to have proper access to meet course requirements due to a documented disability should contact MCC Accommodations and Title IX office as soon as possible. Dual credit students are required to complete the process for requesting accommodations. This includes completing the registration form in MyMCC, submitting documentation for the diagnosed disability, and attending an interactive meeting with the MCC Accommodations Coordinator. When granted, accommodations will be made viewable to students and faculty. Faculty may review accommodations by accessing their roster via MyMCC, and students may review their accommodations under the Student Accommodations tab in MyMCC. The student should then communicate with instructors regarding granted accommodations. Instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification from MCC Accommodations Coordinator has been provided. Note that accommodations may differ between the high school and college. For additional information, please visit [mclennan.edu/disability](http://mclennan.edu/disability).

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should call, email, or visit the office:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu)  
254-299-8122  
Student Services Center Room 319

MCC policies related to accommodations will apply to students enrolled in dual credit courses. In appropriate circumstances, MCC and the High School may collaborate to provide accommodations to dual credit students.

**XXVI. Title IX**

MCC cares about student safety and values an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination or sexual harassment are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling Dr. Claudette Jackson (Director, Accommodations and Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911.

The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Individuals who wish to speak with a confidential resource may contact the Student Counseling Center by calling (254) 299-8210. Note: Disclosures by students under 18 years old may be subject to mandated reporting requirements related to minors' safety and/or releases to parents/guardians.

McLennan's Title IX webpage (<http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>) contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, responsible employees, and pregnant/parenting rights.

Faculty who teach dual credit students whether at the MCC campus or at the high school are considered responsible employees and are required by state law and MCC policy to report Title IX situations immediately to the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu).

In the event a Title IX-related visit to the high school is needed, the ISD will facilitate a meeting between the student(s) in question and the appropriate MCC personnel. The MCC personnel will be expected to comply with the standard ISD visitor screening process.

## **XXVII. Campus Assessment Response and Evaluation (C.A.R.E.)**

The mission and purpose of C.A.R.E. at MCC is to promote the overall safety of its students and college community and will address situations in which a student may be of harm to self or others. C.A.R.E. will reach out to students of concern to assess the level of risk stratification in order to triage appropriately by: developing strategies for reducing various risk(s), implementing strategies, and monitoring the student's circumstances to ensure safety for both students and MCC campus as needed.

In the event that a dual credit student is referred to C.A.R.E. by a High School employee due to concerns of safety, MCC C.A.R.E. shall:

- a) Contact the dual credit student to introduce program and explain the role of a C.A.R.E. Case Manager, what to expect (including privacy to the extent possible), and information about eligibility and length of services.
- b) C.A.R.E. Case Manager will screen and assess concerns and will;
- c) Work with the dual credit partner to determine appropriate actions and support the dual credit partner as necessary and needed to ensure students safety and that of the MCC campus community.

In the event that a dual credit student is referred to C.A.R.E. by an MCC employee due to concerns of harm-to-self or others, MCC C.A.R.E. shall:

- d) Contact Educational Partnerships to determine the dual credit partner point of contact.
- e) Contact the dual credit partner point of contact and inform them of the student of concern and related concerns.
- f) Work with the dual credit partner to determine appropriate actions, and support the dual credit partner as necessary and needed to ensure students safety and that of the MCC campus community.

McLennan's C.A.R.E. Team webpage (<https://www.mclennan.edu/care/>) contains further information about its mission and purpose, team members, and instruction on when and how to refer students, what to look for, and what to do if you have concerns about a student's ability to keep themselves and others safe. To refer a student or discuss concerns, the C.A.R.E. Case Manager, Lacey Fitch-Ondracek, can be reach by phone at (254) 299-8204 or by email at [lfitch-ondracek@mclennan.edu](mailto:lfitch-ondracek@mclennan.edu).

In the event a C.A.R.E. related visit to the high school is needed, the High School will facilitate a meeting between the student(s) in question and the appropriate MCC personnel. The MCC personnel will be expected to comply with the standard High School visitor screening process.

**XXVIII. Non-Discrimination**

Neither McLennan Community College nor the High School will discriminate against any individual regardless of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, gender, disability, age, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, pregnancy, or other legally protected category in its educational programs, activities, or employment as required by Title VI or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1978.

The following staff member is designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Dr. Claudette Jackson, Director, Accommodations and Title IX, 1400 College Drive, 254-299-8645, [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu).