Prepare RI: Increasing Access to Dual Enrollment

April 2015

Webinar Logistics

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Agenda

- **Objectives**

- **Overview of the Dual Enrollment Regulations**

- **Expanding Dual Enrollment**

- **Guide to local implementation**

- **Prepare RI Dual Enrollment Fund**

- **Next Steps and Timelines**

Meeting Objectives

- Gain a shared understanding of the Dual Enrollment Regulations

- Outline roles and responsibilities and timelines

- Detail RIDE support and assistance

Through the opportunity of statewide dual enrollment we can:

✓ Provide universal access to challenging coursework for all qualified students

✓ Increase participation in college level courses

✓ Increase rates of college enrollment and completion

✓ Prepare students to meet the demands of college and careers

Overview: Dual Enrollment Regulations

In 2013, the General Assembly passed the Dual Enrollment Equal Opportunity Act (S-0639) RIGL 16-100 **to provide high school students equitable access to dual enrollment coursework.**

The legislation directed the following actions:

1. Convene a workgroup to advise the board on dual enrollment policy
2. Develop regulations for a statewide dual enrollment policy that will be adopted by all local education agencies (LEAs) by June 30, 2015
3. Develop an annual report to demonstrate the efficacy of dual enrollment programming

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Key Accomplishments

The Board of Education adopted the regulations on April 27, 2015 with an effective date of May 18, 2015.

The dual enrollment regulations:

- Create a clear process for high schools to expand concurrent enrollment courses
- Establish clear eligibility criteria which allows teachers, students, and families to see if students are prepared to take college level coursework
- Remove barriers to participation for low-income students
- Ensure students receive both high school and college credit
- Provide all qualified students access through dual enrollment to the entire course catalog offered by URI, RIC and CCRI

Why is this important?

Students who participate in dual enrollment programming as a part of their high school experience:

- **Are more likely to persist in college and receive a degree**

  - *47% of Rhode Island's public high school graduates do not persist beyond their 3rd semester at URI, RIC or CCRI within 3 semesters.*

- **Reduce the costs of receiving a college degree**.

  - *Rhode Island's college graduates carry the 4th highest amount of student loan debt.*

- **Have more options to take technical postsecondary coursework**

  - *By 2020, 52% of Rhode Island jobs will require post-secondary education or technical training to acquire necessary advanced skills for employment.*

Types of Dual Enrollment

Concurrent Enrollment is a type of dual enrollment when a student takes a college level course receiving both high school and college credit on their high school campus.

- The course is *taught by a high school teacher* **who has been approved by the respective college or university.**

Dual Enrollment is when a high school student enrolls as a non-matriculating student in a college course receiving both high school and college credit on the campus of a college or university while remaining enrolled in their high school.

- The course is *taught by a college instructor on a college campus.*

Expanding Concurrent Enrollment

You can expand concurrent enrollment programming taught on your high school campus in 2015-16 by:

1. Determining which of your high school teachers meet URI, RIC and CCRI's instructor qualifications
2. Supporting teachers in applying for approval from URI, RIC and CCRI
3. Surveying students to determine course interest
4. Establishing a clear, simple process to enroll students

Deadlines

High school teachers must apply to teach concurrent enrollment courses in the 2015-16 school year:

➢ **RIC** (EEP Program): **May 8, 2015**
➢ **URI & CCRI:** No deadline specified, but due to summer schedule **contact the institution as soon as possible** to begin the approval process

Expanding Dual Enrollment

You can expand the number of students accessing dual enrollment programming taught in 2015-16 by:

- Reviewing student Individualized Learning Plans (ILP) to determine if there are courses of interest for students that are not taught on your high school campus

  Example: Computers in Management (RIC   CIS251)

- Reviewing your school's and the postsecondary institutions' scheduling policies to determine how to support students participating in dual enrollment programming

- Adopting district dual enrollment policy by June 30, 2015 to support student participation.

Through dual enrollment RI high school students have access to the entire college course catalog if the student meets the course prerequisites.

District Dual Enrollment Policy

The Dual Enrollment Equal Opportunity Act of 2013 requires school districts to adopt a dual enrollment policy no later than **June 30, 2015**. The district dual enrollment policy must:

- Provide information about available concurrent enrollment courses

- Describe the dual and concurrent grading policy

- Describe how the high school will award credit for college level coursework

- Designate a staff coordinator to oversee dual and concurrent enrollment programming

- Detail all program costs including but not limited to textbooks, and transportation

- Detail student eligibility criteria including the local criteria and process to enroll students

- Detail the process for providing student supports and accommodations

- Detail how students will be recruited into dual and concurrent enrollment programming

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Prepare RI Dual Enrollment Fund

Course Costs

Governor Raimondo's Prepare RI Dual Enrollment Fund provides funding to enable qualified students to participate in dual and concurrent enrollment programming at no cost to their families.

What does this mean?

The Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner will reimburse URI, RIC and CCRI for the per credit **tuition, application and testing fees** for students participating in dual and concurrent enrollment programming. *Prepare RI Dual Enrollment Fund can save Rhode Island families as much as $4,191 for a three credit course.*

What do I need to do for my students to take advantage of this opportunity?

- Communicate with and ensure your students and families are fully aware of and understand the benefits and risks of participation
- Work with students to meet eligibility requirements and solve scheduling challenges

Next Steps and Timelines

- Identify opportunities to expand dual and concurrent enrollment with your district/school leadership team:

    - Identify students who would benefit from participating in dual and concurrent enrollment programming **<u>Spring 2015</u>**

    - Identify eligible teachers to teach concurrent enrollment courses **<u>Apply by May 8, 2015</u>**

    - Identify barriers to participation in dual enrollment programming **<u>Spring 2015</u>**

    - Develop and adopt district dual enrollment policy **<u>June 30, 2015</u>**

Encourage your students to become invested in their college experience before they leave the high school campus!

Resources

- RIDE can help with tools, resources and outreach. Contact us with any support requests such as:
  - o Working with a specific institution/Reaching out to the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
  - o Reporting student enrollments
  - o Identifying qualified teachers
  - o Local policy development

> Contact:
> Stephen.Osborn@ride.ri.gov
> 401-222-8485

- Resources available at ride.ri.gov/DualEnrollment
  - o Printable 2-pager for staff
  - o Sample letter to communicate to students and families
  - o Course catalog with instructor qualifications and student eligibility criteria
  - o Contact information for each public postsecondary institution
  - o FAQs
  - o *Coming Soon:*
    - Student flyer
    - Info sheets from URI, RIC and CCRI detailing Dual and Concurrent processes

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Questions

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