

Dual Credit Financing Options

Several options have been discussed during meetings – all potential ways to formalize funding for dual credit offerings. One or possibly combinations of the following options could be pursued in a formal policy or through legislative action.

Guiding Principles for Financing Dual Credit

- 1) The responsibility for financing approved dual credit courses will be shared by the state, school district, or participating postsecondary institution offering the dual credit course, and the students and their families.
- 2) Tuition for any dual credit course offered by any participating postsecondary institution will not exceed 50% of the KCTCS per credit hour rate.
- 3) The total fees for any course will not exceed \$50 per semester, adjusted for inflation.
- 4) The Mary Jo Young Scholarship Program provides a limited number of scholarships to students enrolled in dual credit programs. The program will be restructured to target at-risk students. Additional funding would be needed as well as a revision of the participation requirements.

Option 1: Line-item Appropriation in Biennial Budget

A line-item appropriation would exist to be apportioned to provide students across the Commonwealth with the opportunity to participate in dual credit offerings on high-school campuses, postsecondary campuses and virtually. The appropriation could be a pro-rata allocation based on the number of eligible students participating in the academic year.

Option 2: SEEK Appropriation 1

For approved dual credit courses offered, legislation would require that dollars (amount to be determined) taken from the SEEK formula appropriation be expended in support of every student taking an approved dual credit course, up to a limit of three courses, for the purpose of covering tuition and fees. Tuition would be tied to one-half of the KCTCS per credit hour rate and fees for a given approved course would not exceed \$50 per semester, adjusted for inflation.

Option 3: SEEK Appropriation 2

While placing a cap of three (3) courses prior to high school graduation and a cap on the tuition charged by postsecondary institutions, allow up to half of the annual SEEK per pupil guarantee to be utilized to cover costs for tuition and textbooks for seniors enrolled in dual credit courses.

Option 4: Secondary and Postsecondary Appropriation

An add-on in the base SEEK calculation would be provided to allow districts to collect funds for average daily attendance (ADA) for projected participating high school students in dual credit courses.

A line-item appropriation would be provided for postsecondary institutions to obtain funding for a full-time equivalent (FTE) employee for the same dual credit student.

No tuition would be assessed to the student and a cap on the fees charged by postsecondary institutions would be in place.

Option 5: Full-time Equivalent (FTE)

While assuring a minimum of three general education and three career and technical education courses in a career pathway for all eligible students and a cap on the tuition charged by postsecondary institutions, the local district and the postsecondary institution would be required to split the costs of the full-time equivalent student. The calculation would be generated by multiplying the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students in dual credit programs by the SEEK base per pupil guarantee.

Option 6: Combination Funding (District, State, Parent/Student)

The responsibility for financing dual credit courses will be shared by the school district, the postsecondary institutions offering the dual enrollment course, and the student and parents. (Students should have access to at least (3) three courses prior to high school graduation.)

Option 7: Expansion of Mary Jo Young Scholarship Program

The Mary Jo Young Scholarship Program provides a limited number of scholarships to students enrolled in dual credit programs. Additional funding would be needed to expand access to at-risk students.