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Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability December 10, 2024

• **2024 Dual Enrollment Pilot Program Report** (§18B-14-4) Sarah Tucker, Ph.D., Chancellor





Report to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability

2024 Dual Enrollment Pilot Program Report (§18B-14-4)





Mart Virginia	TO:	Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission	FROM:	Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Ph.D.
Andrew A. "Drew" Payne III Chair		Chancellor
Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Ph.D. Chancellor	DATE:	December 4, 2024
www.wvhepc.edu	RE:	2024 Dual Enrollment Pilot Program Report

West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education

Christina Cameron Chair

Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Ph.D. Chancellor

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2001 Union Carbide Drive, Building 2000 South Charleston, WV, 25303 304-558-0699 (phone) 304-558-1011 (fax) The Dual Enrollment Pilot Program Report satisfies the requirements outlined in West Virginia Code §18B-14-4e, relating to reporting on the West Virginia Dual Enrollment Pilot Program. The program provides opportunities for high school students to take dual enrollment coursework and earn secondary and postsecondary credit while in high school.

The courses align with individualized pathways that lead to careers in critical, high-demand fields in West Virginia, including health professions; information technology; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields; education; advanced manufacturing; welding and fabrication; construction; agriculture; and any other program that meets a workforce need as determined by the West Virginia Department of Commerce.

The 2023-2024 academic year was the first year of the pilot program and metrics related to student participation (number of students enrolled, number of credits earned, and funding expended) are currently available. Additional information, including certifications or credentials earned by students who have participated in the program and the job status of students who have participated in the program will not be available until the program matures and participants will have graduated from high school, completed additional academic coursework at college and transitioned into the state's workforce.

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (Commission) and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Council) help foster access to and success in postsecondary education. The Commission and Council collaborate with public higher education institutions, the West Virginia Department of Education, and other stakeholders to facilitate students' successful transition to postsecondary education and provide pathways for high school graduates to advance their training into college.

According to the most recent data on the Class of 2023, the statewide collegegoing rate of recent high school graduates is 47.4 percent, which is below the national average. Data indicates that students who earn college credit while still in high school pursue postsecondary education at higher rates compared to those who do not earn such credits. Offering dual enrollment opportunities for students is one strategy to ease the transition into college, increase the college-going rate, and better prepare students for critical workforce fields in West Virginia.

The first year of the pilot program implementation was successful with 16 of our public postsecondary institutions participating. We expect all institutions will participate starting with the second year of implementation.

Key findings from the first year of the dual enrollment pilot

• More than 4,600 unique students registered for one or more dual enrollment course for a total of 13,672 course registrations.

- Participating students earned more than 39,000 college credit hours.
- A total of \$3,044,226 of funding was utilized.
- Students from 52 counties enrolled in 14 different pathways.

The preliminary numbers for the Fall 2024 semester indicate a significant expansion of the program in the second year, with more than 6,700 students registering for courses. Seventeen public postsecondary institutions are participating in the fall with two more institutions expected to join for Spring 2025. As the program continues, additional data will be available to examine students' success in college and their long-term outcomes including postsecondary credential completion and employment in the state.