

Connecticut State Department of Education
CSDE Dual Credit Opportunity Grant
Application Year 2026–2027

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

General

1. What is the purpose of the CSDE Dual Credit Opportunity Grant?

The grant assists institutions of higher education (IHEs) in providing and expanding dual credit programs to increase participation among high school high-need students. It reimburses IHEs for fee waivers and supports the expansion of course offerings, particularly in high-demand industry sectors.

2. Who administers the grant?

The CSDE Office of Strategic Planning and Partnerships.

3. What is meant by “high-need students”?

A high-need student is a high school student in grades 9–12 who meets state-defined eligibility for Free or Reduced Price Meals (FRPM).

4. Where can I find the application?

The [online application](#) is available on the CSDE website. Paper or emailed applications will not be accepted.

5. Can an IHE submit multiple applications?

No. Only one application will be accepted for the entire fiscal year. All reimbursements flow through the single approved application.

6. What is the application submission deadline?

- **Application available:** August 24, 2026
- **Application deadline:** October 15, 2026, at 5:00 PM

Application

7. What documentation must the IHE submit?

The IHE must complete and submit an online application through the CSDE website.

8. Can applicants edit their submission? Applicants can edit their submitted application at any time until the official deadline. Once the deadline has passed, the application closes, and responses can no longer be modified.

9. What partnerships are required as part of the application process?

IHEs are required to have an established partnership with one or more public school districts. If the IHE is forming a new partnership, Addendum A – Attestation of Agreement for New Partnerships must be submitted. If the IHE is offering new courses under an existing partnership, Addendum B –

Approved Articulated New Course List must be submitted. All required addenda should be submitted through the eGMS platform after the application has been approved.

10. What counts as a “new course”?

A new course is a dual or concurrent enrollment course that has never been offered in the district before. It must have actual student enrollment for at least one semester during the 2026–2027 school year to qualify for funding.

11. Are there priority sectors for expansion funding?

Yes. New courses in the following sectors receive additional funding:

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Bioscience
- Education
- Healthcare
- IT/Cybersecurity

12. What are the expectations around NACEP accreditation?

IHEs must outline their plan, timeline, and strategies for pursuing NACEP accreditation—an indicator of program quality in concurrent enrollment.

13. How will applications be reviewed?

- The CSDE will review all completed submissions and notify the IHE of its decision;
- Applicants will be notified through the State’s eGMS system on November 30, 2026; and
- All application submissions and reimbursement requests will be retained by CSDE and become public record under the FOIA.

14. What types of data or metrics are important to the State?

CSDE will track:

- Participation of high-needs students in dual and concurrent enrollment courses;
- Completion rates;
- Expansion of course offerings; and
- Alignment of courses with workforce and industry needs.

Reimbursement

15. What are the eligibility requirements for IHEs to submit reimbursement requests?

Only IHEs with approved applications may submit reimbursement requests each semester.

16. What are the reimbursement submission deadlines?

Once the IHE's application is approved, reimbursement requests must be submitted according to the following schedule:

- **Fall Semester Reimbursement Request:** December 14, 2026 - February 26, 2027
- **Spring Semester Reimbursement Request:** March 1, 2027 - June 11, 2027

17. What types of courses qualify for reimbursement?

- Dual enrollment courses taught by IHE faculty;

- Concurrent enrollment courses taught by high school teachers approved by the IHE; and
- All courses must be credit-bearing (3 or more academic credits) and support progress toward a postsecondary credential.

18. What is the reimbursement amount for fee waivers?

IHEs receive \$300 per high-need student enrolled in a minimum 3-credit dual or concurrent enrollment course in the 2025–2026 academic year. Funding is based on enrollment data submitted annually to CSDE.

19. What is the amount of funding allocated for expanding courses?

- \$25,000 per new dual/concurrent enrollment course offered during the 2026-2027 academic year; and
- An additional \$10,000 for new courses in priority sectors (Advanced Manufacturing, Bioscience, Education, Healthcare, IT/Cybersecurity).

20. How can the reimbursement be utilized for covering various expenses?

Eligible:

- Tuition fees waived for high-needs students;
- Technology platforms supporting dual enrollment administration; and
- Accreditation-related expenses (including NACEP activities).

Not eligible:

- Transportation;
- Indirect or administrative costs (marketing, salaries, etc.);
- Non-academic expenses; and
- Courses that are not eligible for dual credit reimbursement (non-credit, 1- or 2-credit courses).

21. Is funding guaranteed?

No. Funding is subject to appropriations. If requests exceed available funds, the Commissioner may prorate awards or establish reimbursement caps.

22. When will reimbursements be issued?

Reimbursements begin before June 30, 2027, and are issued after the approved IHE submits required data and documentation.

Contact Information

23. Who do I contact if I have questions about the application process?

Karen Amaker, CSDE Director of Workforce Development and Career Readiness, at karen.amaker@ct.gov

24. Who do I contact if I have questions about reimbursement requests and eGMS?

Katie Atkinson, CSDE Education Consultant, at katie.atkinson@ct.gov

25. Who do I contact if I have questions about student enrollment data?

Danielle Bousquet, CSDE Education Consultant, at danielle.bousquet@ct.gov