

2021-2022

# DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

*ANNUAL REPORT*

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFIARS  
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS



SOUTH TEXAS  
COLLEGE



# SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

# DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS PROFILE

Spring 2021

## ACCESS & SUCCESS



South Texas College has one of the largest Dual Credit Programs in the State of Texas. The program was established in 1997 to provide dual credit opportunities to high school students.



Since 2000, South Texas College has served over 118,000 dual credit high school students **TUITION-FREE**, saving families over \$280 million in tuition and fees.

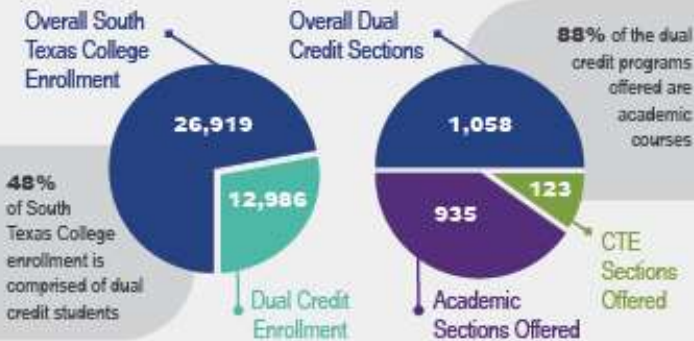
### Dual Credit Options

South Texas College Dual Credit Programs offer the following options:

- ▶ Dual Credit Courses
- ▶ Career & Technical Education Programs
- ▶ Designated High Schools
- ▶ Academy Programs



### Program Enrollment: Spring 2021



### Program Graduates: Spring 2021

In May 2021, South Texas College Dual Credit students earned 1,521 awards.

# 273

Career & Technical Education Certificates

# 1,248

Associate Degrees



## PARTNERSHIP PROFILE



South Texas College serves over 12,000 dual credit students through an extensive network of partners and faculty throughout 2 counties.

# Serving 2 Counties



### South Texas College and School District Partnerships

# 21

School Districts

# 70

High Schools

# 338

Dual Credit Faculty

### Designated High Schools and Academy Programs

# 6

Academy Programs

# 8

T-STEM Schools

# 32

Early College High Schools

# 3

P-TECH Schools



### Recognition

South Texas College's Dual Credit Programs has had the honor of receiving several National and State Recognitions.

- ▶ 2020 - Received National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) accreditation
- ▶ 2015 - Early College High Schools recognized as a "Bright Spot in Hispanic Education" by the White House Initiative on Education Excellence for Hispanics
- ▶ 2014 - Academy Programs was selected as a finalist for the 2014 Excelencia in Education Award
- ▶ 2009 - High School Recovery Program was selected as a Star Award winner from THECB (in partnership with PSJA ISD)



# **CORRESPONDING TO THE INTEREST OF STAKEHOLDERS**

---

## **2020-2025**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

South Texas College Dual Credit Programs will be a national model in providing high quality and innovate educational opportunities and college services.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

South Texas College Dual Credit Programs will be a national model in providing high quality and innovative educational opportunities and college services.

### **GOALS**

1. Facilitate monitoring, assessment, and continuous improvement of student success.
2. Establish clear and intentionally-designed educational pathways for student success starting from entry through to completion.
3. Improve preparedness of dual credit students to successfully complete college coursework leading to accelerated degree attainment from post-secondary institution.
4. Increase awareness of expanded college-level support structure and services available to dual credit students.
5. Enhance regional partnerships to continue to provide exceptional educational opportunities in college-level environments.
6. Foster strong partnerships with school districts, families, and community leaders.

# Welcome

Throughout the past 20 years, South Texas College Dual Credit Programs has implemented various initiatives and programs to assist high school students with obtaining college credit hours and/or a college credential. Our Program has seen tremendous enrollment growth and a high graduation rate; along with a high transfer rate and student success.

In light of the Pandemic, our Dual Credit Programs Administration, Staff, and Faculty in collaboration with our partnering school districts overcame challenges to ensure that our Program kept moving forth. Dual Credit Programs Staff extended services and resources, both in-person and virtual delivery, for all students to be academically successful.

Although, we are extremely proud of all our accomplishments, it was the continuous challenge of the Pandemic that has overshadowed our many successes. A success experienced by Dual Credit Programs in 2021-2022 included a dual credit graduating class of 1,200 who persisted through the global pandemic earning their degrees.

I am truly grateful for the continuous support and dedication of all our Dual Credit stakeholders. Together we will continue to positively impact the lives of over 10,000 dual credit students as we strive for excellence and expanding the offerings of dual credit opportunities.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca De Leon".

Dr. Rebecca De Leon

*Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs & School District Partnerships*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Dual Credit Programs ..... 5
  - Overview
  - Organizational Structure
  - Program Offerings
  - Stackable Credentials
  - Program Accomplishments
- Pathway to College Completion ..... 9
  - Promoting College Readiness & Completion
  - Dual Credit Enrollment Growth
  - Program Enrollment Growth
  - Matriculation
- Performance Data by Initiative ..... 13
  - Career & Technical Education Programs
  - Designated High Schools
  - Dual Enrollment Academy Programs
  - High School Projects & Initiatives
- Program Review & Assessment ..... 21
  - Management & Financial Structure
  - Professional Development
  - Dual Credit Taskforce
  - Student Success Indicators
- Contact Information ..... 28
- Appendix ..... 30

# DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

## OVERVIEW

**Description:** The Dual Credit Programs at South Texas College provides the opportunity to eligible high school students to enroll in college courses while still attending high school.

**Eligibility:** High school students interested in participating in the program must meet the same requirements as all other college students within the guidelines established by The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). Eligible high school students are able to take courses in place of, or in addition to, the normal course load at their high school.

**College Credit:** College credit hours earned upon successful completion of the course(s) may be applied towards an Associate Degree at South Texas College or may transfer to other colleges and universities.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The between two divisions: **Academic Affairs and Student Affairs & Enrollment Management.** South Texas College has developed activities, programs, and initiatives in support of transitioning dual credit students from high school to college.

**Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Division** has designed dual credit activities to facilitate enrollment and provide student support services to high school students. The **Academic Affairs Division** has created a pathway for high school students to earn college credits and complete Certificates and Associate Degrees while still in high school.

As part of the continuous improvement of the Dual Credit Programs, South Texas College has established a **Dual Credit Leadership Team** comprised of leaders from Academic Affairs and Student Affairs & Enrollment Management to address dual credit issues and to ensure program quality and student success.

Additionally, the College has established the **Dual Credit Taskforce** with college-wide membership including representation from Faculty Senate, Council of Chairs, Enrollment Services, Dual Credit Program staff and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to continuously review and ensure program quality and student success.

## PROGRAM OFFERINGS

The Dual Credit Programs promotes a "college-going" culture through the following programs and initiatives. Students have the option to choose one of **four options** to earn college-level credit and/or obtain a college credential.

1

### Dual Credit Courses

Students can earn college credit hours towards the South Texas College core curriculum courses (the "basics"); up to 42 credit hours.

2

### Career & Technical Education Programs

Students can earn a certificate in high-demand technical careers; such as, welding, HVACR, etc.

3

### Designated High Schools

Students can earn college credit up to an associate degree.

4

### Academy Programs

Students can earn an associate degree in the STEM, Business, or Criminal Justice field.



Through the Academy and Career Technical Pathways Office, several high school projects and initiatives have been implemented to serve various age groups.

### PREP

This program is to identify high achieving middle and high school students with an interest in the STEM fields and to increase their potential for careers in these areas.

### SCADE Program

#### (School to Career Academy in Dual Enrollment)

This program was implemented to target rising 12th grade students who are enrolled in a non-traditional high school and enroll them in certificate courses that lead to meeting the current skills and demand levels of our career and technology workforce

## **STACKABLE CREDENTIALS**

The overarching purpose of the Dual Credit Programs at South Texas College is to provide educational opportunities for high school students to earn college credits and facilitate the transition to South Texas College to complete their selected educational pathway and earn a college degree.

In a variety of programs, high school students can begin by earning an Occupational Skills Award (9-14 semester credit hours) and then continue to work towards a Certificate (15 - 42 semester credit hours). The credits earned as part of these credentials are then applicable towards an Associate of Applied Science Degree, which seamlessly builds into the Bachelor of Applied Technology Degrees offered at South Texas College.

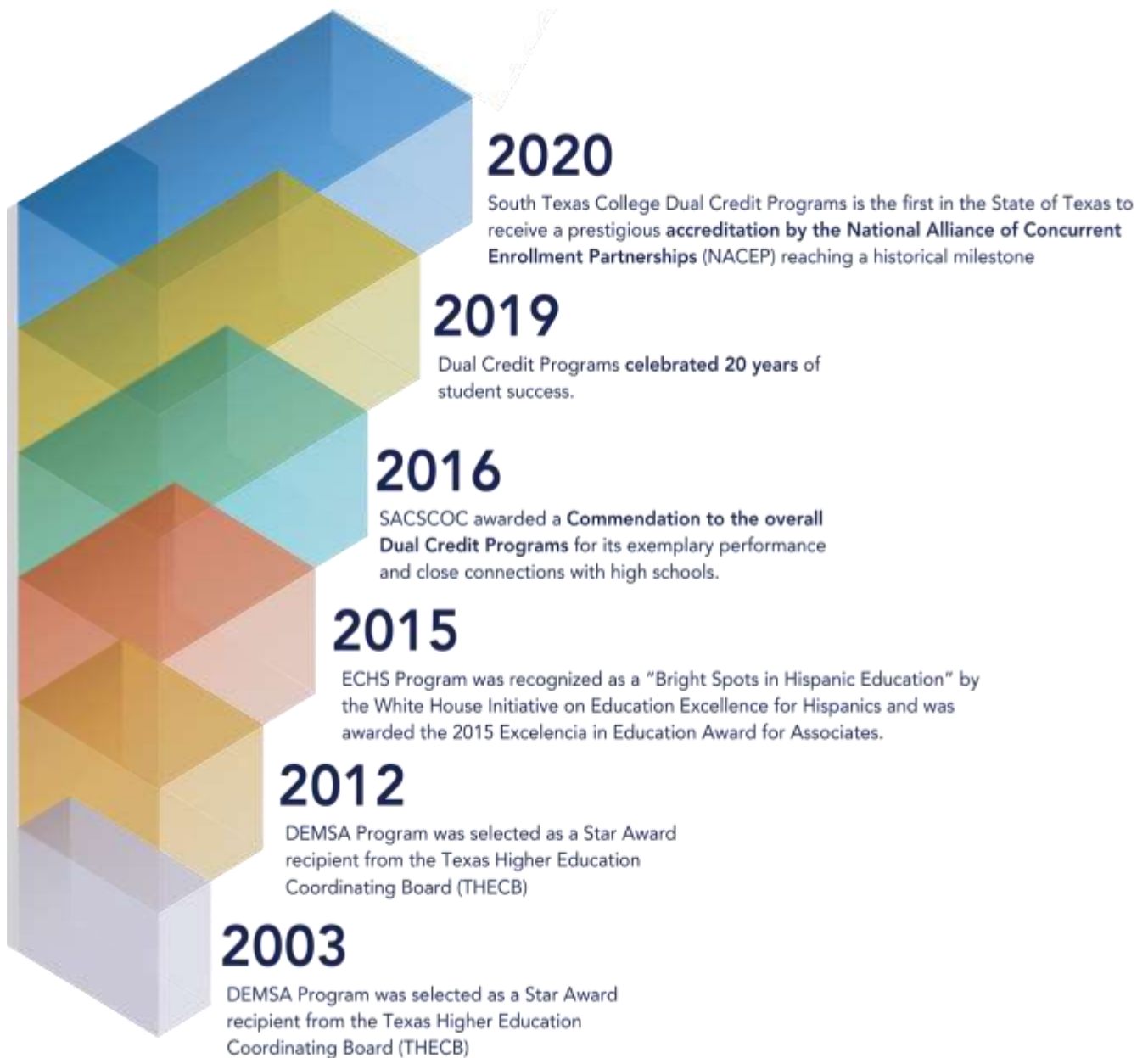




## PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

South Texas College is one of the largest Dual Credit Programs in the State of Texas. The program was established in 1997 to provide dual credit opportunities to high school students. The program has grown from serving 8 dual credit students in 1997 to serving over 9,191 students in the 2021-2022 school year. As of Fall 2021, South Texas College collaborates with 21 school districts and 70 high school partners across Hidalgo and Starr Counties.

The Dual Credit Programs has had the honor of receiving several local, regional, state, and national level accomplishments and achievements. Listed below are some major accomplishments and achievements. For a complete list, please reference Appendix A, on page 32.



# Pathway to College Completion

- ▶ Promoting College Readiness & Completion
- ▶ Dual Credit Enrollment Growth
- ▶ Transition from Dual Courses to College Degree
- ▶ Matriculation

# PATHWAY TO COLLEGE COMPLETION

## PROMOTING COLLEGE READINESS & COMPLETION

The Dual Credit Programs at South Texas College has become the strongest predictor of college readiness and degree completion at STC and regional universities. As of Fall 2021, South Texas College collaborates with 21 school districts and 70 high school sites and offers over 1,200 dual credit course sections to promote a **College-Going Culture** and to accelerate the **College Readiness** and **College Completion** rates in the region.

## PROMOTING COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE

South Texas College has aggressively promoted the Dual Credit Programs as a vehicle that creates a college-going culture and ultimately transforms the entire region into a vibrant, educated workforce that will attract the very best businesses and industries for a better way of life.

There is an increasing number of research studies conducted at the national and state levels to examine the impact of the Dual Credit Programs on student success measures. Review of existing studies indicate that students who take dual credit courses, while in high school, perform significantly better than students with no prior dual course work.

Prior dual students **are more likely to continue their education, have a higher persistence rate when they enroll at a university, and graduate at a higher rate.**

# Impact of The Dual Credit Programs

By participating in the South Texas College Dual Credit Programs, high school students have a greater opportunity to:

**Become college ready early**

**Become better acclimated to the rigor of college**

**Experience the college going culture**

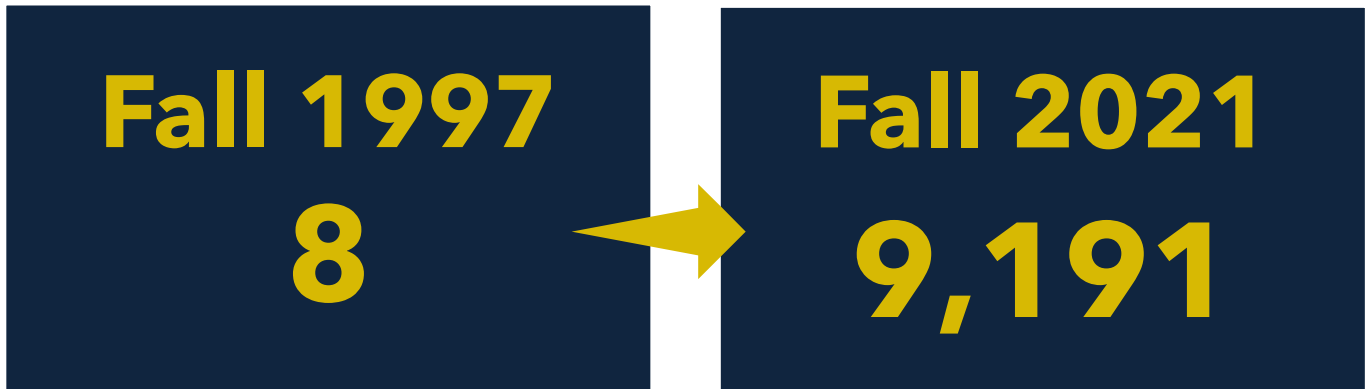
**Attain higher persistence rate when transferring**

**Earn a higher GPA**

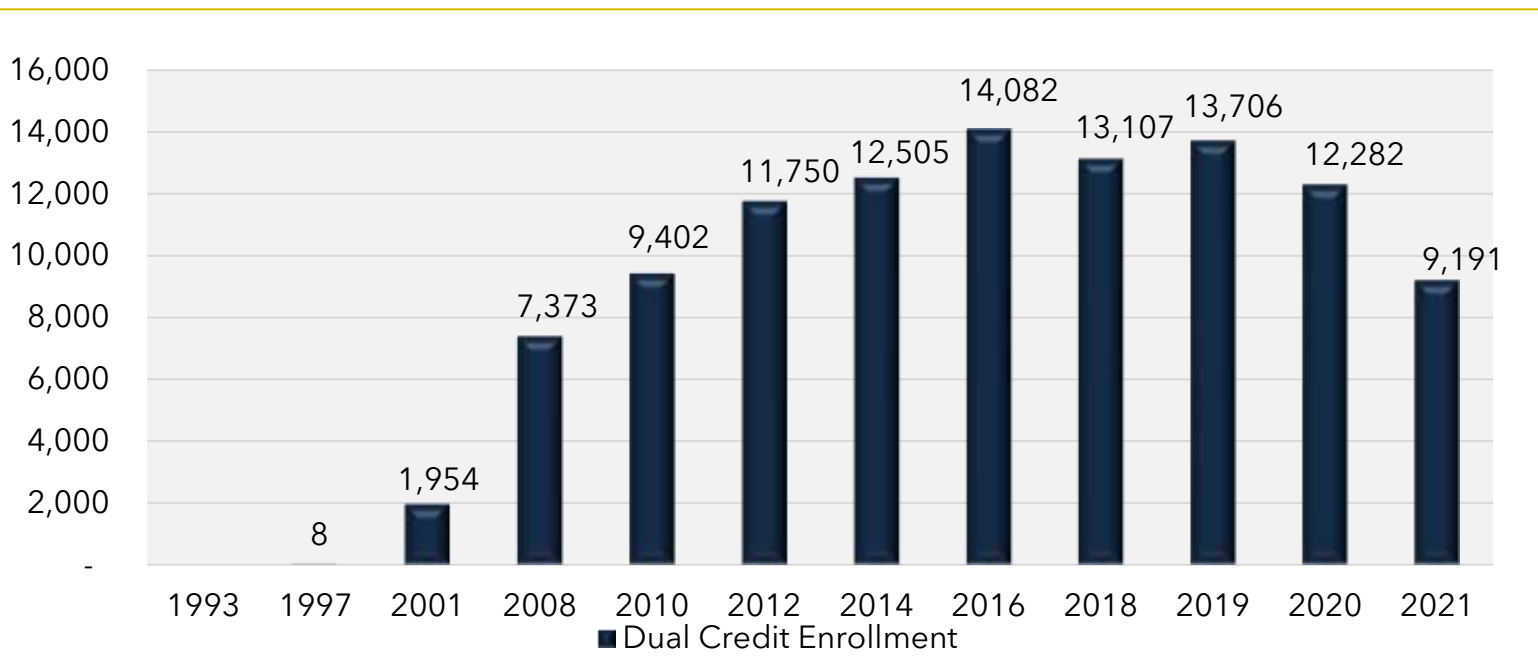


## DUAL CREDIT ENROLLMENT GROWTH

As the Historical Dual Credit Headcount chart below indicates, enrollment in Dual Credit Courses grew rapidly after Spring 2000 when the STC Board of Trustees approved waiving tuition and fees for dual credit courses. South Texas College receives contact hour reimbursement from the state for college-level courses.

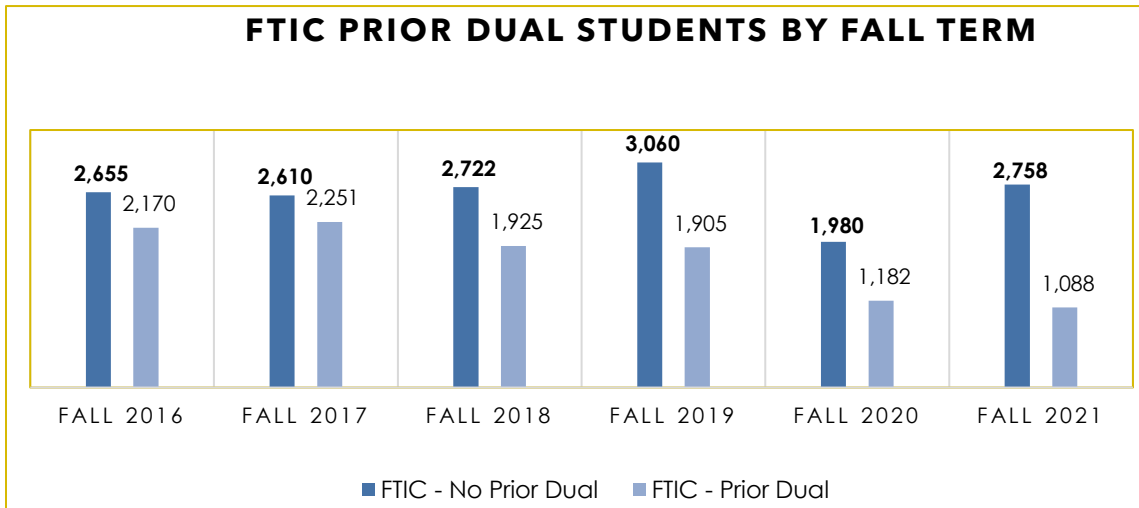


**Historical Dual Credit Enrollment  
Fall 1997 - Fall 2021**



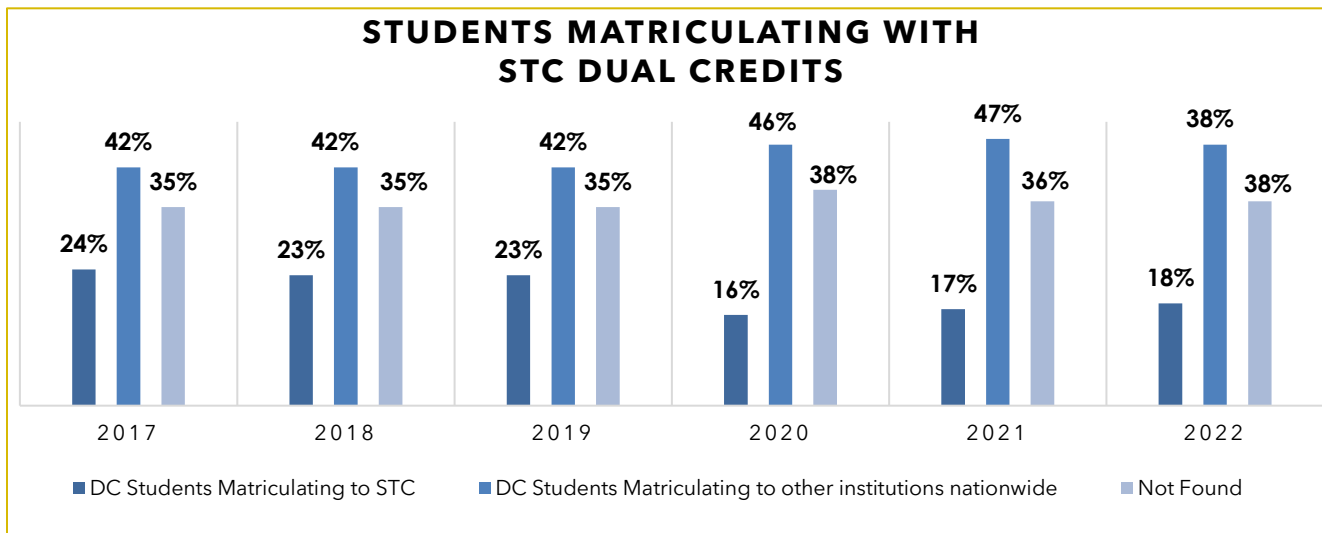
## TRANSITION FROM DUAL COURSES TO COLLEGE DEGREE

One of the major objectives of the Dual Credit Programs at South Texas College is to assist students who have earned dual credit hours, to transition to South Texas College and complete their degrees. The chart below indicates, the last 5 years, the number of dual credit students who enroll at South Texas College, after graduating from high school. In the Fall 2021 semester, out of 2,758 First Time In College (FTIC) students who enrolled at South Texas College, a total of 1,088 students had prior dual credit.



## MATRICULATION

More than half of the students with dual credit hours and/or a college credential from South Texas College matriculate to South Texas College’s bachelor programs and/or to other institutions nationwide to continue their education. The graph below shows, the last 5 years, the percentages of STC dual credit students who have matriculated to South Texas College and other institutions nationwide since 2017.



Source: South Texas College Research & Analytical Services

# Performance Data by Initiative

- ▶ **Career & Technical Education Programs**
- ▶ **Designated High Schools**
- ▶ **Dual Enrollment Academy Programs**
- ▶ **High School Projects & Initiatives**

# CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

South Texas College developed many short-term certificates that are based on industry needs and are recognized as a college-level credential by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). These short-term certificates have become part of the stackable credentials that dual credit students can earn while they are still in high school. The table below indicates the Workforce Certificate Graduates, as of May 2022.

CERTIFICATES	CREDITS					
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Architecture &amp; Engineering Design Technology</b>	18	22	13	8	10	7
<b>Automotive Technology</b>	38	5	0	1	0	0
<b>Business Administration - Management</b>	32		3	0	1	0
<b>Computer &amp; Internet Specialist</b>	16	44	27	11	4	1
<b>Computer &amp; Network Specialist</b>	28	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Computer Applications Specialist</b>	16	240	118	66	19	36
<b>Culinary Art - Commercial Baking</b>	23	5	0	0	0	0
<b>Culinary Art - Commercial Cooking</b>	23		3	0	0	4
<b>Cyber/Digital Forensics Specialist</b>	24	1	0	0	1	1
<b>Diesel Technology</b>	42	14	13	0	3	4
<b>Electrician Assistant</b>	30	9	12	15	16	6
<b>Heating, Ventilation, A/C &amp; Refrigeration</b>	20		0	0	0	2
<b>Emergency Medical Technology - Basic</b>	16	20	10	16	5	11
<b>Employee and Labor Relations Specialist</b>	16			1	0	0
<b>Medical Office Specialist</b>	16	12	0	0	0	0
<b>Multimedia Specialist</b>	16	59	33	18	4	3
<b>Patient Care Assistant</b>	16	7	15	2	0	0
<b>Payroll Assistant</b>	16	2	0	6	2	0
<b>Precision Manufacturing Technology</b>	24	35	47	23	16	18
<b>Recruiter Assistant</b>	16	4	16	11	13	12
<b>Welding - Combination</b>	41	10	30	12	17	20
<b>Welding - Structural</b>	29	101	96	72	26	81
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>591</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>206</b>

Source: Dual Credit Pathways

# DESIGNATED HIGH SCHOOLS

## OVERVIEW

In 2006, South Texas College established its first Early College High School (ECHS) with its first graduating class in 2011. Additionally, as the growth of dual credit and state legislation mandates, the STC Dual Credit Programs partners with thirty-two (32) ECHS, three (3) P-TECH and thirty-five (35) Traditional schools, as of Fall 2021.

ECHS  
32

P-TECH  
3

Traditional  
35

### Designated High School Definition/Concentration

- Early College High School (ECHS) are high schools that allow students least likely to attend college an opportunity receive both a high school diploma and either an associate degree or at least 60 credit hours toward a baccalaureate degree.
- Texas Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (T-STEM) are schools focusing on improving instruction and academic performance in science and mathematics- related subjects and increasing the number of students who study and enter STEM careers.
- Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) are innovative high schools that allow students least likely to attend college an opportunity to receive both a high school diploma and a credential and/or an associate degree. The hallmark of the P-TECH model is its career focus and the provision of work-based education.

*Source: Texas Education Agency*

## DESIGN

Designated High Schools are designed to provide high school students with the opportunity to earn up to 60 hours of college credit and/or an Associate degree, from South Texas College, as they also earn their high school diploma.

Each Designated High School are designed to create a seamless transition between high school and college. By design, these schools are small, innovative high schools that allow students an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and two years of college credit.

More importantly, the transition from high school to college is eased by blending high school and college curriculum into a cohesive unit. The *Pathway for Success* for each Designated High School is depicted below.

### PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

High School  
Diploma

High School  
Diploma  
+  
15 College  
Hours

High School  
Diploma  
+  
30 College  
Hours

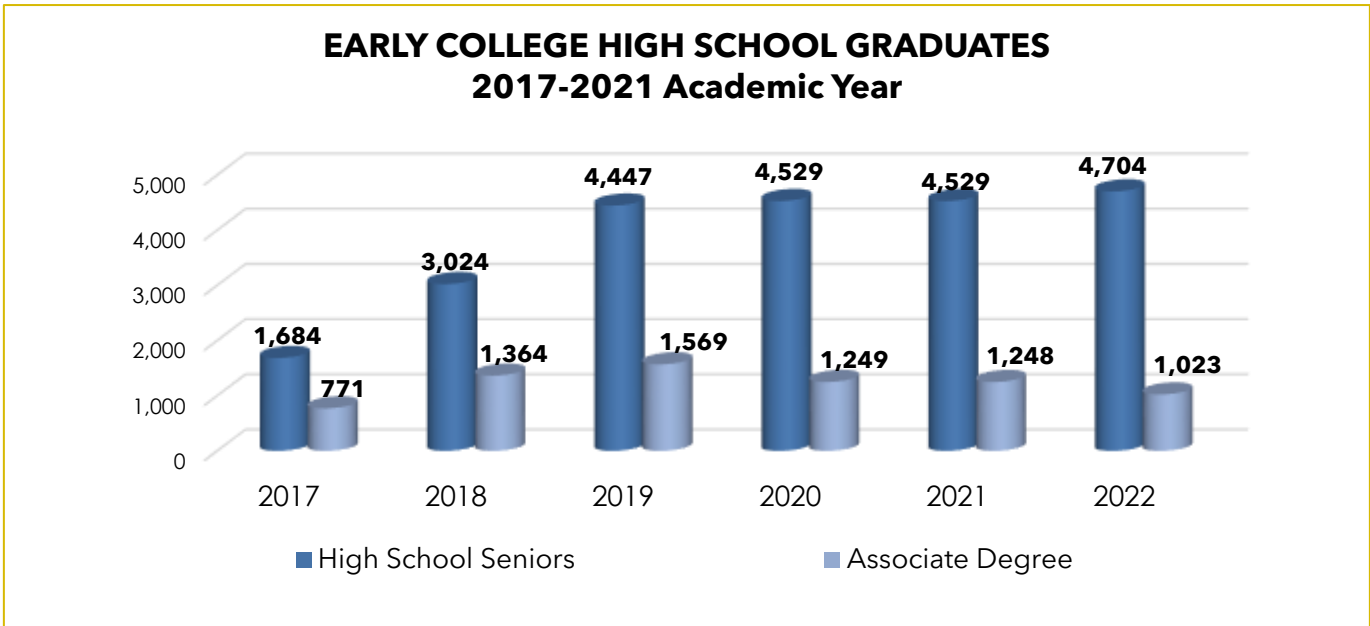
High School  
Diploma  
+  
42 College  
Hours

High School  
Diploma  
+  
60 College  
Hours



## ENROLLMENT & GRADUATES: DESIGNATED HIGH SCHOOLS COLLEGE CREDIT HOURS EARNED

The chart below illustrates the growth of ECHS students from 2017 to 2022 who have earned an Associate Degree from South Texas College prior to their high school graduation. The data provide below is the latest available through the College’s Research and Analytical Services.



### ASSOCIATE DEGREES EARNED AS OF AY 2021-2022

The most **significant success point** is when a high school senior can graduate from high school and earn an Associate degree at the same time. Below are the success data of ECHS students who earned a high school diploma and the percentage of them who earned an Associate degree from South Texas College.

During the 2021-2022 Academic Year, thirty-two (32) of the ECHS had a senior class. Out of 32 ECHS, 21 are categorized as a traditional model (cohorts with less than 125 students), with **33.2% earning an associate’s degree**. The remaining 11 ECHS are categorized as a comprehensive model (cohorts with more than 125 students), with **22%** earning an associate’s degree. The table below indicates that out of 4,704 ECHS high school seniors, 1,023 (28%) earned an Associate Degree from South Texas College.

The table below indicates that out of 4,704 ECHS high school seniors, 1,023 (22%) earned an Associate Degree from South Texas College.

<b>GRADUATES WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREES EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL</b>					
<b>Cohorts with Less than 125 Students</b>					
<b>Independent School Districts</b>	<b>2021 High School Seniors</b>	<b>2021-2022 Associate Degrees</b>		<b>Total Graduates (Dec. &amp; May)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
		<b>December 2021</b>	<b>May 2022</b>		
21st Century CTE ECHS	54	0	7	7	13%
Achieve ECHS	75	4	43	47	63%
Donna HS T-STEM	110	2	6	8	7%
Donna North HS T-STEM	111	0	1	1	1%
Edcouch-Elsa ECHS	123	2	21	23	19%
Jimmy Carter ECHS	70	0	32	32	46%
La Joya ECHS	88	1	30	31	35%
La Villa ECHS	53	0	5	5	9%
Mercedes Early College Academy	106	0	39	39	37%
Mercedes T-STEM ECHS	62	0	4	4	6%
Mission CTE ECHS	30	0	14	14	47%
Mission Collegiate High School	88	1	32	33	38%
Monte Alto ECHS	20	0	1	1	1%
Progreso ECHS	31	0	28	28	90%
PSJA Sonia Sotomayor	59	0	0	0	0%
PSJA Elvis Ballew	15	0	0	0	0%
Sharyland Advanced Academic Academy	96	0	44	44	46%
Thelma Salinas T-STEM ECHS	93	0	44	44	47%
Valley View T-STEM ECHS	98	28	3	31	32%
Weslaco East T-STEM ECHS	46	0	5	5	13%
Weslaco High ECHS	61	0	23	23	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1489</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>Cohorts with Over 125 Students (Comprehensive Model)</b>					
<b>Independent School Districts</b>	<b>2021 High School Seniors</b>	<b>2021-2022 Associate Degrees</b>		<b>Total Graduates (Dec. &amp; May)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
		<b>December 2021</b>	<b>May 2022</b>		
Edinburg Collegiate Preparatory Academy	178	0	48	48	27%
Edinburg North ECHS	170	1	50	51	30%
Hidalgo ECHS	271	0	46	46	17%
Johnny Economedes HS	157	0	45	45	29%
PSJA Southwest ECHS	431	15	42	57	13%
PSJA North ECHS	491	4	75	79	16%
PSJA ECHS	588	17	76	93	16%
PSJA Memorial ECHS	457	10	51	61	13%
PSJA Thomas Jefferson T-STEM	158	9	37	46	29%
Rio Grande City/Preparatory for ECHS	140	23	12	35	25%
Robert Vela ECHS	174	0	43	43	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3215</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4704</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>22%</b>

Source: Designated High Schools  
Not included - Special Purpose Schools

# DUAL ENROLLMENT ACADEMY PROGRAMS

## OVERVIEW

Since 2005, South Texas College has offered a unique opportunity for high-achieving, high school juniors to earn an Associate degree from South Texas College by the end of their high school senior year.

## DESIGN

The Academy Programs is an application-based program, with a competitive, selective process. It is a two-year dual enrollment program for high school juniors who are interested in pursuing a career in STEM or high demand fields. The Academy Programs are designed to encourage students to explore such careers through college coursework and Academy Programs' related activities. The extended support provided by the Dual Enrollment Academy Programs staff truly helps students be successful. Students have the option to apply to one (1) Program out of the seven (7) Academy Programs.



**7**  
Academy  
Programs

**98%**  
Academy  
Graduates

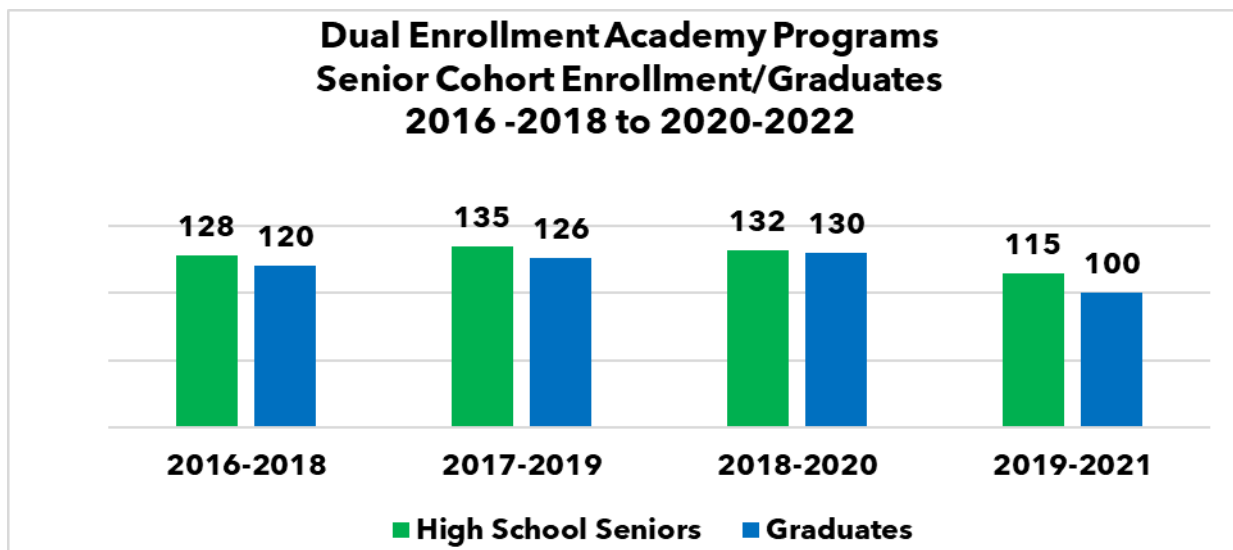
**100%**  
Transfer  
Rate

## ENROLLMENT & GRADUATES: DUAL ENROLLMENT ACADEMY PROGRAMS

In 2005, the Dual Enrollment Academy Program was established to provide high achieving students the opportunity to earn an associate degree while in high school. The Academy Programs is a competitive entry selection process and is cohort based (junior and senior students). The Academy Programs are held at the Mid-Valley Campus, Pecan Campus, and Starr County Campus.

### ENROLLMENT & GRADUATES

The graph below illustrates the overall senior cohort of 2017 that participated in the Dual Enrollment Academy Programs and whom graduated from the Academy Programs while still in high school, as of May 2021. The graph further demonstrates about **87% of each senior cohort graduates** with their associate degree.



### TRANSFER SUCCESS: DUAL ENROLLMENT ACADEMY PROGRAMS

One of the main goals of the Dual Enrollment Academy Programs is to ensure adequate preparation and a smooth transition to a college/university. The Academy Programs offer the opportunity for students to be exposed to the college atmosphere and participate in a rigorous college experience. **Upon completion from the Academy Programs, one hundred percent (100%) of students transfer** to a prestigious four-year institution. Below are some of the institutions where Academy Programs' graduates have successfully transferred in pursuit of a baccalaureate degree.

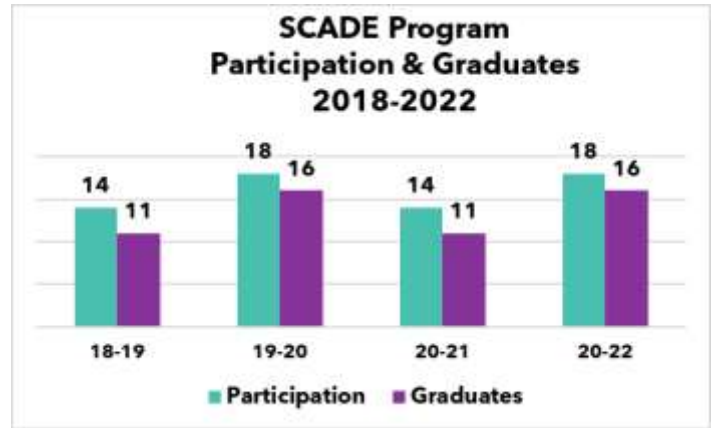
- Baylor University
- Colorado State University
- Cornell University
- Full Sail University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Marquette University
- Ohio University
- Our Lady of the Lake University
- Rice University
- Stanford University
- Texas A&M University
- Texas A&M International University
- Texas A&M University-Kingsville
- Texas Tech University
- The University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley
- The University of Texas at Austin
- The University of Texas at San Antonio
- United States Naval Academy

# HIGH SCHOOL PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

Through the Academy and Career Technical Pathways Department, several high school projects and initiatives have been implemented to serve various age groups.

## SCADE PROGRAM

The **School to Career Academy in Dual Enrollment (SCADE)** was implemented in summer 2012 and targets at risk 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who are enrolled in a non-traditional high school. SCADE students enroll in certificate courses that lead to meeting the current skills and demand levels of our career and technology workforce. SCADE students graduate from high school with a Certificate of Completion in Welding simultaneously. The graph to the right illustrates SCADE Program participation and graduates from 2018 to 2022.



## PREP PROGRAM

The **Pre-freshman Engineering Program (PREP)** was developed in 2009 by STC in partnership with the University of Texas at San Antonio and four participating school districts to offer an academically intense, STEM-based summer program to high achieving middle and high school students. The Program stresses the development of abstract reasoning and problem-solving skills. The Program is presented in a seven-week session each summer.

TEXAS PREFRESHMEN ENGINEERING PROGRAM As of Summer 2022						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Hidalgo	99	99				198
Roma	89	105	0	83	72	349
PSJA	65	72	0	60		197
Weslaco	67	84	0	53	50	254
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>998</b>

# Program Review & Assessment

- Financial Structure
- Management
- Dual Credit Advisory Committees
- Dual Credit Taskforce
- Student Success Indicators
- Professional Development

# PROGRAM REVIEW & ASSESSMENT

## FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

South Texas College waives tuition for in-district dual credit students enrolled in cohort “S” sections, or in approved non-S sections at the South Texas College campus as “independents”, when sponsored by a partnering school district. (Refer to the “Tuition and Fees for Dual Credit Students Sponsored by Partnering School Districts” schedule for any changes approved by the Board of Trustees.)

South Texas College has a process to approve credentialed and well qualified high school teachers to become Dual Credit Faculty (DCF) to teach college courses during the school day at their high school. South Texas College compensates Dual Credit Faculty with a stipend of \$350 per section per semester. In-district students who are not sponsored by a school district and enroll in non-S sections at South Texas College are charged a flat fee of \$50 per credit hour plus all applicable differential tuition and fees. More information may be found in the *Dual Credit Program Instructional & Quality Standards Manual* at the Dual Credit Programs website.

In addition, STC charges for faculty time and travel (on average \$3,500) when an STC faculty member is requested by a school district to teach a cohort class at the high school, as stated above.

## MANAGEMENT

South Texas College manages the dual credit program through several agreements that include a formal **Interlocal Agreement** which is signed by each school district’s superintendent, and a **Principal Agreement** that is signed by principals that have STC Faculty teaching dual courses in their high school. Additionally, South Texas College has approved board policies that defines student eligibility and enrollment, tuition and fees, academic progress, and partnership agreements.

<b>South Texas College Dual Credit Programs Board Policies</b>	
#3230	Dual Credit Programs with Partnering School Districts
#3232	Dual Credit Student Eligibility Requirements
#3320	Academic Progress Standards
#3322	Student Financial Aid - Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

## DUAL CREDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

As part of an ongoing review of the Dual Credit Programs and to ensure program quality and student success, South Texas College has established the **Dual Credit CTE Advisory Committee** and the **Dual Credit Traditional Advisory Committee**. Each Committee has representation for the Programs partnering school districts and reviews and discusses the current state of the Dual Credit Programs, as well, provides feedback on how to support and further enhance the current Program.

## DUAL CREDIT TASKFORCE

Furthermore, South Texas College has established the Dual Credit Task Force with college- wide membership including representation from Faculty Senate, Council of Chairs, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management, Dual Credit Programs, and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The Steering Committee for the taskforce meets once a year to address issues that concern the Dual Credit Programs. The Dual Credit Task Force has several sub-committees that focus on specific issues to address during the year. The sub-committees for the 2021-2022 academic year include: NACEP Accreditation; Procedures and Process; Professional Development; Research Program Quality and Student Success; Enrollment, Orientation, and Transition; Instructional Environments and Textbooks; and Dual Credit Toolkit and Reports.

### **The Sub-Committee of “Research Program Quality & Student Success”**

The Sub-Committee of “Research Program Quality & Student Success” has been charged with reviewing and examining available research data on dual credit enrollment and with conducting original research to determine the “Quality of Dual Credit Programs and Student Success.”

## STUDENT SUCCESS INDICATORS

Since 2010, South Texas College’s Research and Analytical Services (RAS) Department has conducted original research to provide answers to the following two questions:

- 1. Are dual credit students’ success rates comparable to STC’s traditional students?**
- 2. Are dual credit students successful when they transfer to other higher education institutions?**

To address the first question, the following South Texas College data have been collected and analyzed for the Fall 2021 semester.

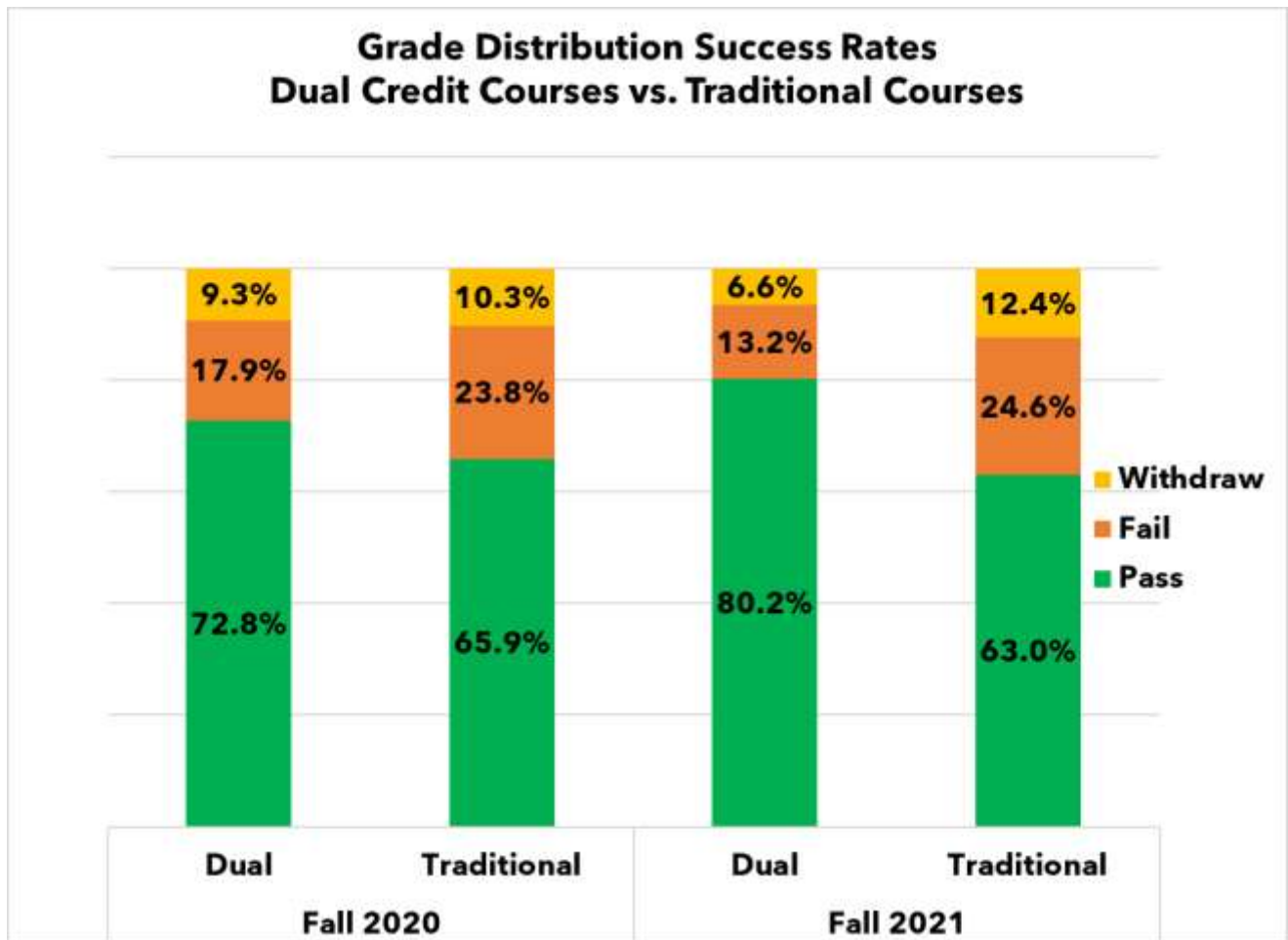
### **STUDENT SUCCESS RATES**

- Comparison of overall **grade distribution** among Dual and Traditional students
- Comparison of student success rates in high enrolled dual courses by **faculty type**
- Comparison of student success rates in Dual and Traditional courses taught by **the same faculty**



## COURSE SUCCESS RATE DUAL VS TRADITIONAL

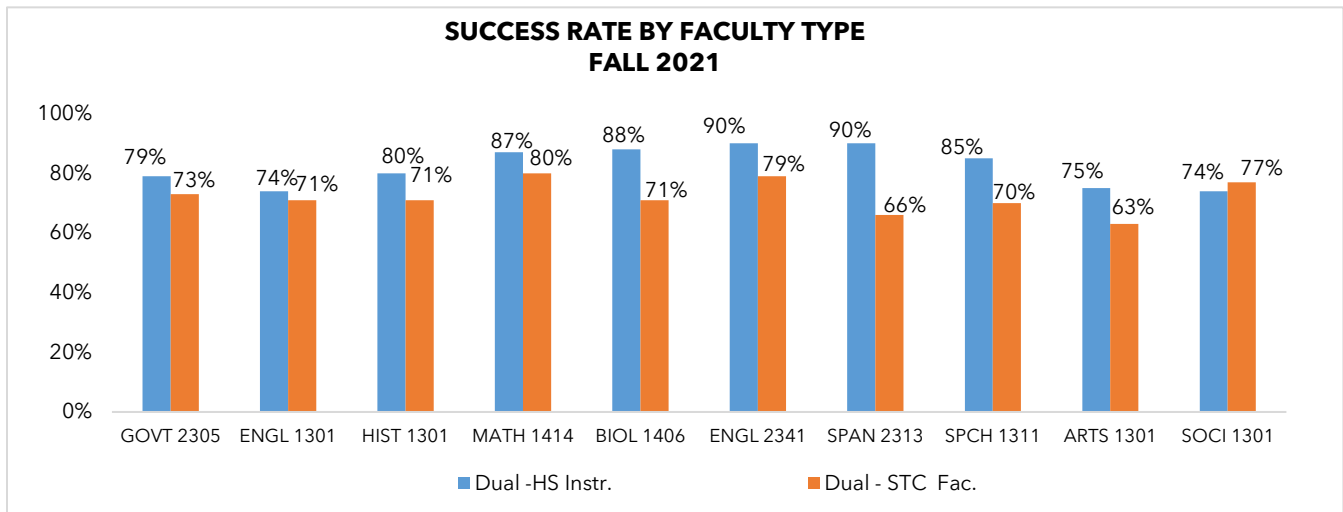
The overall Dual Credit student success rate for Fall 2021 (grades A, B, or C) was 80.2% compared to the STC traditional student success rate of 63.0%. **On average, dual credit students have a 17.2% higher success rate** as compared to STC traditional students. The chart below compares student success rates of Traditional courses to Dual Credit courses for Fall 2020 and Fall 2021 semesters.



## SUCCESS RATES BY FACULTY TYPE

### Comparison of student success rates in high enrolled dual courses by faculty type

To analyze the dual credit course pass rates, the Fall 2021 semester top ten (10) courses taught by Dual Credit Faculty (DCF) and STC faculty were selected and analyzed. For the Fall 2021 semester, **10** courses showed a statistically significant difference between STC faculty teaching the course and Dual Credit faculty teaching the course.



### Comparison of student success rates in Dual and Traditional courses taught by the same faculty

To analyze the dual credit student capabilities, the Research & Analytical Services (RAS) Department compared the success rates of students enrolled with the faculty teaching the same course in both traditional format (teaching STC traditional students) and in dual format (teaching dual enrolled students).

Overall, the results indicate that **at the College level for Fall 2021 semester, all courses taught by the same STC faculty member in the dual and the traditional formats, dual student success rates were higher than traditional STC students by 19%**. Overall, dual enrolled students have higher success rates as compared to STC traditional students, which indicates that dual credit students are able to take dual courses and outperform STC traditional students. The chart below indicates the result and comparison of dual credit student success and traditional student success in the same course taught by STC faculty for the last four Fall semesters.

COURSES TAUGHT BY SAME STC FACULTY IN DUAL AND TRADITIONAL COURSES 2017-2021						
Fall Semester	Dual			Traditional		
	Sections DE	Enrollment	% Completed Dual A, B, C	Sections STC	Enrollment	% Completed Traditional A, B, C
2017	287	4,665	84%	320	7,802	66%
2018	294	5,230	82%	343	8,008	67%
2019	534	8,992	79%	356	8,429	64%
2020	366	6,455	65%	374	8,621	60%
2021	277	4,572	79%	336	6,940	60%

Source: STC Research and Analytical Services (RAS)

## TRANSFER SUCCESS

### Are dual credit students successful when they transfer to other higher education institutions?

To address this question, data for the high school seniors in the Academic Year 2021-2022 was analyzed to determine if students had registered at a college or university after graduation during the Fall 2021 semester.

The size of the cohort was 6,317 students. Overall, **4,016 out of 6,317 (64%) were found enrolled in a higher education institution in Fall 2021.** Seventeen percent (18%) enrolled at South Texas College. Twenty-nine percent (31%) enrolled at UTRGV. Meanwhile, 15% enrolled at other institutions. A total of 2,301, thirty-six percent (36%) of the dual seniors could not be tracked as enrolled at an institution in higher education.

The chart below summarizes the information.

Dual Seniors Post-Secondary Enrollment AY 2021-2022		
INSTITUTION	COUNT	% OF TOTAL
STC	1,143	18%
UTRGV	1,934	31%
*Other	939	15%
Not Found	2,301	36%
<b>Total Dual Seniors</b>	<b>6,317</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Source: National Student Clearinghouse and South Texas College Banner System



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

South Texas College offers strong professional development programming for all faculty. Specific programs have been developed to support STC faculty who teach at high school sites and Dual Credit Faculty who teach college courses at their high schools.

Twice a year, faculty receive targeted professional development during designated days in the Fall and Spring Semesters. In the Fall, the **Adjunct and Dual Credit Faculty Professional Development Day** is held with sessions including effective teaching techniques, active learning strategies, and specific training on the College's course management systems and student portal systems.

In Fall 2015, South Texas College launched a brand-new academy for Dual Credit Faculty (DCF). The **Developing Excellence in Learning and Teaching Academy (DELTA) Online** helps DCF's and Adjunct faculty to become part of the South Texas College family. DELTA Online provides participants with support and guidance as well as information on faculty expectations, resources, policies, procedures, and creating a college environment.



In addition, each year, the "[Dual Credit Faculty Reference Guide](#)" is developed for South Texas College faculty who teach dual courses and for high school instructors that teach dual credit courses. The Reference Guides provide faculty with updated information that covers College and high school specific information. Furthermore, on a regular basis the needs of faculty who participate in the Dual Credit Programs are assessed, and specialized training is developed to address those needs.



# Contact Information

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Dr. Rebecca De Leon**

*Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs & School District Partnerships*

A158, Pecan Campus

956.872.2607

[Rdeleon\\_8106@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:Rdeleon_8106@southtexascollege.edu)

**Antonio De La Cruz**

*Director for Dual Credit Academic Pathways*

A139, Pecan Campus

956.872.2148

[Adelacruz\\_4846@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:Adelacruz_4846@southtexascollege.edu)

**Alejandra Cantu**

*Director for Dual Credit Scheduling and Enrollment*

D1.106, Pecan Campus

956.872.3568

[acantu@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:acantu@southtexascollege.edu)

**Leonardo Castaneda**

*Director Academies and Career Technical Pathways*

A105A, Pecan Campus

956.872.5403

[lacastaneda@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:lacastaneda@southtexascollege.edu)

## SUPPORT STAFF

**Yvette Gonzalez**

Project Manager

Y1.202, Pecan Campus

956.872.3490

[Ygonzalez\\_1512@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:Ygonzalez_1512@southtexascollege.edu)

**Rosangela Mancillas**

School District & Partnerships Relations Manager

Y1.202, Pecan Campus

956.872.8369

[rmancillas\\_3967@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:rmancillas_3967@southtexascollege.edu)

**Nicole Garcia**

Administrative Assistant - AVP Office

D107A, Pecan Campus

956.872.3520

[ngarcia@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:ngarcia@southtexascollege.edu)

**Nancy Torres**

Administrative Assistant - Dual Credit Academic Pathways

A131, Pecan Campus

956.872.6442

[ntorres6@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:ntorres6@southtexascollege.edu)

**Aileen Cepeda**

Administrative Assistant - Academies and Career Technical Pathways

A155, Pecan Campus

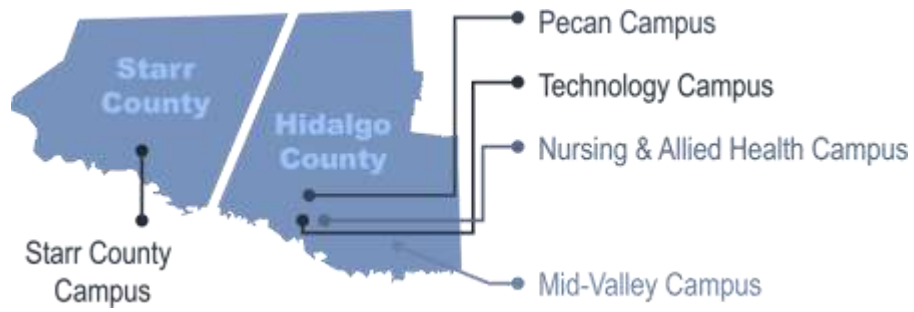
956.872.2619

[aceped10@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:aceped10@southtexascollege.edu)

# INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNERS

South Texas College partners with 21 school districts at 70 high school sites across the Hidalgo and Starr counties.

- |                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Donna ISD        | 12. PSJA ISD                |
| 2. Edinburg CISD    | 13. Rio Grande City CISD    |
| 3. Edcouch-Elsa ISD | 14. Roma ISD                |
| 4. Hidalgo ISD      | 15. Pharr Oratory Athenaeum |
| 5. La Joya ISD      | 16. San Juan Diego Academy  |
| 6. La Villa ISD     | 17. Sharyland ISD           |
| 7. McAllen ISD      | 18. South Texas ISD         |
| 8. Mercedes ISD     | 19. Valley View ISD         |
| 9. Mission CISD     | 20. Vanguard Academy        |
| 10. Monte Alto ISD  | 21. Weslaco ISD             |
| 11. Progreso ISD    |                             |



## APPENDIX A

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2020 South Texas College Dual Credit Programs is the first in the State of Texas to receive a prestigious **accreditation by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships** (NACEP) reaching a historical milestone.
- 2019 Dual Credit Programs celebrated **20 years of student success**
- 2018 Graduated over 1,900 dual credit students with **Associate Degrees** and **Certificates**
- 2017 First graduating class of the Dual Enrollment Nursing Pilot Program
- 2017 Developed the Dual Credit Program Success Metrics
- 2016 SACSCOC awarded a **Commendation** to the overall Dual Credit Programs for its exemplary performance and close connections with high schools
- 2015 Received approval from Texas Board of Nursing to create a **Dual Enrollment Nursing Pilot Program**
- 2015 ECHS Program was **recognized** as a **"Bright Spots in Hispanic Education"** by the White House Initiative on Education Excellence for Hispanics
- 2015 ECHS Program was **awarded** the **2015 Excelencia in Education Award** for Associates
- 2014 Academies Program was selected as a **finalist** for the 2014 **Excelencia in Education Award**
- 2013 Academies Program was selected as a **finalist** for the **Bellwether Legacy Award**
- 2012 DEMSA Program was selected as a **Star Award recipient** from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)
- 2011 Assisted in the **creation and enactment** of **Senate Bill 975**. Public Junior College & School District Partnership Program to Provide Dropout Recovery
- 2009 High School Recovery Program was selected as a **Star Award winner** from THECB (Partnership with PSJA Independent School District)
- 2008 Academies Program was selected as a **finalist** of the **STAR Award** from THECB
- 2008 Academies Program was selected as a **finalist** for the national **Bellwether Award**
- 2003 **Sponsor of House Bill 415** to establish Career & Technology Dual Enrollment opportunities





## SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

### **Notice of Non-Discrimination**

South Texas College is an equal education and equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. As an equal education institution and equal opportunity employer, the College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. Discrimination is prohibited and the College will comply with all applicable College policies, and state and federal legislation. This statement extends to individuals seeking employment with and admission to the College.

### **South Texas College Accreditation**

South Texas College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the Baccalaureate and Associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of South Texas College.

### **Dual Credit Programs NACEP Accreditation Statement**

South Texas College Dual Credit Programs is accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships in meeting the highest standards in concurrent enrollment, dual credit initiatives, and displaying greater accountability through program evaluation. Contact the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships at P.O. Box 578 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 or call 919-593-5205 for questions about accreditation of South Texas College Dual Credit Programs.