

Illinois Community College Board Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS “DUAL CREDIT” AND HOW CAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS USE IT TO GET AHEAD?

Dual Credit allows academically prepared high school students to simultaneously **earn credits that count toward a high school diploma and a college degree**. Dual Credit instruction delivers a “win-win” arrangement for all parties: students gain access to challenging college-level coursework to make their junior and senior years of high school more productive; students can prove to others and themselves that they have the ability to succeed in college; college costs can be reduced for parents and students; time to degree at college can be shortened; and the enhanced high school and college faculty dialogue can contribute to a better alignment between secondary and postsecondary education.

Table 1

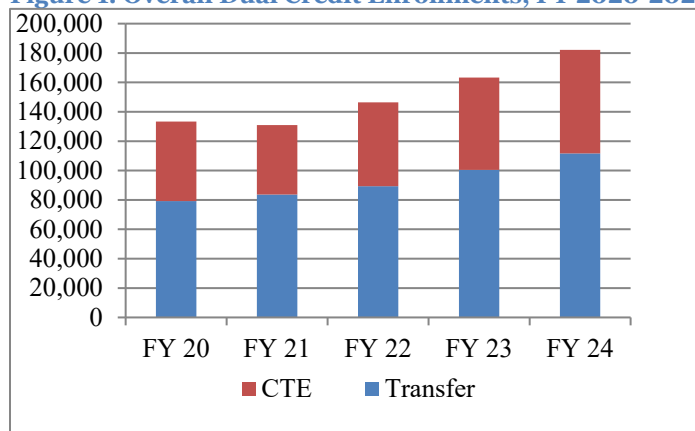
Summary of Annual Dual Credit Course Counts, Enrollments, and Average Class Size In Illinois Public Community Colleges, Fiscal Years 2020-2024

	<u>FY 20</u>	<u>FY 21</u>	<u>FY 22</u>	<u>FY 23</u>	<u>FY 24</u>
Course Count	12,569	13,314	13,543	14,638	16,288
Enrollment	133,394	130,943	146,391	163,283	182,093
Avg Class Size	10.6	9.8	10.8	11.2	11.2

Source of Data: ICCB Centralized Data System—Annual Course Data (AC)

In fiscal year 2024, Illinois community colleges offered 16,288 dual credit courses, which was an increase of 11.3 percent from 2023 (N = 14,638). **Total dual credit enrollments were 182,093 in fiscal year 2024**, an 11.5 percent increase over 2023 (N = 163,283). Average dual credit class size was 11.2 students in fiscal year 2024, which matched the 2023 number (N = 11.2). Figure 1. depicts the proportion of Transfer and Career and Technical Education (CTE) enrollments. Transfer dual credit enrollments (61.3 percent) and course counts (63.4 percent) accounted for over three-fifths of all dual credit enrollments and course counts in fiscal year 2024.

Figure 1. Overall Dual Credit Enrollments, FY 2020-2024



Enrollments in the ten largest programs accounted for 45.5 percent (N = 82,833) of all dual credit enrollments in fiscal year 2024. The ten highest enrollments overall by CIP code in fiscal year 2024 were in **Writing** (N = 30,125); **Mathematics** (N = 8,743); **Spanish Language and Literature** (N = 7,226); **Rhetoric and Composition** (N = 6,568); **American History** (N = 6,340); **Sports, Kinesiology, and Physical Education** (N = 5,489); **Statistics** (N = 4,998); **Welding Technology** (N = 4,721); **Psychology** (N = 4,680); and **Nursing Assistant** (N = 3,943).

For a more detailed analysis, please see the report, [Dual Credit in the Illinois Community College System in Fiscal Year 2024](#).

Visit the ICCB website to [locate a Community College near you](#) or for a [map of district boundaries](#).



Collaborating with the System to Inform Statewide Community College Issues

Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois 03/25