

FY24 Access and Equity in Dual Credit Project/Grant Initiative

Frequently Asked Questions

1. When is the deadline for grant application submission?

Answer: The deadline for submission, including all materials, is Friday, January 26, 2024.

2. What is the maximum amount that will be awarded to recipients?

Answer: The maximum amount a recipient may receive is \$150,000.

3. What types of courses/program can funds be used towards?

Answer: The funds for this grant should be used towards the promotion and growth of dual credit "Type A courses", being taught by approved high school instructors at a high school (or other District-managed location). See [DCQA Model Partnership Agreement Form.pdf \(iccb.org\)](#) for additional details regarding dual credit course types.

4. Is food an allowable expense as a part of these grant funds (i.e. – food expenses to provide meals for student orientations, guidance counselor events, etc.)?

Answer: If these events are 5 to 6 hours and participants are expected to stay for the entire duration of the event, then yes. However, in the case of events with shorter durations, this is not allowable.

Food is not to be used for promotion and marketing. If the event, training or seminar, etc. extends long enough that a meal period would be crossed and the participants are expected to continue without breaking, then food is reasonable and necessary.

5. Can funds from this grant be used to support high school instructors seeking credentials, in order to teach dual credit courses?

Answer: Yes, a portion of the grant funds can be designated towards tuition for instructors who would be pursuing the necessary credentials to teach dual credit courses. There are a few important things to keep in mind should this be included in the proposal: 1) the institution would need to have a professional development plan signed and in place for the individual(s) who would be supported in this manner; 2) the institution would need to make a clear case as to why this funding is of need for the individual(s) and how it will specifically benefit the related districts; 3) the institution will need to elaborate on the plans for sustainability and how this expands access for students beyond the timeline and terms of

the grant. Additionally, only 25% of the total funds awarded to recipients can be used towards tuition for instructors seeking the necessary qualifications.

All professional development plans for faculty should be submitted to ICCB (patrick.f.moore@illinois.gov).

6. Would the purchase of books or other course-required equipment/supplies for dual credit students be allowed?

Answer: The use of funds towards books/materials/etc. is allowed, but how the funds are designated and the number of students/districts that would be served will be closely taken into consideration. For instance, textbooks for multiple students/districts vs. a more costly piece of equipment for one district may be factors to consider.

7. Are indirect costs allowable and/or restricted as part of the grant?

Answer: An applicant is allowed to budget for indirect costs using the applicant's negotiated indirect cost rate and associated base up to a cap of 15% of the applicant's budget proposal. Indirect charges would accumulate per the negotiated indirect cost rate agreement up to a maximum of 15% of the total proposed budget.

8. Can funds be used to cover the costs of dual credit course fee(s) for high school students?

Answer: Yes, this grant may cover the costs of existing fees for students that qualify for support services through the grant (**based upon criteria proposed by the college as part of the project design**). However, any new fees, implemented after the release of this grant opportunity, are not allowed to be covered by these funds.

9. Will a grant application that outlines project activities aimed at expanding the number of (and support for) Type B, Type C, and Type D courses be considered for this funding opportunity?

Answer: The singular modality being targeted is on scaling equitable access to Type A courses, as defined in the Model Partnership Agreement Under the Dual Credit Quality Act (MPA). All proposals must be formulated with this requirement in mind. In order to go beyond Type A courses, a clear connection to advancing equitable access to Type A courses would need to be demonstrated in the proposal.

10. If a grant application that contains project activities aimed at expanding the number of (and support for) all Types (e.g. Types A, B, C, and D) of dual credit courses, will only the Type A project activities be funded?

Answer: All grant applications will be considered in their entirety, though this does not preclude specific unallowable activities being disallowed or otherwise considered for revision if funded.

11. Is there a need to include a NOFO# and/or CSFA# when applying for this grant?

Answer: In terms of the NOFO# and CSFA# for the Access and Equity in Dual Credit Project grant, these numbers do not need to be included as the project is exempt from GATA. State funded grant programs/awards that are only going to the Colleges are exempt from GATA.