



## **ELEVATE Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Q: Who is eligible to participate?**

A: Students must:

- Attend a TCS high school at least one year prior to taking courses as part of the Elevate Dual Enrollment Scholarship program; and
- Live in a Tuscaloosa City Schools' residential attendance zone or be a dependent of a TCS employee; and
- Be in grade 10, 11, or 12; and
- Meet institutions' minimum grade point average requirements

### **Q: What is included?**

A: Tuition, books, and fees for up to nine (9) hours of college-level credit.

### **Q: Which Institutions are participating in the scholarship program?**

A: Shelton State Community College, Stillman College, the University of Alabama

### **Q: How do I apply?**

A: Students are notified of eligibility and must opt-in to the ELEVATE Dual Enrollment Scholarship. Students begin the process of participating in a dual enrollment or dual credit course through the standard *high school* course registration process. Specific guidance and instructions for dual enrollment processes will be provided by school counselors and by the TCS Coordinator of Post-Secondary Engagement.

### **Q: Which classes can I take?**

A: All first-time dual enrollment students are required to take orientation courses required by participating institutions. A range of curated, general courses that apply to all/most majors and that are easily transferable to other institutions will be eligible as well.



**Q: Where should I take my classes?**

A: Each of the participating institutions offer strong dual enrollment programs with unique opportunities for learning. Your decision should be based on what works best for you!

**Q: What if I don't have transportation?**

A: Although transportation costs are not covered, many courses will be offered on one of our high school campuses or may be taken online.

**Q: Why doesn't this include all seniors who live in Tuscaloosa?**

A: Mayor Walt Maddox and the City Council designed this scholarship for students enrolled in a Tuscaloosa City Schools high school and who live within the city. See above eligibility requirements for details.

**Q: Can this scholarship be used for non-credit-bearing or technical course work?**

A: Yes, a 2022 expansion of the ELEVATE Dual Enrollment Scholarship now allows students to take non-credit bearing and technical course work.

**Q: When can I take courses with this scholarship?**

A: Rising 10th graders who meet eligibility criteria and who opt-in can receive funding beginning with the Fall semester of their 10th grade year.

**Q: How will dual enrollment affect my GPA?**

A: By participating in a dual enrollment course, a student has the ability to positively or negatively impact their GPA, as they do with any secondary course. Some dual enrollment courses, known as dual credit courses, are added to the student's high school transcript and carry an additional weight which can further impact GPA. Please see the TCS Dual Credit Crosswalk for more information.

**Q: Is dual enrollment the same as dual credit?**

A: No. Dual enrollment refers to any post-secondary course that a high school student takes for college credit. Dual credit refers to a post-secondary course that is being taken to replace a high school course.



**Q: Does my child have to apply to an Institution before becoming eligible for the Elevate Dual Enrollment Scholarship?**

A: No. Request to take dual enrollment classes when you sign up for your classes. We will guide you through the process of applying to the Institution you want to attend.

**Q: Will I be responsible for any fees at all?**

A: No, all expenses - including books and fees - are covered. Transportation will be your responsibility if you choose to take a course offered on the college campus.

**Q: Are courses only offered during regular school hours?**

A: Course hours vary. Some courses will be available online and/or with other flexibility regarding the time the course meets.

**Q. Are there any prerequisites for the Dual Enrollment courses offered?**

A. For a first time dual enrollment student, there are orientation courses offered by all 3 colleges that are required prior to academic course enrollment. Some dual enrollment courses could have a prerequisite. Please seek out your high school counselor for further clarification.