Georgia’s College Credit Now

*What is it?*

Dual Enrollment provides opportunities for Georgia high school students to take college-level courses and earn concurrent credit toward a *high school diploma and a college degree* while still in high school.

*Dual Enrollment Programs*

**Accel**

...is a non-need based program offered for students that wish to take college-level (academic-only, degree-level) coursework for credit toward both high school and college graduation requirements. The Accel Program will become state funded instead of lottery funded beginning fall 2011 with funding returning for the local systems for their dual enrolled students.


**HOPE Grant**

...is a non-need based grant program for students seeking technical certificates or diplomas from the Technical College System of Georgia’s institutions.


**Move On When Ready**

...provides an *eligible* 11th or 12th grade student to take ALL of his or her courses through an eligible postsecondary institution. Students receive secondary and college credit for completing graduation and high school diploma requirements.


**Early College**

...is a partnership between a designated local school system and University System of Georgia institution. There are currently twelve Early Colleges in Georgia. Students can earn a high school diploma as well as coursework toward an Associate’s or Bachelor’s degree.

[www.gaearycollege.org/](http://www.gaearycollege.org/)

**Gateway To College**

...is located exclusively on a college campus and is site specific through local agreements between local school systems and colleges.

[www.gatewaytocollege.org/partner_programs.asp](http://www.gatewaytocollege.org/partner_programs.asp)

**Residential Programs**

...are offered for gifted, talented, and motivated students through the University System of Georgia at two institutions:

- The Advanced Academy of Georgia on the campus of the University of West Georgia
- The Georgia Academy of Mathematics, Engineering and Science at Middle Georgia College


[www.mgc.edu/Academics/Natural-Science-Math/GAMES](http://www.mgc.edu/Academics/Natural-Science-Math/GAMES)

“Dual enrollment eases the transition from high school to college, provides students an early start on their college careers, including those who might not otherwise have access to early college opportunities.”

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[www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org)

College Credit Now Programs

Any eligible high school student may enroll full-time or part-time in approved credit-bearing college-level courses approved by the State Board of Education. They must meet the eligibility requirements of the individual College Credit Now program and the Postsecondary Institution to participate. Many career academies, specialized schools, or programs like the Early College and Residential Programs, include College Credit Now options. The following programs are available to assist eligible high school students with college coursework taken through College Credit Now.

1. **Accel Program.** Accel is a program offered during the fall and spring terms of the school year for students that wish to take college-level (academic-only, degree-level) coursework for credit towards both high school and college graduation requirements. Eligible students must meet certain criteria included in the Eligibility section of this document. The Accel Program will become state funded instead of lottery funded beginning fall 2011, but still administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC).
   a. Accel students may be enrolled part-time or full-time in college-level coursework.
   b. NOTE: All hours paid by the Accel program prior to fall 2011, will be included in the combined paid-hours limit of 127 semester hours. Once a student has been paid Accel or HOPE for 127 semester hours that student is no longer eligible to continue to receive HOPE or Accel payment.
   c. As stated above, **hours prior to Fall 2011 paid under Accel will count against the 127 paid hour cap for the HOPE Scholarship.** Accel hours beginning Fall 2011 and after, will not count against the paid hour cap and college coursework taken by high school students before graduation with other fund sources (including Move on When Ready) will not count.

2. **HOPE Grant Program.** The HOPE Grant program is a program which is separate from the HOPE Scholarship, and is offered during the fall and spring terms of the school year at eligible high schools for Georgia residents seeking technical certificates or diplomas from Technical College System of Georgia and University System of Georgia eligible postsecondary institutions. The Georgia Lottery for Education funds the Hope Grant program.

3. **Move on When Ready (MOWR)** provides an arrangement whereby an eligible student entering eleventh or twelfth grade that spent the prior school year in attendance at a public high school in Georgia must take **all of his or her courses** at or through an eligible institution or a college virtual course approved by the State Board of Education and receive secondary credit from his or her high school with the goal of completing graduation and high school diploma requirements. As with all College Credit Now, Move on When Ready students are enrolled in both the high school and the postsecondary institution and earn credits at both simultaneously. Under the MOWR law, College Credit Now funding for Move on When Ready students is provided through FTE, as arranged by the Department of Education based on the MOWR law.

4. **Other Programs.**
   a. **Early College** is an initiative facilitated by the University System of Georgia (University System of Georgia) in partnership with the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE). Early College schools allow identified students to participate in a College Credit Now program and to earn dual academic credit. This blended model targets students traditionally underrepresented in post-secondary education: high poverty, minority, and first-generation college with the goal of completing one to two years of transferable credit towards a Bachelor's Degree or Associates Degree prior to graduating from high school. Participants enter Early College prior to the junior year of high school and in some cases as early as the sixth grade. Each Early College site is a partnership between a designated local school system and University System of Georgia institution.
   b. **Gateway to College.** Gateway to College is a program that empowers identified youth who have already dropped out of high school or are not on track to graduate, but have the potential, to earn a diploma and College Credit Now credit in a supportive college environment. Gateway to College is located exclusively on a college campus and is site specific through local agreements between local school systems and colleges.
   c. **Residential Programs.** The University System of Georgia offers residential programs for gifted, talented, and motivated student at two institutions, the Advanced Academy of Georgia on the campus of the University of West Georgia and the Georgia Academy of Mathematics, Engineering and Science at Middle Georgia College. To participate in an early admission residential program a student must meet the approved high school GPA and SAT/ACT requirements of the program and any additional admissions requirements as defined by the institution. Students will be expected to enroll in, but not be limited to, courses that will satisfy high school graduation requirements. Students enrolling in a residential program may be eligible for Accel.