

Financial Aid & Dual Enrollment:

What Parents & High School Counselors Should Know?

Grades *impact* College *GPA*

In California, Dual Enrollment courses/grades appear on the student's **official college transcript** and are factored into the **cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)**.

- Poor grades (D's and F's) lower both the **academic GPA** and the "**Financial Aid GPA**" if the student attends the same college.
- "Financial Aid GPA" follows Federal regulation, and each student must meet a cumulative GPA of 2.0 each semester. Students are allowed one (1) warning semester before losing financial aid
- *Example: A dual enrollment student who starts with a cumulative 1.5 GPA in their first semester will be at risk of losing financial aid.*

Passing Course(s) Matter!

Whether or not a Dual enrollment course is passed matters; students must meet **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to be eligible for financial aid.**

- **Pace (67% rule):** Students must **complete** at least **67%** of all attempted units; this is known as the '**completion rate**'.
 - Withdrawals (W) and Fails (F) count as *attempted* but not completed credits.
 - *Example: A student who attempts 12 credits but completes 6 will begin their first semester with a Pace of 50% and at risk of losing financial aid.*

Credits *affect* the “Financial Aid Clock”

Financial Aid isn't unlimited. Students must meet **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** to be eligible for financial aid.

- **Maximum Time Frame (150% rule):** Students can receive up to 150% of the total number of credits needed to complete their degree objective.
 - **Dual enrollment credits count towards a student's Maximum Time Frame.**
 - An Associate Degree (AA/AS) requiring 60 credits allows up to 90 attempted credits.
 - *Example: A student who took 15 units of dual enrollment courses will begin the first semester with 15 attempted credits of 90 allowed.*

Key Points for Parents & Counselors

Dual Enrollment opens doors – but it also carries responsibility from all parties (Student, Parent(s), and High School Counselor). Encourage students to approach these courses seriously so they don't jeopardize future financial aid opportunities.

- **Grades matter.** Dual enrollment grades affect GPA and financial aid eligibility
- **Passing course(s) matter.** Too many W's, D's, and F's can drop a student below the 67% completion rate.
- **Credits Count.** The total amount of dual enrollment credits taken count totals a student's “financial aid clock” (Maximum time-frame).
- **Support is KEY.** Help the student choose a manageable load and only take classes they are ready to succeed in.

