

The following FAQ has been developed to support the implementation of HB193 (2025) and the alignment of the Dual Credit Scholarship program with Kentucky's Statewide General Education Core.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Why is this update to the Dual Credit Scholarship Program needed?

In 2025, the Kentucky General Assembly passed House Bill 193, which stipulated that the state-funded Dual Credit Scholarship be applied exclusively to general education courses outlined in the Statewide General Education Core approved by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) (see [Kentucky's Transfer Policy](#)).

What is NOT being impacted within the dual credit system by this legislation?

- *The number or availability of general education scholarships per student*
- *The grade level(s) of student eligibility related to the Dual Credit Scholarship program*
- *Dual credit course options beyond those funded by the scholarship program, such as courses for which students/families self-pay*
- *The ability of K12 and postsecondary institutions to form dual credit partnerships*

Does the implementation of HB 193 have any impact on the funding allocation for Kentucky's Dual Credit Scholarship Program?

No. HB 193 does not impact the funding allocation of the program. The level of available funding is determined by the Kentucky General Assembly every other year as part of the state biennial budget process.

How will this change benefit students and Kentucky's dual credit system?

Better alignment of coursework funded by the Dual Credit Scholarship to Kentucky's General Education Core will help ensure the credits students earn while still in high school will apply to postsecondary academic program requirements (not electives) and transfer seamlessly from one Kentucky postsecondary institution to another. Additionally, the shift will bring increased awareness and understanding of the purpose and details of Kentucky's General Education Core, which will improve postsecondary advising and course selection practices.

Do these changes have any impact on Career and Technical Education (CTE) dual credit or the Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship?

The alignment of general education coursework to the Statewide General Education Core does not impact the dual credit coursework offered to students as part of a K-12 career and technical education pathway. The implementation also has no impact on the number of CTE dual credit courses that will be covered by the scholarship program. However, the reference to Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarships will be eliminated once HB 193 is fully implemented. At that point the Dual Credit Scholarship program will fund both general education and career and technical education coursework.

How will everyone know which courses are eligible for the Dual Credit Scholarship once these changes are implemented?

After KHEAA and the postsecondary institutions have collaborated to finalize the general education course lists, they will be published and available under the Dual Credit Scholarship section of KHEAA's website.

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE

What is the Statewide General Education Core?

Kentucky's statewide general education core, which consists of a minimum of 30 unduplicated credit hours, is outlined in [Kentucky's General Education Transfer Policy](#). The courses are divided into 5 academic categories:

- *6-9 hours of Written and Oral Communications*
- *3-6 hours of Quantitative Reasoning*

- 6-9 hours of Arts and Humanities
- 3-7 hours of Natural Sciences
- 6-9 hours of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Why is the general education core important? What is its purpose and guiding principles?

Kentucky's general education core establishes common general education requirements across institutions, which promotes acceptability and transferability of college credits. These common requirements are predicated upon the acquisition of competencies in broad academic areas and enhance cooperation with respect to postsecondary advising.

Where can I find information about the specifics of Kentucky's General Education Core?

Information about Kentucky's General Education Core requirements can be found in the [Statewide Transfer Policy](#). In addition to the list of requirements and other general information, the Appendix to the Transfer Policy contains a complete listing of the student learning objectives associated with each of the 5 categories in the general education core.

How would I find out which general education category a course is in?

Each Kentucky postsecondary institution is responsible for "tagging" or designating general education coursework into appropriate categories based upon the alignment between the course content and the student learning objectives outlined in the [Statewide Transfer Policy](#). Many universities publish their list of general education core requirements and unique course options on their websites. Additionally, each Kentucky public postsecondary institution "tags" these courses in the Transfer Equivalency System (TES) and updates any changes regularly. Find out more about course transfer and links to Kentucky's public TES sites [here](#).

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

What are the phases of the implementation timeline?

PHASE 1: Spring 2026 through SY2026-27

- Spring 2026
 - Communication with K-12 and postsecondary partners regarding the implementation of HB 193
 - Postsecondary institutions submit proposed general education course lists for review and approval
- SY2026-27 - Pilot program year
 - Postsecondary institutions align DC scholarship enrollment submissions with their approved general education course lists to identify where changes need to be made
 - High schools work with postsecondary partners to proactively plan for SY 2027-28 course offerings from the approved general education list

PHASE 2: SY2027-28

- Official statewide launch of the HB 193 changes
- The approved general education course lists will be published and made available on KHEAA's website
- The scholarship program will only pay for approved general education dual credit coursework (from the approved course list) and approved career and technical education dual credit coursework (currently in place as Work Ready DC)
- Updates to KHEAA's database and other scholarship processes will become available, including new reports to help track course completion by general education core category
- Toolkits and other supports are made available

PHASE 3: SY2028-29 and beyond

- Process launched to add/remove general education courses
- Targeted support and ongoing professional learning

POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

What are the immediate next steps for postsecondary providers participating in the Dual Credit Scholarship Program?

1. Review your institution's dual credit course options currently funded by the Dual Credit Scholarship Program. On or before **March 31, 2026**, submit a **narrowed list** of no more than 10 general education courses per category to KHEAA Director of Student Aid, Becky Gilpatrick, at rgilpatrick@kheaa.com. You will receive via email a report of your institution's enrollment trends since 2019 to help you make decisions about course options, as well as an Excel template to use for the gen ed course submission.
2. During April and May, 2026, KHEAA and CPE will review each institution's general education course list submission, and communicate with institutions regarding course list approvals and next steps for the SY 2026-27 pilot year.

Clarify the number of courses my institution should submit per general education category.

Please submit no more than 10 courses per general education category. For example, if you offer 4 Quantitative Reasoning courses for dual credit, you would submit only those 4 courses in that category. On the other hand, if you offer 12 Arts and Humanities dual credit courses, you will need to narrow the options to 10 in that category.

There is a total of 5 general education categories. The submission to KHEAA may result in a total of 50 courses overall if your institution lists 10 courses in each of the categories.

If my institution needs to narrow the course options that are scholarship-eligible, what should be considered most as the decision is made?

Your foremost consideration should be courses that serve the best interests of students as they transition to postsecondary institutions. This means that they are common, highly transferable general education requirements that help to build competency in broad academic areas. Keep these considerations in mind, as well:

- Analyze enrollment and scholarship trends in current dual credit courses; which courses are most commonly paid by the scholarship in recent years? Which courses are students already commonly choosing for self-pay?
- Limit scholarship-eligible course options to 100 & 200 level courses
- Prioritize courses that are highly transferable
- Consider "best fit" courses that align with Gen Ed Core categories, goals, and purposes

Will there be a process for postsecondary institutions to add/remove gen ed courses in the future?

Yes. SY2026-27 is serving as a pilot year to provide flexibility for institutions to work with their approved general education course list and fine tune the options. Institutions will collaborate with KHEAA during SY2026-27 on changes that are needed to finalize an approved general education course list for SY2027-28. Before the start of SY2027-28, KHEAA will establish a formalized process for institutions to make changes to their general education course lists as the Dual Credit Scholarship program moves into the future,

What happens if students enroll in coursework that is not on my institution's approved gen ed course list during SY2026-27?

Since SY2026-27 is a pilot year, KHEAA will continue to pay Dual Credit Scholarships for any general education course enrollment that is submitted, similar to what is being done for SY2025-26. However, institutions are encouraged to only submit gen ed enrollment from their approved list during SY2026-27 to determine where issues exist and need to be worked out before the start of SY2027-28 when only courses from the list will receive scholarship funding.

Many institutions begin registration visits in early Spring for Fall registration. Should we begin advising this way now?

Yes. The 2026-27 school year is considered a pilot year, and implementation will not be perfect, but it would benefit the K12 partners and students, as well as the postsecondary institutions, to begin advising for dual credit general education courses based upon the options your institution has identified in each category. However, courses currently

offered and funded by the Dual Credit Scholarship program will be paid in SY2026-27 as we work toward full implementation in SY2027-28.

Will the high school partners be notified?

Yes. KHEAA and CPE are co-developing a communications plan that includes a variety of methods to communicate with K12 partners and audiences about the Dual Credit Scholarship Program and Kentucky's General Education Core, including but not limited to counselors, high school dual credit coordinators, chief academic officers, principals and superintendents. The communications plan will begin in March with an email from KHEAA and an informational webinar co-hosted by KHEAA and CPE on **Thursday, March 26 at 10 a.m. (ET)**. Registration for the webinar is available [here](#). Communication with high school partners will continue through the SY2026-27, including professional development sessions (i.e., webinars, recordings) and print and electronic resources. All informational resources, including the archived recording of the March 26 webinar, will be available on KHEAA's website.

What else should Postsecondary Institutions do to prepare for and implement this change?

In addition to the required steps outlined above, postsecondary institutions are encouraged to participate in all professional learning sessions, utilize toolkit resources, and make every effort to communicate well with their K12 partners.

ADVISING

What is the plan for addressing advising issues? Will high schools be provided with trained college advisors?

According to Kentucky's [Dual Credit Policy](#), it is the responsibility of the postsecondary provider to "provide dual credit students with academic support services, such as tutoring and advising," and the responsibility of the high school to "coordinate with postsecondary institutions to ensure academic support services are provided to dual credit students" (p. 10). These details, including availability of trained college advisors, should be stipulated in the memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the high school and the postsecondary partner. KHEAA and CPE will provide relevant professional development to support this initiative, including sessions on topics such as the Statewide General Education Core.

HIGH SCHOOLS

Have the high school partners been informed of these changes?

Postsecondary institutions were informed first about the upcoming changes in February 2026 because the work to narrow down the general education course list for scholarship payment is being done at the postsecondary institution level first. The implementation on the high school side will not fully take place until the 2027-28 year. The 2026-27 pilot year is an opportunity to work out issues with the general education course lists before the full rollout takes place in the 2027-28 year.

KHEAA and CPE will co-host an informational webinar for high schools on **Thursday, March 26 at 10 a.m. (ET)**. Registration for the webinar is available [here](#). Communication with high school partners will continue through the SY2026-27, including professional development sessions (i.e., webinars, recordings) and print and electronic resources. All informational resources, including the archived recording of the March 26 webinar, will be available on KHEAA's and CPE's websites, as well as at [Futuriti.org](#).

How should high schools prepare for this change?

High schools should continue to work with their postsecondary dual credit providers to be aware of any changes to general education course options that may be a result of this process. Additionally, high school personnel who have influence over high school course options and/or who advise students about early postsecondary opportunities and course selection should take advantage of training and support provided by KHEAA and CPE related to Kentucky's Dual Credit Scholarship program and the State-wide General Education Core. This information is critical to ensuring that students' early college coursework supports their postsecondary plans and that credits earned apply to the general education requirements of their postsecondary program or degree.

Are there certain high schools in the SY2026-27 Pilot year or will it be for every school?

Every public and private Kentucky high school that participates in the Dual Credit Scholarship program will be included in the pilot year because every postsecondary institution will also participate in the pilot year.

Is it going to be the responsibility of high school dual credit coordinators to keep track of student credit hours within the core categories or will there be a state liaison to support this process?

No. KHEAA will provide data on scholarship coursework taken in each general education category to aid administrators who are advising students. However, students are ultimately responsible for their actions and should be engaged in the process of selecting dual credit coursework that is most beneficial to their educational goals.

SITUATIONAL Q & A

How does the statewide general education core and the transfer policy relate to the dual credit courses a student should take? How does that fit into the scholarship program?

The statewide general education transfer core consists of five categories, with a recommendation on the maximum number of credit hours students should take in each category ranging from 6-9 hours. Dual Credit Scholarship program eligibility is already limited to a certain number of general education courses. Therefore, starting in SY2027-28, dual credit courses receiving scholarship payment will be limited to 2 per gen ed category to help ensure students do not exceed the recommended limit of hours earned. KHEAA will be making reports available to track the progress of students.

If students are limited to 2 courses in the Communications category, it would not cover the general ed core requirement at most institutions of a two course ENG sequence and one communication course.

The statewide general education transfer core consists of 6-9 credit hours including both written and oral communication. There is no prescribed "two course ENG sequence and one communication course" at the state level. As such, a student can take up to 2 courses in the Communications category that will be paid by the Dual Credit Scholarship. The student may take additional courses in the category but they would not be paid through the Dual Credit Scholarship Program.

What happens if a student wants to take 3 or 4 courses in Math?

*Students are welcome to take up to 2 courses in any of the general education core categories and have them paid by the Dual Credit Scholarship. There are no limits on students **taking** additional courses in any category; however, the Dual Credit Scholarship Program **would not cover the cost** of those additional courses. Rather, those courses would need to be paid by the student through another method. The goal of the Dual Credit Scholarship program is not necessarily to satisfy **every** requirement in any of the five general education categories. Limiting to 2 in each of the 5 categories provides students with flexibility and variety in their course selection, while safeguarding against students accumulating too many general education hours in any particular category, resulting in the possibility of the courses being applied as elective credit.*

Can students still take upper level (300+) coursework and have it covered by the scholarship program?

Only 100 and 200 level coursework is being approved for general education course options that will be paid by the scholarship program. Institutions may continue to offer upper level (300+) general education courses that are paid through other means (out-of-pocket by student/parent, school district, etc.).

Are labs counted as one separate course if students take them with the lecture? Or does the lab/lecture combo count as one course on the institution's list of 10?

Labs will piggyback with the lecture course as is current practice with the scholarship program. On the institution's general education list submission, labs should be listed alongside the lecture and will be counted as one course on the list. Additionally, the lab/lecture combo will continue to be counted as one scholarship used.

We are offering a 300 level course at several of our high schools this year and will be offering it again 26/27. Will this course be approved for the scholarship in 26/27?

*The 2026-27 school year is the pilot year, so KHEAA will not deny payment for upper level (300+) course enrollment that is reported for the Dual Credit Scholarship program during this year. However, the pilot year is intended to provide an opportunity to address any inconsistencies in course options moving forward. Beginning in SY2027-28, there will be no restriction against offering a 300-level course for dual credit; however, it will **not** be approved for payment through the Dual Credit Scholarship program. Instead, either students or the school/district will need to pay the discounted dual credit rate for the course. It would not be fundable through the Dual Credit Scholarship program.*

Currently we have some classes that can count as either general education or work ready dual credit. Will that continue?

KHEAA will allow courses that could be either general education or career and technical to be reported for payment as CTE coursework for scholarship purposes provided the student is taking the course as part of a KDE-approved CTE pathway. That is what KHEAA is doing now and will continue to do. KHEAA will be tracking the courses by general education category once these changes are fully implemented. Students in courses that may fit into both general education and work ready/CTE will still count toward the general education category limit (such as Natural Science) even if the scholarship payment is on the work ready/CTE side.