



Texas Success Center

**CCRC** COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
RESEARCH CENTER  
TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

## DEEP Partnership Workshop

June 2, 2023,  
August 1, 2023, or  
August 2, 2023

### Strengthening Dual Credit as a Trailhead to Career Path Jobs

The Texas Success Center and the Community College Research Center (CCRC) have partnered to offer Dual Enrollment Equity Pathways (DEEP) Partnership Workshops this summer. Many Texas community colleges participated in the pre-institute hosted by CCRC on April 12, 2023, which provided the opportunity to explore disaggregated data on dual credit access, course-taking and early college outcomes for their institution and high school partners. This new workshop will extend this initial conversation, enabling colleges to explore DC data alongside peers in the K-12 system, with the goal of identifying opportunities to expand equitable access to dual credit programming aimed to serve as an entry-point—or “trailhead”—to [Talent Strong Texas Pathways](#). Learn more about the Center’s partnership with CCRC’s research project, [Scaling Dual Enrollment Equity Pathways to College and Career Success](#).

### Workshop Description

This interactive 3-hour virtual workshop is focused on strengthening the potential of DC to broaden access to college and career opportunity by better aligning dual credit courses with college pathways leading to successful transfer and career-path jobs. During the workshop, community colleges and a selected school district (ISD) partner will:

1. Learn about effective models of dual credit from Texas case studies,
2. Examine college- and school-level data on dual credit student access and success,
3. Utilize research-based tools for evaluating current practices, and
4. Collaboratively prioritize and plan next steps for strengthening their dual credit partnership.

By the end of the workshop, the college/ISD teams will be ready to communicate the purpose and direction of their collective work to strengthen dual credit and to engage their respective school, ISD, and college communities in co-designing and implementing reforms aligned to their common vision for student success.

### Who Should Attend?

Community colleges seeking to strengthen the potential of their dual credit offerings to increase college access and career opportunities should identify and invite a team from one (1) ISD partner with this shared vision. The college and ISD are encouraged to prioritize participation and consideration of Title 1 and other schools serving large numbers of lower-income, Black, Hispanic, English Learners, and other student populations underrepresented in higher education.

The following roles at the college and ISD are recommended for strategic planning.

College Teams (3-4 participants):

- College leader overseeing dual credit (e.g., provost, dean)
- Dual credit program lead and/or coordinator
- Dual credit advisor(s)
- Dual credit instructor(s)
- Talent Strong Texas Pathways lead

ISD Teams (3-4 participants):

- District leader overseeing dual credit
- High school principal or academic dean from Title 1 school(s)
- College and career readiness advisor
- Dual credit instructor

### Advance Work

All participants should prepare to engage in robust conversations that lead to data-informed strategic planning. We recommend the following readings and reflection activity before your workshop.

- **Pre-Reading 1:** Executive Summary, [Rethinking DC as a Trailhead to Talent Strong Texas Pathways](#) (CCRC, 2023)
- **Pre-Reading 2:** Executive Summary, [Dual Enrollment Playbook: A Guide to Equitable Acceleration for Students](#) (Aspen Institute and CCRC, 2020)
- **Reflection Activity:** Before the virtual workshop, reflect on the following three questions. If you have the opportunity, meet internally with your college or ISD team to discuss your reactions to the pre-reading and these three questions:
  1. What are the purposes of dual credit for our organization?
  2. What goals are we trying to achieve for students? For our organization?

*Prompts for consideration, potential goals for dual credit:*

- *Reducing time and costs for students and families to earn a degree that leads to high-demand, career-path jobs*
- *Increasing academic rigor in high school in preparation for college and increasing the chances of attaining a degree, especially for underrepresented students*
- *Introducing high school students to college-level expectations and helping them develop self-confidence*
- *Advancing students' sense of purpose by exposing them to people and programs in postsecondary fields of study*
- *Promoting upward mobility in the community by connecting historically underrepresented students to a high-opportunity postsecondary pathway in high school*
- *Growing the local talent pipeline and pathing students to well-paying, in-demand jobs*
- *Increasing revenue/enrollment of dual credit students and post-high school students*
- *Meeting K-12 state accountability metrics that reward dual credit participation and college-going success*

3. What opportunity areas for improvement should we discuss with our partners? Where will we need their support and coordination to make changes to current practices?