

Comparing College Credit Programs

	AP	ATC	Dual Credit	CLEP	IB
How to participate	In the fall, high schools indicate intent to participate by completing a College Board participation form and selecting an AP coordinator. Students enroll in AP courses offered by a participating high school.	High schools elect to participate by offering courses identified for statewide articulation and by faculty participation in state-required professional development. Students enroll in specific courses offered by a high school participating in the ATC Program.	High school students enroll as an early admission student in a participating institution of higher education to earn college credit. College-level courses may be taken on the college or university campus, or the course may be offered at the high school.	Students can take College Board CLEP exams in high school or college. If their college uses a proprietary departmental examination, students should contact the appropriate college or university department or testing center after enrolling at the school.	Students enroll in IB high school courses offered by a school participating in the International Baccalaureate Program.
Tuition and fees	AP Exam fees are \$92 and fee reduction credits are available. The State of Texas funds a fee subsidy for low-income students. Although colleges may charge a fee to transcript credit, no college tuition is required.	Although colleges may charge a fee to transcript credit, no college tuition required.	Student is subject to all applicable college tuition and fees. The student's school may pay tuition or institutions of higher education may waive tuition.	CLEP exam fees are \$80 and local colleges may charge an additional service fee. Colleges and universities may charge for local exams and may charge a fee to transcript credit.	IB exams are more expensive. There is a \$160 registration fee each year plus a \$110 fee per exam.

Comparing College Credit Programs

	AP	ATC	Dual Credit	CLEP	IB
Student selection	Schools may allow open enrollment in AP courses or may be restrictive in admitting students to AP courses. According to the College Board, the program is not designed only for elite or gifted and talented students. Schools are encouraged by The College Board to develop written guidelines for admitting students into AP courses, and participation by minority and economically disadvantaged students is encouraged.	Students are selected based on interest in technical careers that require a minimum of a one-year certificate and their ability to do college-level work. For award of college credit, most statewide articulated courses must be taken at the junior or senior levels.	Students are selected based on their interest in early admission to college and their ability to do college-level work. Students must pass all sections of the STAAR EOC and obtain approval from their designated school official, and may be subject to terms of the Texas Success Initiative (see below).	Any student desiring to document attainment of college-level knowledge in academic or technical areas.	Schools may have a GPA or testing requirement for students to enroll in IB courses.
Student enrollment status	Enrolled in high school only.	Enrolled in high school only.	Enrolled in high school and college concurrently.	Usually enrolled in college. May be enrolled in high school and bank CLEP credit for future credit award.	Enrolled in high school only.

Comparing College Credit Programs

	AP	ATC	Dual Credit	CLEP	IB
Terms for award of college credit	Qualifying exams are offered by participating schools in May. Students must meet minimum or qualifying scores on College Board AP Exams that are determined by the college or university awarding credit. Credit is awarded after enrollment in a college or university.	Course grade of 80 or above in all courses or course sequences. The student must enroll in a participating two-year college within 15 months of high school graduation, and declare a degree plan that includes the college-equivalent course. A college may require a student to complete 6 additional college hours.	High school credit, as well as college credit, is transcribed immediately upon successful completion of the course. Grading criteria should be devised to allow faculty the opportunity to award high school only or high school and college credit depending on student performance.	Depends on college policies for award of credit or advanced placement for CLEP exams and policies for departmental award of credit-by-examination or for experience.	Starting in grades 11 and 12, students interested in IB typically have two options when it comes to earning IB-based college credit: going for an IB diploma, or pursuing an IB certificate in individual subjects.
Student GPA and graduation recognition	The school may establish a weighted GPA for AP courses. Scores of 3 or above on AP Exams count as a performance acknowledgment displaying their outstanding achievement on their diploma.	The school district may establish a weighted GPA for these courses. Completion of these courses with a grade of 3.0 or higher counts as performance acknowledgment displaying their outstanding achievement on their diploma.	The school may establish a weighted GPA for these courses. Completion of college courses with a grade of 3.0 or higher counts as performance acknowledgment displaying their outstanding achievement on their diploma.	Not applicable.	Although not factored into a student's weighted GPA, usually scoring a 4 or above on IB exams counts as a performance acknowledgment displaying their outstanding achievement on their diploma. <small>*Some high schools may factor the higher level IB courses into the weighted GPA.</small>

Comparing College Credit Programs

	AP	ATC	Dual Credit	CLEP	IB
Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA)	A student is not required to be assessed for basic skills using the approved Texas higher education instrument before enrolling in AP courses.	A student is not required to be assessed for basic skills using the approved Texas higher education instrument before enrolling in statewide articulated courses.	A student is required to be assessed for basic skills using the approved Texas higher education instrument before enrolling in dual credit courses, unless exempt because of STAAR EOC, ACT, or SAT scores, or intent to enroll in a college certificate program of less than 42 semester credit hours.	Not required for CLEP exams taken in high school. Departmental exams or credit for experience may be subject to a postsecondary institution's basic skills assessment policy.	A student is not required to take the TSIA before enrolling in IB courses.
Benefits to students	<p>High school students may receive weighted points toward their GPA.</p> <p>Students who qualify can receive college credit for general academic core requirements for two- and four-year college degrees.</p>	<p>High school students may receive weighted points toward their GPA.</p> <p>Students who qualify can receive credit for technical course requirements for a two-year associate of applied science degree or shorter certificate program.</p>	<p>High school students may receive weighted points toward their GPA.</p> <p>Students who qualify can receive immediate credit for general academic core requirements and/or technical requirements for two- or four-year college degrees.</p>	<p>No specific courses need to be taken, and there is no specific time line for exams.</p>	<p>Students who qualify can receive college credit for general elective and academic core requirements for two- and four-year college degrees.</p>

References

Advanced Technical Credit (ATC) Program. (n.d.). Guide to the advanced technical credit program: A resource for college registrars and student advisors. Retrieved from https://www.atctexas.org/pdf/Guide_to_the_Advanced_Technical_Credit_Program.pdf

GreatSchools.org. (2016, Mar 9). What is International Baccalaureate? Retrieved from National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships. (2017). What is concurrent enrollment. Retrieved from <http://www.nacep.org/about-nacep/what-is-concurrent-enrollment/>

Wyatt, J.N., Patterson, B.F., DiGiacomo, F.T. (n.d.) A comparison of the College Outcomes of AP and Dual Enrollment Students: In progress [Slide presentation]. Retrieved from <https://research.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/publications/2014/7/comparison-college-outcomes-ap-and-dual-enrollment-students-progress.pdf>