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## Top 8 Benefits of Earning Dual Credit

**1. Dual credit options provide a significant cost savings over a traditional college education.** The cost of a college education has skyrocketed in recent years, making it harder and harder for students and families to afford the tuition of a four-year college program. Dual credit options offer a huge savings, enabling students to earn college credits without enrolling in a full-time college degree program.

**2. High school students can begin their college education earlier.** Many students who complete dual credit programs in high school are able to earn a college degree in a shorter timeframe.

**3. Don't take a course twice.** Instead of studying general education subjects in high school and then studying them again in college, students can earn college credits for studying high school subjects at a more advanced level.

**4. The transition from high school to college is easier for most students who earn dual credit.** Dual credit students learn valuable skills that help them transition from high school to college. They work independently, learn important research and test-taking skills, and become expert note-takers.

**5. Students can explore their academic interests in-depth before entering college.** Exploring college-level classes while still in high school will give students an opportunity to discover new academic interests before entering college.

**6. Earn college credits without exposure to some of the negative aspects of life on campus.** College life isn't for everyone — at least not all aspects of college life. For many, the typical antics that take place on a college campus are a huge turn-off. Dual Credit at CHS allows students to avoid some of these aspects of college life and focus entirely on their studies.

**7. If you choose to enter college after completing a dual credit program you can take advantage of freshmen scholarships.** It's no secret that the majority of college scholarships are available to incoming freshmen, not transfer students. By choosing the dual credit option while still in high school, you can earn college credits, but still be classified as a freshman for scholarships and financial aid.

**8. There is financial assistance available!** Start planning and exploring your options as each semester there are 2 opportunities that you may be eligible for.

a. Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship Program  
for more details visit <https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/ACE>

b. STEM Dual Credit Scholarships granted by the

Columbus Public Schools Foundation information provided to school counselors and teachers at the beginning of each semester.