

STATEWIDE DUAL CREDIT MASTER AGREEMENT

September 2010

NEW MEXICO SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM

RECEIVED
JAN - 6 2011

C.A.L.A. PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between The Institute of American Indian Arts (POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION)

and The New Mexico School for the Arts (LEA)

Note: SB 943 (Laws 2007, Chapter 227) creates a dual credit program in state statute. Postsecondary institutions and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) must refer to 6.30.7 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) for rules regarding dual credit program implementation.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

PART 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS OF AGREEMENT

A. SCOPE

Dual credit shall be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of this uniform Master Agreement (*hereafter* Agreement), which supersedes all previous agreements, versions and addenda. This Agreement applies to local education agencies (public school districts, locally chartered and state chartered charter schools, state-supported schools, and bureau of Indian education-funded high schools) (*hereafter* LEA), high school students who attend secondary schools, and public postsecondary institutions in New Mexico including tribal colleges (*hereafter* Postsecondary Institution). The LEA may complete agreements with multiple postsecondary institutions. The Postsecondary Institution may complete agreements with multiple LEAs.

B. DEFINITION OF DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM

“Dual credit program” means a program that allows high school students to enroll in college-level courses offered by a POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION that may be academic or career technical but not remedial or developmental, and simultaneously to earn credit toward high school graduation and a postsecondary degree or certificate.

C. AUTHORIZATION

Dual Credit Programs are authorized by Sections 21-1-1.2, 21-1B-3, 21-13-19 and 22-13-1.4 NMSA 1978 and 6.30.7 NMAC.

D. PURPOSES

The primary purposes of a dual credit program are to increase the educational options and opportunities for high school students and increase the overall quality of instruction and learning available through secondary schools. Fundamentally, dual credit programs allow students to earn credit at the secondary and postsecondary levels simultaneously. The programs may also encourage more students to consider academic or career technical higher education, especially students from underrepresented groups. Research indicates that dual credit programs can lead to better completion rates for both high school and college; reduce the need for remediation; shorten time to a diploma or degree completion; reduce the cost of higher education; reinforce the concept of life-long learning through an educational continuum; provide an alternative for students tempted to leave high school to enter the workforce; and, especially when offered through distance learning, provide equal access to higher education opportunities to students, whether rural or urban.

E. ELIGIBILITY AND APPROVAL

The following general eligibility and approval requirements shall apply to all Agreements. The Agreement specifies the means by which the state will provide equal opportunities to all high school

students who wish to participate in the dual credit program. The Agreement: 1) specifies eligible courses, academic quality of dual credit courses, student eligibility, course approval, course requirements, required content of the form, state reporting, liabilities of parties, and student appeals; and 2) states the roles, responsibilities, and liabilities of the LEA, the postsecondary institution, student, and the student's family.

1. Eligible Courses

College courses that are academic or career technical and that simultaneously earn credit toward high school graduation and a postsecondary degree or certificate shall be eligible for dual credit. Remedial, developmental and physical education activity courses are not eligible for dual credit. Dual credit courses may be taken as elective or core course (except physical education activity course) high school credits. Core course means a course required for high school graduation as defined in 22-13-1.1 NMSA.

The LEA in collaboration with the POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION shall determine a list of academic and career technical courses eligible for dual credit for inclusion into the appendix. The appendix shall indicate the name of the postsecondary institution, the name of the LEA, the date, course subject and number, course title, location of course delivery and semester offered. The LEA shall submit the appendix electronically to NMHED and PED when the Master Agreement is signed and at the end of each semester prior to its application for which the appendix is modified.

Dual credit courses may be offered at LEAs, POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, and off-campus centers as determined by the LEA in collaboration with the POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION offering the courses. Dual credit courses may be delivered during or outside of LEA hours.

The POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION may offer dual credit courses via distance learning (online, hybrid, correspondence, Cyber Academy [IDEAL-NM]) in accordance with 6.30.7.8 NMAC as this option becomes available and cost-effective. All dual credit course rules apply (6.30.7 NMAC). The LEA and POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION participating in the Cyber Academy shall be subject to applicable rules pertaining to distance learning (6.30.8 NMAC).

2. Academic Quality of Dual Credit Courses

College courses eligible for dual credit shall meet the rigor for POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION credit and be congruent with the POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION's normal offerings. Classes offered in LEA settings shall conform to the POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION's academic standards. Faculty for all dual credit courses shall be approved by the POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION.

Dual credit courses must meet the public education department standards and benchmarks. Dual credit courses that are part of the general education common core for postsecondary institutions are eligible for transfer among New Mexico postsecondary institutions pursuant to Subsection D of 21-1B-3 NMSA 1978. Credit is eligible for transfer from one public postsecondary institution to another and is applied toward requirements for postsecondary graduation and receipt of a degree.

3. Student Eligibility

The LEA and POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION shall qualify and advise candidates for dual credit from the pool of eligible high school students. A candidate for dual credit is eligible for consideration for fall, winter and summer semesters if he or she:

1. is enrolled during the fall and winter in a LEA in one-half or more of the minimum course requirements approved by PED for public school students under its jurisdiction or by being in physical attendance at a bureau of Indian education-funded high school at least three documented contact hours per day pursuant to 25 CFR 39.211(c);

