CTE DUAL ENROLLMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA IMPROVES HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE OUTCOMES

North Carolina Career & College Promise Dual Enrollment Program

In North Carolina, eligible high school students can earn credentials and college credits tuition-free from North Carolina colleges and universities through Career & College Promise, a statewide dual enrollment program. Three pathways are available.

- **College Transfer pathway**: Take dual enrollment classes that lead to an associate degree to meet general education requirements at a 4-year college.
- **Career and Technical Education pathway**: Take dual enrollment classes to earn college credits leading to technical credentials or workforce-based careers.
- **Cooperative Innovative High Schools pathway**: Earn an associate degree or 2 years of college credit at an approved high school partnered with a college or university (e.g., an early college).

Participation in the CTE dual enrollment pathway led to positive outcomes for students in the transition from high school to college.

- More **COLLEGE CREDITS** earned while in high school: 6x more
- More likely to **GRADUATE** from high school: 2+ percentage points higher
- More likely to **ENROLL** in college: 9+ percentage points higher

The study looked at students who participated in CCP over 7 years and found positive effects for students in the CTE dual enrollment pathway, on average, compared with similar students who did not take dual enrollment courses.1 CTE dual enrollment students in Grade 11 or 12 did better on key indicators of the transition from high school to college than non-participating students.

About the Study

Compiled demographic and academic achievement data for 525,000 students in Grade 11 or 12 who participated in North Carolina’s Career & College Promise CTE Pathway from 2012–13 to 2018–19 and a comparison group of similar students who did not participate in CCP. Used a quasi-experimental design to analyze short-term and long-term outcomes of CTE dual enrollment participation, including high school GPA, college credits earned in high school, high school graduation, and enrollment in a North Carolina public postsecondary institution.

The study is affiliated with the Career and Technical Education Research Network. To learn more about the network, visit cteresearchnetwork.org; to learn more about the study, email jedmunds@serve.org. This study is supported by the Institute of Education Sciences at the U.S. Department of Education through Grant R305H190036 to the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
Who participates in the CTE dual enrollment pathway?

How to read this graph: Nine percent of all Grade 12 students in North Carolina participated in CTE dual enrollment in 2018–19. Participation for specific student groups varied (for example, 10% of all female students and 8% of all male students participated).

For more information about the Career & College Promise CTE pathway, see this website (https://bit.ly/3dm2i9T) from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. To enroll, speak with your high school guidance counselor or your local community college. To learn more about the study’s findings about the other CCP pathways, see the other infographics in this series.