

Personalized Learning Plans and Home Study: Process for Participation in Vermont Early College and Dual Enrollment Programs

Purpose

This support document outlines for students with home study enrollment verification on file at the Agency of Education the process for requesting to participate in the Vermont Dual Enrollment and Early College Programs as a result of amendments to [16 V.S.A. §166b](#).

Background and Introduction

Every eligible Vermont student who participates in the Vermont Early College (ECP) and Dual Enrollment Programs (DEP) must have a Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) pursuant to [16 V.S.A. §941-§942](#), [16 V.S.A. § 944](#) and [16 V.S.A. § 946](#) and must include how the ECP or DEP course(s) will align with and advance their education.

As per 16 V.S.A §942 “Personalized learning plan” and “PLP” mean documentation of an evolving plan developed on behalf of a student in an ongoing process involving a secondary student, a representative of the school, and, if the student is a minor, the student’s parents or legal guardian and updated at least annually by November 30; provided, however, that a home study student and the student’s parent or guardian shall be solely responsible for developing a plan. The plan shall be developmentally appropriate and shall reflect the student’s emerging abilities, aptitude, and disposition. The plan shall define the scope and rigor of academic and experiential opportunities necessary for a secondary student to complete secondary school successfully, attain postsecondary readiness, and be prepared to engage actively in civic life.

The Minimum Course of Study (MCOS) has historically been accepted as a Home Study student’s “PLP” to streamline the process for home study families and reduce duplication of effort. We have maintained use of the MCOS as the PLP for the immediate 2023-2024 academic year to minimize disruption to home study families as we transition to a new procedure as a result of the passage of [Act 66 of 2023](#). A Home Study PLP process is in development to align with amendments to 16 V.S.A. §166b to support compliance with the Flexible Pathway Initiative described under Chapter 23, Subchapter 2, and maintain efficiencies for Home Study families. This will include leveraging existing resources such as the Dual Enrollment System to improve access and streamline the approval process.

Remedial coursework offered by a college is not eligible for Early College or Dual Enrollment funding, as these courses do not apply toward college graduation requirements. For more information, including important dates, review the Vermont [Early College](#) and [Dual Enrollment](#) webpages.



Instructions for Home Study Students Seeking Approval for VT DEP and ECP

Consistent with 16 V.S.A §942, and one component of the PLP previously described, the *plan shall define the scope and rigor of academic and experiential opportunities necessary for a secondary student to complete secondary school successfully*. The MCOS has historically addressed this required PLP component outlined in statute, and we have included an outline below with a fillable form to assist families. The required content areas below reflect the minimum course of study outlined in [16 V.S.A. §906](#).

1. **Provide for each of the five (5) required content areas below**, a description of the course and content proficiencies addressed. If an elective is being taken through ECP or DEP that does not address the five required content areas, please include in number six (6) and identify how it supports completing secondary school successfully.
2. **Students participating in ECP** must provide under the appropriate content areas the course names, and the essential objectives for each of the 8 to 10 ECP courses the student will be taking to complete secondary school successfully. As a reminder, all students must maintain full-time status (4 to 5 courses per semester) for both the Fall and Spring semesters.
3. **Students participating in DEP** must provide under the appropriate content areas the course name, and the essential objectives for the DEP course(s) the student will be taking. As a reminder, eligible students can take up to two free college courses at participating institutions, after completing grade 10 and prior to graduation. Students seeking to take dual enrollment must do so prior to ECP and cannot take a DEP course concurrently when enrolled in the Early College Program.

Fillable Form for Demonstration of Program Eligibility

Please complete this form by typing your responses in the indicated fields, then save with your name and date in the file name and return to the Agency of Education at AOE.DualEnrollment@vermont.gov.

Student Name:

School Year:

Program: DEP ECP

Institution of Higher Education:

In the section below, please provide a description of the course and content proficiencies addressed.

1. Basic Communication skills, including reading, and writing, (i.e., phonics, speaking/listening, vocabulary, spelling, grammar, types of writing):

2. Basic Communication skills mathematics (i.e., addition, fractions, time, measurement, algebraic/geometric concepts):

3. Citizenship, History, and Government in Vermont and the United States (i.e., *community action and local government, specific eras in history of VT, the US*)

4. English, American, and other literature: (i.e., *genres of books, plot, responses to reading*):

5. Natural Sciences (i.e., *the scientific method, discoveries and inventions, Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science, and Engineering*)

6. NOT REQUIRED - Electives (i.e., **Physical Education:** *team sports, dance, martial arts, yoga, skiing. Comprehensive Health Education:* *first aid, human growth and development, and nutrition. Fine Arts:* *visual arts, media arts, music, dance, attending performing arts events etc.*)