

DISTANCE LEARNING MISSION STATEMENT

The Howard School District recognizes the significance of online education and how organized and well-coordinated programs strengthen the school's image as an innovative and technologically sound institution. This policy will be continually changing as technology changes; new methods will be introduced and old ones removed. Howard School District has the right to deny a student's application to take a course via the South Dakota Virtual High School.

1. Courses: This policy follows established online course structures from various sites, follows state standards, and aligned state guidelines.
2. Credits: Students are able to take online classes offering high school credits, dual credits and college credits.
3. Registration: All registration must be handled through the Howard School Principal.
4. Grading: The contract between the E-learning provider and the Howard School District will work in conjunction when establishing grades and coursework alignment. The provider will give the number/grade and the district will give the credit.

DISTANCE LEARNING CLASSES

South Dakota Virtual High School

<https://sdvs.k12.sd.us/>

The South Dakota Virtual High School is a clearinghouse of distance courses offered by approved providers. Courses are available online or via the Digital Dakota Network. All course offerings and providers are approved by the South Dakota Department of Education. The goal of the Virtual High School is to provide choice, flexibility and quality for all students across the state. Any high school student enrolled in a South Dakota school can take courses via the Virtual High School. Students must register through their home school district. **Virtual High School used for credit recovery or expanded curriculum opportunities are at the expense of the parent/guardian in all cases and payable prior to enrollment in any class.**

E-learning Center, NSU

<http://www.northern.edu/academics/csel/Pages/information.aspx>

Northern State University's Center for Statewide E-learning provides distance delivery of DDN and Internet-based college-prep and AP high school courses. E-Learning Center courses are provided free to schools according to priority ratings established by the Department of Education. Priority is given to small, rural schools.

Learning Power (SD Online AP Incentive Program)

<https://sdvs.k12.sd.us/Students/CoursesAP.aspx>

Courses are offered free of charge (schools will cover cost of books). Courses are rigorous; students need to be properly prepared. Students must have the permission of their school to participate. Courses are taught by qualified instructors. The Learning Power AP coursework will be challenging so a solid academic background in the identified content area will be essential. Students must pass the exam with a score of 3 or higher to gain college credit for the class. Not all out-of-state universities accept the credits from the AP classes. Registration is through the South Dakota Virtual School.

Additional Providers

<https://sdvs.k12.sd.us/Students/Providers.aspx>

FACTS ABOUT DUAL CREDITS

Students are responsible for the cost of the class as well as any additional books and materials.

If a student fails the class, the grade will still be posted on that student's high school transcript and will be used to calculate academic standing. The failing grade will also be on your college transcript.

Dual credit classes are taken as an independent course, where the student will be assigned a class period to work on the class work and will be expected to work on all assignments individually.

Classes taken at one of the six boards of regents institutions (BHSU, DSU, NSU, SDSMT, SDSU, and USD) will transfer to any of the other schools. If you plan to go to a school other than those, students are encouraged to talk to the college before registering for the class.

Courses available through the Technical Institutes (Lake Area, Mitchell, Southeast, and Western Dakota) may or may not be accepted for transfer credit at other postsecondary institutions.

There are many benefits of dual credit courses, including:

- A jump start to your postsecondary career
- Significant cost savings
- Increased confidence

If you register for a class and then change your mind, you are responsible for checking with the college to withdraw you from the class. Depending on when you drop the class, you may be eligible for a partial refund. If you are taking this class as dual credit, you must let the principal know and make sure you are taking the required amount of classes required by the Howard School District.

In order to be eligible to take dual credit courses you need approval of the principal or counselor, and you need to meet the admission requirements of the institution of your choice.

Dual credit is an opportunity for high school students who meet admissions standards to enroll in public postsecondary institutions in South Dakota and simultaneously earn credits for both their high school diploma and postsecondary degree or certificate.

Dual credit courses are offered by the postsecondary institution's faculty members, are governed by the postsecondary institution's policies, and follow the postsecondary institution's established processes for admissions, registration, billing and grade reporting.

Cost: Select dual credit coursework will be available to public high school students in grades 11-12 at the rate of \$48.33 per credit and \$144.99 per 3 credit course or at the current state rate.

In order to access the reduced cost courses, students must register for the coursework through their *school counselor or principal*, and the local school district must agree that the dual credit coursework will be recorded on the student's transcript and will be used to calculate academic standing. **Students will be required to show the principal their grades on a weekly basis, at the end of the nine weeks and the end of the semester.** Students are responsible for the cost of the course credits and any required textbooks or related course materials.

Dual Credit Courses: Most University Required General Education Courses qualify as Dual Credits. For a list of courses and institutions offering these classes visit:

<https://wa-sdsu.prod.sdbor.edu/WebAdvisor/webadvisor?TYPE=M&PID=CORE-WBMAIN&TOKENIDX=3003528584>

Click on Prospective Students

Search for Class Sections

Choose Term

Choose Subject

Locations – INT – A list of courses and universities will come up

If you are wondering about a professor, go to:

Rate my Professor: <http://www.ratemyprofessors.com/>

OR

http://catalog.sdstate.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=26&poid=5499

Scroll down to System General Education Requirements and choose one of the Goals. This will take you to a list of course options. There are many to choose from.

Choose something of interest to you rather than another math or English class.

OR

<http://www.sdmylife.com/students/advanced-education-opportunities>

Credits: The credit will be recorded on your high school transcript as a weighted class after a copy of the official grade report from the respective university/technical institute is received by the local high school. College credit will be stored online. Each college class counts as .5 high school credits. There will be a grade posted on the student's transcript regardless of the grade.

Registration Process

<http://doe.sd.gov/octe/dualcredit.aspx> or

<http://www.sdstate.edu/cee/hs-concurrent/upload/Dual-Credit-Book-3.pdf>

- Talk to parents
- Go through the Dual Credit Fact Sheet
- Talk about where the class would fit into your schedule
- Talk about where you want to take the class
- Talk about what class you want to take
- Look to see if that class would match up with your major
(Not all majors require College Algebra, some may require Calculus)
- Enrollment in Math and English courses require an ACT subtest score or an Accuplacer or Compass test may be used. Speech is not considered an English Class and does not require any of these scores to register in the class.
- Fill out application
- Send materials in for admission
- Wait to get approved from the college
- Purchase books
- Make sure you know what day classes start at your college and make sure you have correct log in information for your class before class starts

DISTANCE LEARNING/DUAL CREDIT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Dear Applicant and Parent/Guardian,

We are delighted that your child is considering expanding their educational opportunities by enrolling in advanced placement (AP), dual credit, or virtual high school courses. This is an outstanding opportunity allowed by the Howard School Board for juniors and seniors with the following understanding. An agreement exists between the state of South Dakota and the providing agencies to make these courses available for minimal costs. Secondly, all students must obtain a recommendation from a teacher, administrator, and a parent/guardian in order to participate.

Please understand that these courses are offered on-line and the instructor is provided by providers of the program. Local teachers/administrators will proctor examinations only. Your student will be asked to fax or complete homework on-line and submit assignments directly to the instructor. They must comply with all assigned deadlines or communicate directly with the on-line instructor if problems arise.

If a student wishes to leave our campus and attend a college class (dual credit) the same agreements apply. Written parental permission must be on file with the school before a course begins off campus. i.e. a course at Dakota State University.

We are asking that you review this memorandum with your student, sign the agreement, and return it to the secondary principal. Enrollments in classes will be handled by the principal. It is highly recommended that a student pursue only one class per semester. **The school reserves the right to not recommend a student for this type of program.** Consideration will be given in the following areas: Availability of the course within the school, grade point average, success in pre-requisite courses, and recommendations of a parent, teacher, or administrator.

We (Mother, Father, Legal Guardian, and Athlete) hereby confirm that we have read and understand the contents of the **DISTANCE LEARNING POLICY** and **ADVANCED PLACEMENT/DUAL CREDIT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** and agree to follow the rules and regulations set forth by the Board of Education of the Howard School District.

Parent Signature_____

Date_____

Student/Athlete Signature_____

Date_____