Dual Enrollment and Early Admission

What is the dual enrollment program at Clayton State University?

The Dual Enrollment Program offers qualified high school juniors and seniors the option to begin working toward their college degrees while still pursuing their high school diplomas. This program enables participants to fulfill high school graduation requirements by taking college courses that provide dual credit, so they simultaneously complete high school course requirements.

What is the Early Admission Program at Clayton State University?

The Early Admission Program offers qualified high school students the opportunity to enroll as full-time college students following completion of their junior year in high school. Very few students participate in the Early Admission Program.

Why should I consider being a dual enrolled student at Clayton State?

Clayton State University has implemented one of the most innovative Dual Enrollment Programs in the State of Georgia. It’s student-centered, family-friendly, and maintains a collaborative partnership with the surrounding school systems, private educational organizations, and communities.

The intent of the Dual Enrollment Program is to enhance students' credentials, capabilities, and confidence while giving them the opportunity to get an early start with their college coursework. As a result, students:

- Are better prepared to later attend colleges or universities
- Earn their undergraduate degrees faster
- Gain confidence in their scholastic abilities
- Have an educational experience that impresses future admissions counselors and employers
- Begin their professional careers earlier

What are the participation requirements for the Dual Enrollment Program?

To participate in the Dual Enrollment Program, a student must be enrolled in a Georgia public or private secondary high school (or the equivalent) which is accredited by one of the following:

- A regional accrediting association (such as the SACS)
- Georgia Accrediting Commission (GAC)
- Georgia Private School Accrediting Commission (GAPSAQ)
- Accrediting Commission for Independent Study (ACIS)
- Public school regulated by a school system and GaDOE

In some cases, certain “home school” or private secondary education organizations or
groups are recognized by the Georgia Student Finance Commission, as approved by the Georgia Accrediting Commission (http://www.coe.uga.edu/gac/).

In addition, a student must be:

- Classified as a high school junior or senior pursuing a high school diploma
- Enrolled in an eligible Georgia public or private college/university or public technical college as a dual enrollment student taking approved college degree-level course work
- A legal resident of Georgia
- A U.S. citizen, national of the U.S., or eligible permanent resident alien
- In compliance with Selective Service registration requirements
- In compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990
- Not in default or owe a refund on a student financial aid program
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress, as defined by the college

What is ACCEL? How can it provide funding for my participation in the Dual Enrollment Program or Early Admission Program?

Eligible students who are interested in dual enrollment or early admission typically qualify for funding under the ACCEL Program or a special HOPE funding category, administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission. ACCEL funding for students is available during all school terms except summer semester.

The purpose of the ACCEL Program is to make funding available to eligible Georgia high school students so they can earn college degree-level credit hours as they simultaneously meet their high school graduation requirements. High school students participating in the ACCEL Program receive a funding award (called a ‘non-need-based grant’) that covers tuition, most University System of Georgia/Board of Regents-approved fees, and a book allowance of up to $150 per semester.

ACCEL funding requires a separate application process. The Georgia Student Finance Commission’s ACCEL Program web page can be accessed here.

What kind of classes do dual enrolled students take at Clayton State?

Generally, students participating in dual enrollment or the early admission program take college-level courses from the University System of Georgia core curriculum or courses for which core curriculum courses are prerequisites or co-requisites. In addition, courses listed in the ACCEL High School Course Directory are the core courses authorized and funded under the ACCEL Program.

Students may enroll in appropriate elective courses as approved by the high school counselor and the Clayton State academic advisor. Students must have completed two units of a foreign language to enroll in a college foreign language course and three units of science prior to enrolling in a college science course.

Do dual enrolled students attend classes at Clayton State part-time or full-time?

Dual enrolled students have the option (pending approval) of enrolling either part-time or full-time.

- Part-time: the student generally spends the majority of his or her schedule working on the high school curriculum and attend one or two college courses at Clayton State.
- Full-time: the student generally attends all or the majority of his or her schedule at Clayton State, and either doesn’t take any high school courses or takes only one or two high school courses

The decision to participate in the Dual Enrollment Program on a part-time or full-time basis depends on many factors and may require input from the student, parents or guardian, the high school counselor or principal, and the Dual Enrollment program director or academic advisor.

How do I apply to be a dual enrolled or early admission student at Clayton State?

As a preliminary step, please contact the Office of Academic Outreach at (678) 466-5000 or dual-enrollment@clayton.edu to indicate initial interest in the Clayton State University Dual Enrollment Program or Early Admission Program. Interested families are also encouraged to discuss the programs with the student's high school counselor or principal.
Dual Enrollment and Early Admission students must first be admitted to Clayton State University and are required to provide the following application materials to the Office of Recruitment and Admissions:

- A completed Clayton State University Application for Undergraduate Admission. It is recommended that prospective dual enrolled students print out, complete, and submit a paper application. You can print out a paper application [here](http://admissions.clayton.edu).
- Official SAT or ACT scores
- Current official high school transcript (in an intact, unopened institutional envelope with your high school’s seal)

Although it's not a part of the student's admission file, students who are accepted at Clayton State University must also submit a completed Certificate of Immunization form to the Office of Recruitment and Admissions. You can find the form [here](http://admissions.clayton.edu).

The application deadlines posted on the [http://admissions.clayton.edu](http://admissions.clayton.edu) web page must be met in order to be guaranteed consideration for the following term.

**What are the admission requirements for the Dual Enrollment Program or Early Admission Program?**

The minimum admission standards for dual enrollment and early admission are:

- Minimum SAT I score of 970 (combined verbal and mathematics sections) or ACT Composite of 20
- Minimum cumulative high school grade point average of 3.0 or higher in courses taken from the Required High School Curriculum
- Exemption of all learning support requirements for early admission
- Written consent of parent or guardian (if the student is a minor)
- On track towards the completion of the University System of Georgia Required High School Curriculum requirements (16 units) and high school graduation

Students intending to complete their Required High School Curriculum or high school graduation requirements by enrolling in college courses must also meet the following admission requirements:

- English and/or social science - students planning to complete their 4th year of high school English and/or social studies requirements with college credit must have an SAT I Verbal score of 530 or higher or ACT English score of 23
- Math - students planning to complete their 4th year of high school mathematics must have completed Algebra I and II and Geometry and have a SAT I Math score of at least 530 or ACT Math scores of at least 22

**What do I do after I’m accepted at Clayton State University?**

After a student is accepted at Clayton State University with dual enrolled or early admission status, he or she then completes the ACCEL application:

- [Start here](http://admissions.clayton.edu) at GACollege411. Make sure you are eligible to apply for ACCEL.
- The student completes the [online application](http://admissions.clayton.edu).
- If the online application is submitted correctly, you will receive a ‘Thank you’ message.
- The ACCEL application will be automatically available to your high school counselor. Schedule a meeting with your high school counselor to complete an additional section of your application.

When the ACCEL application is finalized by the Office of Academic Outreach, the information is forwarded to the Clayton State Office of Financial Aid. A dual enrollment student in the ACCEL program is electronically awarded a "non-need based grant," and when the grant award is entered into the system, payment for tuition and approved fees is recorded on the student's financial aid records and a ZERO (-0-) balance is denoted. Book allowance funds are electronically transferred to the student's Laker ID card just prior to the start of the semester.

In addition, the student will receive information from both the Office of Recruitment and Admissions and the Office of Academic Outreach regarding:

- Taking the ACCUPLACER test, which helps determine which math courses the student should initially take
Orientation

- Coursework advisement
- Class registration
- Special academic and honors-oriented participation programs and recognitions

Do dual enrolled and early admissions students have to follow Clayton State’s Notebook Computer Policy?

Yes! Clayton State University's Notebook Computer Policy requires every student to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets the ITP Choice requirements for the student’s academic program (find out more about ITP Choice and hardware/software requirements at http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/).

Clayton State makes a standard software load available to students through a technology fee which is included in tuition. It is the student's responsibility to contact The HUB (Clayton State’s IT Help Desk) to schedule an appointment during the first two weeks of each semester. Additional software necessary for specific courses and/or programs will be available for purchase from the university bookstore and/or other vendors.

Where do dual enrolled and early admission students take their college classes?

Dual enrolled and early admissions students may take their Clayton State coursework at the main campus in Morrow, Georgia, and also at convenient off-campus instructional sites in Peachtree City, Fayetteville, Locust Grove, McDonough, and Ft. McPherson.

Can dual enrolled and early admission students take Clayton State courses during the summer semester?

ACCEL Program funding is not available during summer terms. However, students may choose to enroll in summer semester courses to take advantage of small class sizes and to accelerate their educational plans.

What should I do if I have specific questions or concerns about being a dual enrolled or early admission student?

Please contact the Office of Academic Outreach at dual-enrollment@clayton.edu or (678) 466-5000.