

FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS

About:

The Flexible Pathways bill (S.130/Act 77), passed in 2013, increases learning opportunities for Vermont students. This statewide initiative specifically seeks to promote opportunities for Vermont students to achieve postsecondary readiness through high-quality educational experiences that acknowledge individual goals, learning styles, and abilities; and increase the rates of secondary school completion and postsecondary continuation in Vermont.

Included in the legislation is the expansion of the statewide Dual Enrollment Program. This program serves to introduce students to college level coursework before they complete high school, applies college coursework to secondary school graduation requirements, and enables students to graduate from high school with a jumpstart on college. The Vermont Dual Enrollment program includes up to two college courses for eligible Vermont high school students. A student may take the courses anytime during the summer before their junior year through the spring of their senior year. This opportunity is not available for students during the summer after their senior year once they have graduated from high school. Note that under this program the tuition is fully covered. Students and their families are responsible for the cost of any fees and books/materials associated with the course.

The Vermont State Dual Enrollment Program is a college level course that becomes part of the student's college transcript, regardless of where the class is taught. Dual enrollment credits will be considered and accepted by most colleges as transfer credit and considered when determining a student's eligibility for financial aid at the college.

Credits

Upon completion of any alternative credit course, credits for successfully completed courses will be added to the student's high school transcript as follows:

- A single college course is equal to a (1) credit high school course.
- VTVLC courses are awarded credits as determined by VTVLC
- Dartmouth courses are entered as Pass or Fail when transferred to Hartford transcripts. Otherwise all other alternative course grades transfer directly from the Official Transcript.
- College courses DO NOT receive weighted grades on Hartford High transcripts.

Process:

It is up to the student to ensure all steps in the process are complete.

1. Schedule an appointment with your school counselor to discuss the enrollment process and your eligibility and/or readiness to be successful in an alternative credit course.
2. Complete the attached pre-approval form. Attach a syllabus to the pre approval form. If a syllabus is not available, a detailed course description is required.
3. Register for the course (see instructions for different kinds of courses on back)
4. Notify your school counselor once registration is complete.
5. Be sure to notify your counselor if you withdraw from the class. Failure to do so may result in an error on your transcript and/or not being approved for future alternative credit options.
6. Immediately after completing the course, the student MUST request the issuing school site to send an OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT to the registrar at Hartford High School.
7. Seniors planning on graduating in June and who require the alternative course credit in order to graduate are due to the Registrar no later than June 7th. (Note: On average it takes most institutions at least two weeks processing time for official transcripts.)

HOW TO REGISTER FOR NON-HARTFORD BASED ALTERNATIVE CREDITS

- **Dartmouth Course** (1 credit, entered as a pass/fail):
Second semester juniors and seniors who have exhausted all of Hartford High School's course offerings in that subject or have difficulty fitting them into their schedule here at Hartford are eligible to take a Dartmouth course, provided they are advanced, independent learners who would otherwise meet Dartmouth's admissions criteria.
 - Download the registration packet at hhsvt.com/students (See student forms).
 - Contact the course instructors to obtain permission to take the class.
 - Complete placement testing if required. (Math and Foreign Language Courses)
 - Return the completed registration to guidance one week prior to the date that it is due at Dartmouth.
- **Dual Enrollment Course** (1 credit for every 3 college credits; entered on a 4.33 scale):
Any junior or senior is eligible. If a student has an IEP, they are responsible to communicate that to their admissions officer and determine whether the course requirements and available supports meet their needs.
 - Identify a participating college:

Bennington College	Lyndon State College
Burlington College	Marlboro College
Castleton State College	New England Culinary Institute
Champlain College	Norwich University
College of St. Joseph	Southern Vermont College
Community College of Vermont	University of Vermont
Green Mountain College	Vermont Technical College
Johnson State College	
 - Complete the Dual Enrollment Voucher Request Form (expires at the end of each semester) - <http://www.vtdualenrollment.org/>
 - After receiving confirmation of approval for a voucher, contact the college/university to meet with an advisor to discuss the course selection, determine readiness for the course and complete the application and registration.
 - Provide proof of enrollment to your school counselor so the course can be added to your schedule
- **VTVLC Course** (credits awarded as recommended by VTVLC; entered on a 4.33 scale, unless it is an AP credit and then it's entered on a 5.33 scale)
Students are eligible to enroll in any VTVLC courses that are not offered here at Hartford High School. Furthermore, if a desired course does not fit in a student's schedule, they may elect to take it through VTVLC.
 - Go to vtvlc.org and log in (you will need to create an account if you do not have a login)
 - Log in to your account.
 - If this is your first VTVLC Course, click on the Moodle "Orientation Course and complete the course.
 - Complete the student application, including setting up a parent account
 - Select the course(s) you would like to take
 - Contact your school counselor to let them know you have applied for VTVLC courses (your school counselor must approve your course).
- **Other Non-Hartford Courses** (TBD – based on recommendation of the associated HHS Department Chair)
Students are eligible to enroll in any online courses that are not offered here at Hartford High School or if the Hartford offering does not fit in a student's schedule.
 - Provide course syllabus to the Hartford High School Department Chair associated with the course subject.
 - Obtain, in writing, any additional assignments and expectations the HHS Department Chair expects you to meet in order to receive Hartford High School credit for the online course.
 - Register for the course as specified by the school/college offering the course.
 - Provide proof of enrollment to your school counselor so the course can be added to your schedule.

Alternative Credit Pre-Approval Form

Name of Student: _____ **Grade:** _____

Educational Plan: _____ IEP _____ 504 _____ N/A

Title of Course 1 : _____

School/College/University: _____

Course start date and end date: _____

Course withdrawal date at the school/college/university: _____
(date you must withdraw by to get a full refund and not receive a failing grade for non-completion)

Date transcript will be available: _____

Are you taking this course to meet a graduation requirement? (choose one)

_____ YES: (Which requirement?) _____ NO

Title of Course 2: _____

School/College/University: _____

Course start date and length of course: _____

Course withdrawal date at the school/college/university: _____
(date you must withdraw by to get a full refund and not receive a failing grade for non-completion)

Date transcript will be available: _____ (You must request an official transcript upon completion)

Are you taking this course to meet a graduation requirement? (choose one)

_____ YES: (Requirement) _____ NO

By signing below, I understand that students who enroll in alternative course credits outside of Hartford High School are responsible for meeting the expectations and standards set by the school/college offering the course. Since the courses operate outside of Hartford High School, the student must communicate independently with their instructor and access supports as needed and available through the associated school/college. Furthermore, the student is responsible to complete all paperwork and provide their own transportation, access to the internet, and any books/materials required for successful completion of the course. Students auditing a course at another institution are not eligible for Hartford High School Credit for that class. Eligibility criteria specific to each type of course is indicated below the course type in italics.

STUDENT: _____

PRINCIPAL: _____

PARENT: _____

DEPT CHAIR _____

COUNSELOR: _____

Dept Chair, please attach details of any additional assignments or expectations the student must meet in order to receive HHS credit for the course.

CASE MANAGER: _____

RETURN FORM TO GUIDANCE WITH A COPY OF THE COURSE SYLLABUS AS NEEDED. COPY TO DIR. OF GUIDANCE

OFFICE USE ONLY: Course approved _____ (date) Course added to schedule _____ (date)