

Alliance Collaborations

In September 2021, the Alliance for College and Career Student Success (ACCSS) held the first quarterly meeting of the ACCSS Governing Board. This group approves and provides oversight for priorities, initiatives, programs, and services for the Alliance. The following graphic illustrates the governing structure:



Below is a list of the priorities the Governing Board has adopted for each of the ACCSS teams for the 2021-2022 school year:

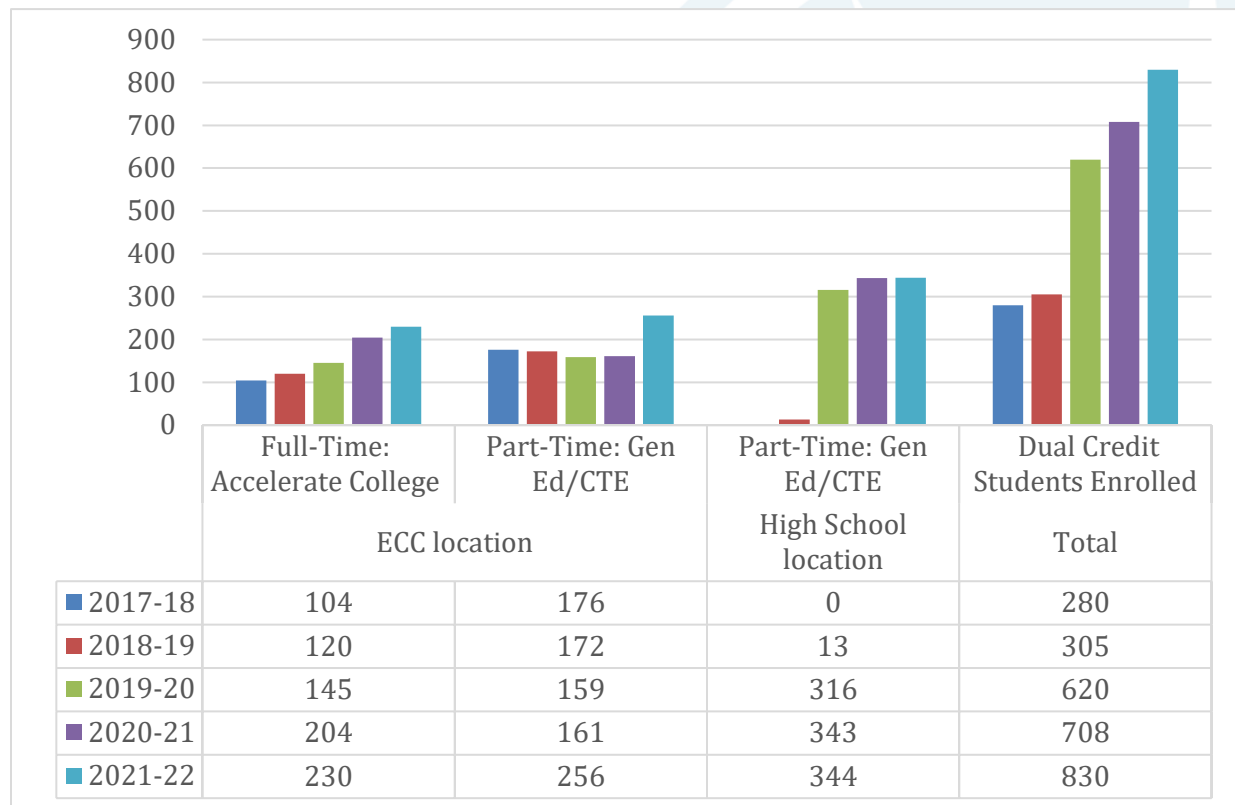
- **Governing Board**
 - Complete final review of ACCSS intergovernmental agreement
 - Review and approve recommended 2021-2022 ACCSS priorities
 - Review and approve recommended 2021-2022 meeting schedule
 - Discuss updates from the ACCSS Coordinating Council and identify additional opportunities for collaboration
- **Coordinating Council**
 - Finalize revisions to the Pathway Development Guidelines document
 - Determine which data metrics to prioritize for implementation to measure ACCSS work
 - Oversee the work of the ACCSS Committees and identify additional opportunities for collaboration
 - Examine opportunities for additional dual credit outside of college-career pathways

- College & Career Pathway Committee
 - Provide differentiated support for district-level college-career pathway planning related to five regional pathways in progress (see the listing at www.elgin.edu/alliance)
 - Explore additional college-career pathways for regional map development
 - Expand dual credit options to support in progress college-career pathways
 - Integrate work-based learning experiences (career exploration, team-based challenges, etc.) into secondary and dual credit courses as appropriate
- Student Transitions, Interventions & Support Committee
 - Implement counselor professional development to expand knowledge of post-secondary pathway options and access to student support resources
 - Develop regional college and career readiness opportunities for D509 students and families
- Instructional Design & Support Committee
 - Collaborate to support Transitional Math course implementation (Transitional Math Liaison workgroup)
 - Continue to provide opportunities for secondary and postsecondary instructors to collaborate via professional development (TBD workgroup)
 - Defer Transitional English course discussions to summer 2022

Dual Credit Partnerships

Dual credit program enrollment in the 2021-2022 school year exceeded expectations with a 15% increase over prior school year:

Figure 1: Dual Credit Student Enrollment Trends

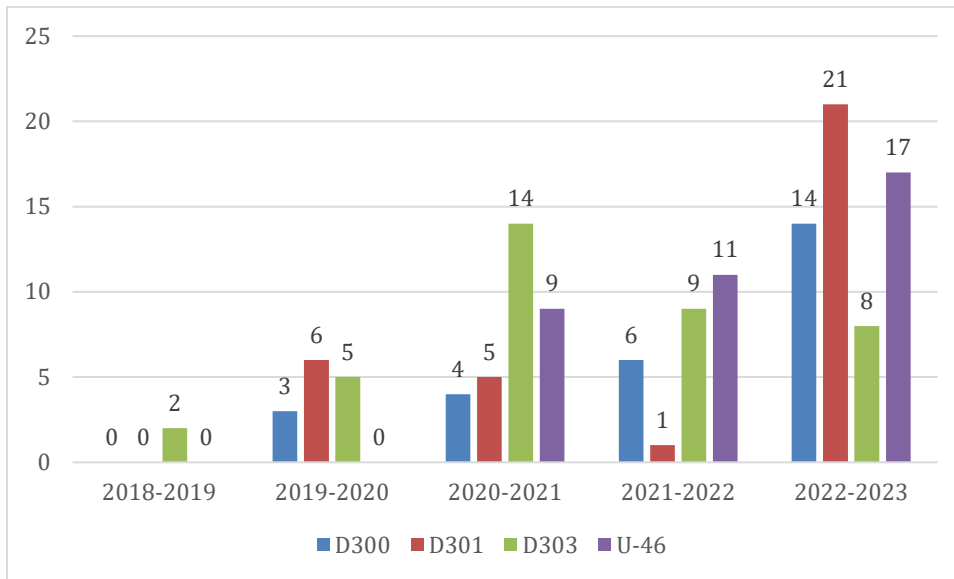


*Enrollments as of 10/15/2021

An explicit area of focus for school district leaders to expand access for students for the 2022-2023 school year continues to be the expansion of dual credit course options taught at the high school by qualified high school instructors. After a course/high school instructor is approved, the school district may decide not to offer the course due to insufficient student enrollment. Each year, school districts are required to submit individual course requests.

The following graph illustrates the growth in the number of course requests approved for in-high school dual credit since the establishment of the program in 2018-2019:

Figure 2: Number of Courses Approved for In-High School Dual Credit



**Course requests as of 10/15/2021*

College Transition Programs

In support of our secondary partners, the College has enhanced its series of college and career readiness events and resources available to D509 families and students:

- Upcoming events available at <https://www.elgin.edu/about-ecc/college-career-readiness/college-readiness-events/>
- Robust resource library available at <https://www.elgin.edu/about-ecc/college-career-readiness/post-secondary-resources/>

Two additional areas of focus for our College Transitions team this school year will be working with District partners to develop career exploration opportunities for D509 students and their families and strengthening our TRIO secondary grant programs.

Federal TRIO grant programs identify and assist individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have potential to succeed in higher education with the goal of supporting their high school completion and enrollment in college. Elgin Community College proudly supports students through five TRIO grant programs – three that support secondary students in our region and two that support ECC college-aged students.

Talent Search

In August 2021, we concluded our first five-year grant award for the TRIO Talent Search grant. The grant was renewed for another five years with a revised scope of services. We are presently working with Districts 300 and U-46 to implement the following support services for the 500 students from low income and/or first-generation households who attend their schools:

- Individualized support during the school day
 - Goal setting and tracking
 - Career interest assessments and exploration
 - College planning, preparation, and support
 - Reviewing and completing financial aid opportunities
 - Academic progress checks and providing access to academic support
- Small and large-group workshops
 - Financial literacy
 - Post-secondary pathways
- College tours

Upward Bound

The two grant programs support 134 high school-aged students from low income and/or first-generation households from identified high schools within School Districts U-46 and 300. The 2021-2022 school year is the fifth and final year of the current five-year award. The following support services continue to be provided to the program students:

- After-school tutoring based at the four high schools served – Dundee-Crown, Elgin, Larkin, and Streamwood
- Supplemental on-demand online tutoring support
- Saturday Academy workshops focused on academic skills, financial aid and scholarships, and other relevant workshops to support student’s transition/readiness for college
- Academic and personal advising support
- College tours

The 2022 grant application will be submitted to the Department of Education in the coming months to continue academic readiness supports for high school students from low income and/or first-generation households from identified School Districts U-46 and 300 schools. Our team is collaborating with both school districts to prepare the grant application.

Student Support Services

The federal TRiO Student Support Services and Student Support Services – English as a Second Language grants are currently in their second year of their five-year award. These combined grants support over 500 ECC students (SSS serves 362; SSS-ESL serves 144). The following support services continue to be provided to the program students:

- Individual and small group academic and career preparation

- Support for selecting postsecondary academic courses and major exploration
- Access and guidance in navigating scholarships and financial aid programs
- College tours
- Grant aid assistance

*Report submitted by Dr. Mary Perkins, Dean, College Transitions & Secondary Partnerships
October 31, 2021*

