

Dual Credit Tips for Rising Freshman Students & Parents

● Dual credit **can** help students gain confidence and academic momentum as they transition to college, while saving families money. Dual credit also **can** satisfy requirements for the Academic & Technical Honors Diplomas. With proper planning, your student may find it easier to double-major, study abroad or complete an internship due to dual credit.

● High schools **can** have more than one dual credit partner. Each college or university has different registration, billing and transcript processes. For example, USI requires dual credit students be juniors or seniors and hold a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

● Any dual credit or credit by exam (Advanced Placement) subtracts from the amount of future federal financial aid available to your student. The amount of aid available is limited to 1.5 times the credit hours required to complete a degree (180 hours for a bachelor's degree). Students who earn a great deal of dual credit or change their major one or more times can occasionally run out of aid, which makes finishing college a challenge. Think of dual credit like vitamins: several **can** be helpful, but a whole bottle can be harmful.

● Successful AP scores **can** lead to overlap with dual credit. When your student is ready to take dual credit and AP, utilize USI advisors to map courses to a degree program.