

Village Green Virtual Charter School

Dual Enrollment Policy



Passed by the Board of Trustees, June, 2015

Draft 3.0

Updated for the 2019/2020 School Year

As required by law, VGV is establishing a dual enrollment policy which enables students to take courses for credit at Rhode Island public institutions of higher education which will be part of their high school experience and transcript. Due to our Edgenuity curriculum and flex-model scheduling, VGV is in a unique position to offer a college experience within the context of its school day without injuring the student's core program of study.

In an ideal situation, students will be able to complete all of their RI State graduation requirements within three or three and a half years and thus be able to enjoy a college experience which is meaningful in that substantial amounts of their school day or school week can be accommodated off campus.

Concurrent courses are not offered at VGV due to our chartered adherence to Edgenuity; however, General Studies courses through CCRI are available through their High School Enrichment Program model.

Section I Basic Information about courses, grading, educational outcomes, credit and transcripts

The courses available to VGV students are General Education requirements taken at the Community College of RI. These courses are completely transferable to other state colleges and Universities and course offerings are controlled by the Community College. Not all courses offered by CCRI can be taken and the list of available courses is governed by CCRI and not VGV.

Grading Policy: VGV gives full faith and credit toward any and all final grades earned through the school's dual enrollment program.

Awarding of high school credit: Because VGV's curriculum can be completed in three years there are no college courses offered which supplant a required Edgenuity course. The integrity of the school's chartered Edgenuity curriculum can be supported in concert with robust dual enrollment opportunities.

Campuses: VGV encourages students to take courses at whichever CCRI they desire. Students from urban areas may want a suburban college experience while students from suburban areas may want the convenience and proximity to VGV which CCRI's urban campuses offer.

The choice of campus is totally up to the student and may be subject to course offerings specific to each CCRI location. CCRI has campuses in Lincoln, Providence Liston, Providence Downtown, Warwick, Newport and Westerly.

Transcript process: All college grades will be listed on the student's VGV high school transcript. Official college transcripts can be obtained through the CCRI record's office and school copies sent to VGV will be held on file as well. Dual enrollment credits will not count towards the overall GPA for special designations (Valedictorian, Salutatorian and other awards or designations) as not all students will take dual enrollment options and the dual enrollment courses are not required to graduate from VGV.

Section II Approval and designated staff coordinator

Final approval for dual enrollment courses will be made by the Executive Director/Principal and the Director of Teaching, Learning and Research. The College Transition Coordinator will be the faculty member responsible for managing the dual enrollment process, record keeping, communication and interfacing with higher education.

Section III Costs and availability of funding to support low-income students

There is no cost to families for Dual Enrollment at CCRI while a VGV student.

VGV students receive transportation support via RIPTA bus to support their dual enrollment efforts.

Textbooks needed for Dual Enrollment courses are purchased by VGV and must be returned to the school at the conclusion of the semester. Failure to do so will result in a bill for reimbursement.

Section IV Student eligibility criteria to enroll, process to enroll and appeal process

Dual enrollment is reserved for seniors or students in the 4th year. Students in the 11th grade are not eligible for Dual Enrollment unless they have met the criteria by December of their 3rd year and have been approved by the school's administration.

In order to be considered for dual enrollment students must exhibit in the semester prior to enrollment:

- Have at least 20 credits (4 ELA, 3 math, 3 social studies, 3 science and 7 elective credits) by June of their 3rd year.
- Not be a chronic absentee
- Participated in SAT In-school as an 11th grade student; math, ELA and science
- Have no discipline, behavior or conduct issues

The VGV process to enroll in dual enrollment is the standard process for the High School Enrichment program at CCRI. This well established program offers up to six credits per semester and has standardized forms for application and information.

Decisions regarding dual enrollment eligibility can be appealed by parents to the school's admin team. This body has the ability to waive policy and create exemptions on a basis of need.

CCRI has certain requirements for enrollment and those rules are set by the college and not VGV. CCRI may impose, or restrict, other rules or course section availability and these are conditions outside of VGV's control.

Section V Student Supports

VGV will communicate the dual enrollment opportunities to students and families through publication of this policy as part of the handbook series, the use of letters and media created by RIDE and CCRI, family college information nights and our own brochure.

Dual enrollment has many benefits such as students becoming familiar with college facilities, rituals, terms and vocabulary, course and class structures and mastering a new style of teaching and learning. In addition to the soft skills which are learned through dual enrollment it is a great jump start on college credits in order to shorten the road to a degree. Dual enrollment can also be a benefit and cost savings in accessing low cost or free credits.

There are risks in attempting dual enrollment. They include:

- Low or poor grades and performance will be part of the student's permanent record from both CCRI and VGV
- Low or poor grades and performance may negatively affect student aid opportunities in the future
- Incomplete grades will be carried on both school's transcripts
- Not all special populations provisions found in high school will be followed in college
- Performance in VGV coursework may be affected by time spent in dual enrollment
- Students will have to comply with both sets of school handbook requirements
- Dropping courses after the college's add/drop period may cause a loss of tuition

Transportation to and from Dual Enrollment opportunities will be funded by VGV as is daily transportation to and from school.

Section VI Process to ensure tracking of student progress

The College Transition Coordinator is a full time faculty member and dual enrollment process oversight is one of their primary duties. Tracking progress throughout the semester in both individual and cohort level face-to-face meetings will occur no less than monthly.

The results of college coursework will be found on the VGV official school transcript. However, because colleges do not report mid-semester progress the college course grade may or may not be on a VGV report card.

Grade reporting and transcript generation is the responsibility of the college. However, VGV will forward to parents copies of all official college correspondence and grade reports. School copies of all official college correspondence and grade reports will be kept on record in the student's PR file.