

**To: Directors of Education
Council of Ontario Directors of Education
College Presidents
Colleges Ontario
Regional Offices, Ministry of Education
Regional and Field Offices, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development
Ontario Association of Adult and Continuing Education School Board Administrators**

From: School College Work Initiative

Date: May 26, 2017

Subject: Inviting Proposals for Adult Dual Credit Pilot Programs, 2017-18

As you have no doubt heard, in the recent Ontario budget, “enhanced dual credit opportunities for adults” was announced as part of the government’s “Lifelong Learning and Skills Plan”

(<http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/ontariobudgets/2017/ch3.html#ch35>). Adult dual credit programs will be part of the School-College-Work Initiative (SCWI), initially as a pilot program, and will be governed by existing dual credit policy and procedures.

Opportunities for Adult Dual Credits have the potential to provide an expedited way to move adult students through the completion of both their OSSD and entry into postsecondary education. Adults would be the fourth category of dual credits – along with students in the Primary Target Group, Specialist High Skills Majors, and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Programs.

In addition to offering dual credits for adults, all adult dual credit programs will be funded for an “After Adult Dual Credit” Activity. This additional component will promote the value of postsecondary education and provide information to adult students regarding pse pathways, possibilities and supports. This is modelled on the recently announced After School Within a College Activity.

SCWI is inviting joint applications from colleges of applied arts and technology and district school boards for collaborative Dual Credit programs for adults and After Adult Dual Credit activity proposals for the 2017-2018 academic year. Please forward this memorandum to the appropriate staff in your organization, including your Adult and Continuing Education board department lead. As in the past, proposals must be submitted by SCWI Regional Planning Teams. Proposals will be submitted online. Detailed requirements can be found at www.scwi.ca/requirements.

Building and sustaining better linkages between the college system and the secondary school system to support expanded and improved transitions by secondary students to postsecondary education is a strategic goal for the Government of Ontario and a high priority for the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. The overarching goal is to have increased numbers of students graduating from high school and achieving success in postsecondary education. Dual Credit learning opportunities help to achieve this goal through their primary focus on those students facing significant challenges in graduating. Supporting improved achievement for adults is an enhanced area of focus of these programs.

Since its inception in 1997, the SCWI has contributed to the goal of increasing the number of students who graduate from secondary school and providing a seamless transition from secondary school to postsecondary education by supporting collaborative activities and programs. The inclusion of adult learners through this pilot program will support them as they both complete their OSSD and transition to a postsecondary credential.

Dual Credit Programs

The primary focus of Dual Credit programs continues to be on those students facing challenges in completing their secondary school diploma. This includes students aged 21 and older who are committed to completing their OSSDs and who have the potential to succeed at college.

Dual Credit Programs: Policy and Program Requirements, 2013

(<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/studentssuccess/dual.html>) contains the relevant policy and procedural details that are to be followed in the implementation of Dual Credit programs. Of particular importance are the sections on student selection, the requirement to assign a dual credit teacher for college-delivered programs, and the policy on assessment and evaluation in those programs.

Funding and Accountability

There will be new targeted funding for adult dual credit programs and for After Adult Dual Credit activities. Funding will be contingent upon successful fulfilment of prior program commitments and funds being appropriated by the Ontario Legislature, as per current practice.

Regional Planning Teams will be required to meet reporting requirements including SMART goals, and data and financial reports as outlined in *School College Work Initiative (SCWI), Reporting, Approval & Monitoring Process for 2016-2017 School Year.*

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Council of Ontario Directors of Education

Representing:
Association des gestionnaires de l'éducation franco-ontarienne (AGÉFO)
Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association (OCSOA)
Ontario Public Supervisory Officials' Association (OPSOA)

The program's provincial websites (www.gotocollege.ca) and a website for Regional Planning Teams, administrators and educators (www.scwi.ca) continue to support the promotion and delivery of the Dual Credit program.

Thank you for your support of this important initiative,



Frank Kelly,
SCWI Project Manager