

To: Directors of Education
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities
Executive Director of the Provincial and Demonstration Schools
Directeur de l'éducation, Consortium Centre Jules-Léger
College Presidents
Colleges Ontario

From: Tony Pontes, Project Manager, School-College-Work Initiative

Date: January 31, 2022

Subject: School-College-Work Initiative Request for Proposals, 2022-2025

The School-College-Work Initiative (SCWI) is once again inviting joint applications from colleges of applied arts and technology and district school boards for collaborative Dual Credit programs and activities and forums for the 2022-2025 academic years. A key priority of the Ontario government is to promote and enhance awareness of and enrolment in the skilled trades, technology and the apprenticeship pathway. Please continue to place emphasis on these types of opportunities for students. The government is also encouraging opportunities for students who may have disengaged from learning as a result of the pandemic; please consider these opportunities for these students in your applications.

Please forward this memorandum to the appropriate staff in your organization. As in the past, proposals must be submitted by SCWI Regional Planning Teams (RPTs). Proposals must be submitted online. Detailed requirements can be found at <http://scwi.ca/scwi/requirements.php>. This Request for Proposals (RFP) is based on the assumption that the majority of students will be in face-to-face attendance at schools and colleges. RPTs will be provided opportunities to adjust their proposals, if necessary, through the usual change cycle process, including if face-to-face attendance is limited or not possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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. 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 continues to be areas of focus of the initiative. The primary focus of Dual Credit learning opportunities is on those students facing significant challenges in graduating, thereby helping more students graduate from secondary school and transition into postsecondary education.

Representing/Représentant :

SCWI Activities and Forums

SCWI approved Activities and Forums contribute to the two goals of the SCWI. The following are the 2022-23 priority areas for SCWI Activities and Forums:

- One day, hands-on college experiences for Grades 7-12 students and adult students with a particular focus on technology and skilled trades,
- Activities that promote mentoring for Grade 7 and 8 students by a college student or apprentice,
- Dual Credit Educator Forums which provide opportunities for both secondary school Dual Credit teachers, secondary school teachers and school support staff, and college Dual Credit educators and Level 1 apprenticeship instructors to better understand the policies and procedures of Dual Credit programs, and to plan for their students in these programs,
- Enhanced parent/guardian forums that are delivered by local colleges and provide information to parents and guardians to support awareness about postsecondary education opportunities, pathways, and resources to support smooth transitions,
- Activities for adult students in Adult Day Schools and Continuing Education Centres to expand awareness of adult Dual Credits and/or improve transitions for adult students to college and apprenticeship,
- Forums for educators and support staff to include information on how to better support students with postsecondary education pathway planning for college and apprenticeship programs, and
- OYAP Level 1 Transition Support pilots to assist Level 1 apprenticeship in-class training Dual Credit students as they move from secondary school to their first postsecondary destination.

Dual Credit Programs

The primary focus of Dual Credit programs continues to be on those adolescent students facing challenges in earning their secondary school diploma. This includes disengaged students under the age of 21 who have the potential to succeed at college but who are not reaching their full academic potential, who are at risk of not graduating from high school, and students who have left high school before graduating, including students participating in boards' re-engagement initiatives.

Adult Dual Credits have the potential to help adult students (aged 21 and older) complete their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and transition into postsecondary education. Adult Dual Credit students will be selected based on the criteria identified in the SCWI 2022-25 Requirements document (see attachment to this memo).

Proposals are also encouraged for Dual Credit learning opportunities for students in OYAP Level 1 in-class apprenticeship training as well as for students in Specialist High Skills Major programs.

All School Within A College (SWAC) Dual Credits and all Adult Dual Credit programs are required to have a "wrap around" SWAC or "wrap around" Adult Dual Credit component which supports students in making a smooth transition to postsecondary education.

Representing/Représentant :

Dual Credit Programs: Policy and Program Requirements, 2020 (https://files.ontario.ca/edu-dual-credit-programs-policy-program-requirements-2020-en-2021-12-13.pdf?_ga=2.121152193.812002612.1643318958-30025929.1627564397) 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. Adult Dual Credit programs will also be governed by this policy and procedures.

Funding and Accountability

Funding will be contingent upon successful fulfilment of prior program commitments and funds being appropriated by the Ontario Legislature and further allocated to this specific program, as per current practice. This Request for Proposals continues the use of a three-year planning time frame. The forecasts for 2023-24 and 2024-25 are required for planning purposes. Approvals for the second and third year will be made annually.

RPTs 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 the 2021-2022 School Year*. This document can be found on CODE's website here: <http://scwi.ca/scwi/tools.php>.

Highlights from 2020-21

Preliminary data from 2020-21 indicates the following:

There were students enrolled in 17,854 Dual Credits across the province. Of these:

- 15,141 (85%) students enrolled in Dual Credit programs remained until the end.
- 15,485 (87%) students enrolled in Dual Credit programs were identified as disengaged with the potential to succeed, the primary target group for whom Dual Credits were designed.
- 4,890 (27%) students enrolled in Dual Credit programs were reported to have an Individual Education Plan.
- 1,737 (10%) students were reported to have previously left school and returned.

Of the Dual Credits attempted, 14,995 dual credits were earned (Success Rate: 91%).

- The 13 English-language and three French-language RPTs received SCWI approval for 56 activities and forums. Over 54,690 students, teachers, college faculty and administrators participated in these opportunities often in new and creative ways due to COVID-19.

(Note: Figures reported are preliminary and based on available EDCS data current as of September 2021.)

CODE

Council of Ontario Directors of Education/
Conseil ontarien des directions de l'éducation

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The program's provincial website for students and their parents or guardians (www.gotocollege.ca) and a website for RPTs, administrators and educators (www.scwi.ca) continue to support the promotion and delivery of the Dual Credit program.

Thank you for your continued support of this important initiative.

Tony Pontes,



SCWI Project Manager

Attachments:

SCWI Requirements document

- c. Executive secretaries to Directors of Education
Regional Office Managers, Ministry of Education
Regional and Field Offices, Ministry of Colleges and Universities
Regional Offices, Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development
Council of Ontario Directors of Education

Representing/Représentant :

CODEC – Conseil ontarien des directions de l'éducation catholique • CODEP – Conseil ontarien des directions de l'éducation publique
ECCODE – English Catholic Council of Directors of Education • PCODE – Public Council of Ontario Directors of Education