

**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:** Laura Elliott, Project Manager, School-College-Work Initiative

**Date:** November 16, 2023

**Subject:** School-College-Work Initiative, 2023-2024 Approvals Process

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Please forward this memorandum to the appropriate staff in your organization.

Since its inception in 1997, the School-College-Work Initiative (SCWI) has contributed to the goals 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 focus of the initiative continues to be 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. The primary focus of Dual Credit learning opportunities is on those students facing significant challenges in graduating, as well as students in Specialist High Skills Major Programs and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, thereby helping more students graduate from secondary school and transition into postsecondary education.

In prior years, there was an annual SCWI Request for Proposals (RFP). Starting this year, we are moving to a new approach which will eliminate the need for an RFP by incorporating the annual planning process into the in-year contract change cycle approval process. The [School-College-Work \(SCWI\) Activities, Forums and Dual Credit Program Guidelines](#) document (attached) will provide details on responsibilities, funding eligibility, and parameters for proposing and implementing activities, forums, and Dual Credit programs. Should the Ministry wish to communicate additional opportunities and priorities, the *SCWI Guidelines* will be updated, and changes will be communicated to Regional Planning Teams (RPT) chairs and coordinators. These changes would be implemented using the regular SCWI Change Cycles.

Funding for approved programs for the following year (i.e., 2023-2024) will be based on carrying forward approvals as outlined in Cycle 3 of the current year (2022-2023). Cycle 3 approvals will be finalized in early December 2022. The data in Cycle 3 becomes the basis of Cycle 1a for the following year.

As is the current practice, RPTs will be able to propose new programs or changes to 2023-24 approved programs at several times throughout the year. The first opportunity to do so will be in Cycle 1a for 2023-24. It will be open from December 14, 2022 until February 15, 2023.

**Representing/Représentant :**

## Funding and Accountability

As is the current practice, funding is contingent upon successful fulfilment of prior program commitments by RPTs and funds being appropriated by the Ontario Legislature and further allocated to this specific program.

RPTs will continue to 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 2022-2023 School Year](#). (The 2023-24 document will be available on the [scwi.ca web site](#) by December 14, 2022.)

As stated in the Fall Economic Statement on November 14, 2022, the government has committed to providing an additional \$4.8M over two years, beginning in 2023-24, to expand the Dual Credit program. The Dual Credit expansion will allow more eligible students to take apprenticeship and technological education courses that will count towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma and a college credential, or Certificate of Apprenticeship. Part of the skilled trades expansion also involves the inclusion of other apprenticeship Training Delivery Agents (TDAs) in addition to colleges in the delivery of Level 1 Apprenticeship Dual Credit programs. In addition to the skilled trades, the government is also expanding the Dual Credit program to attract students into the Early Childhood Educator career pathway.

Dual Credit program expansion for the 2023-24 school year will include:

- An additional 400 students in Dual Credit Level 1 Apprenticeship in-class training
- An additional 400 students in Dual Credit technological education-related college courses
- An additional 180 students in Dual Credit Early Childhood Education college courses
- Expansion of activities and forums for Grade 7 and 8 students and parents in technology and skilled trades

## Highlights from 2021-22

There were students enrolled in 18,898 Dual Credits across the province. Of these:

- 16,513 (87%) students enrolled in Dual Credit programs remained until the end.
- 16,417 (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.
- 5,447 (29%) students enrolled in Dual Credit programs were reported to have an Individual Education Plan.
- 1,672 (9%) students were reported to have previously left school and returned.

Of the 18,478 Dual Credits attempted, 16,930.5 Dual Credits were earned (Success Rate: 92%).

Representing/Représentant :

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Council of Ontario Directors of Education/  
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The 13 English-language and three French-language RPTs received SCWI approval for 140 activities and forums. Over 47,230 students, teachers, college faculty and administrators participated in these opportunities.

(Note: Figures reported are preliminary and based on available Enhanced Data Collection Solutions (EDCS) data current as of October 2022.)

The program's provincial website for students and their parents or guardians ([www.gotocollege.ca](http://www.gotocollege.ca)) and a website for RPTs, administrators and educators ([www.scwi.ca](http://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.



Laura Elliott  
SCWI Project Manager

Attachment: [School-College-Work \(SCWI\) Activities, Forums and Dual Credit Program Guidelines](#)

- 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, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
Council of Ontario Directors of Education

Representing/Représentant :

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ECCODE – English Catholic Council of Directors of Education • PCODE – Public Council of Ontario Directors of Education