**Dual Credit in Region XIX – Everybody Benefits**

- **Students benefit** because they have the opportunity to take college classes in high school at no cost and have higher success rates at UTEP than students who do not take dual credit classes.

- **Teachers benefit** because they have the opportunity to earn graduate level degrees and teach motivated students who will have a better chance of success at UTEP.

- **Area high schools and ISDs benefit** because they have a more highly educated and committed faculty.

- **El Paso Community College benefits** because they have a growing body of credentialed faculty.

- **The University of Texas at El Paso benefits** because we have more area in-service teachers starting or returning to graduate school.

- **El Paso benefits** because we have more residents with graduate degrees and more high school students entering the university with college credit which increases their chances of graduation.
# Dual Credit Program Goals

#1: Increase the number of high school teachers in Region XIX who are credentialed to teach dual credit courses

#2: Increase the number of Region XIX students taking dual credit courses in high school

## Why?

During the academic year 2013 – 2014, approximately 2,500 El Paso area high school students enrolled in dual credit courses representing about 10% of the students who were eligible to enroll. This is due, in part, to the shortage of high school teachers credentialed to teach dual credit courses across area schools.

## Credentialing Process

In order to teach dual credit courses, teachers must:

- Be certified to teach high school in Texas and
- Have a master’s degree that includes 18 graduate semester credit hours (SCH) in the area in which they wish to be credentialed OR have a master’s degree in one field and 18 graduate SCH in another field in which they wish to be credentialed.

Upon completion of the graduate course requirements, teachers submit a credentialing application to EPCC. For more information, visit their website at: [www.epcc.edu/dualcredit](http://www.epcc.edu/dualcredit).

Look under ‘Handbook and Forms’ for specific information about the requirements for dual credit credentialing.

## UTEP’s Role

The University of Texas at El Paso is proud to support area independent school districts and teachers in completing the graduate requirements for dual credit credentialing either through pursuit of their master’s degree or the 18 graduate SCH for those who already have a master’s degree in another field.

- Masters of Arts in Teaching: English, Math, Science
- Master of Arts
- Master of Arts History with Teacher Concentration
- Master of Science
- Master of Education
- Non-Degree Seeking status

Visit our website at [www.utep.edu/teachersdualcredit](http://www.utep.edu/teachersdualcredit) for more information on available courses, scholarship opportunities, and more. Email us at [dualcreditinitiative@utep.edu](mailto:dualcreditinitiative@utep.edu) with specific questions.

## UTEP’s Center for Institutional Evaluation Research and Planning has found that students who take even one dual credit course in high school outperform the comparison group in the following areas:

- Higher Math SAT Scores
- Higher UTEP GPA
- Higher UTEP Graduation Rates

**Bottom Line:** Students who take a dual credit course in high school are more successful at UTEP both in terms of graduation and in terms of performance as measured by GPA.