



IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES

Fast Forward Program

During the 2014 Legislative Session, the Idaho Legislature passed Senate Bill 1233, which approved funds to cover up to 75% of the cost of taking dual credit courses, college-bearing exams, or professional-technical exams. Every high school junior will have access to a maximum of \$200 a year and each high school senior will have access to a maximum of \$400 a year. These funds are to be utilized after all other grants, scholarships, and other supplementary funds are exhausted, except county funds for out of district students taking community college courses.

8 in 6 Program

Designed to help Idaho students progress through the state's high school graduation requirements at an accelerated rate (46 credits), earning eight years of credit (grade 7-14) in six years (grades 7-12).

Assists students with costs associated with overload courses, SDE reimburses up to \$225 per course.

The program is open to public school students in grades 7 through 12.

Students take online courses during the summer or online overload courses during the school year. SDE will reimburse up to two overload courses during the summer and up to two overload courses during the school year, with a maximum cap of eight courses for the lifetime of the program.

Each student must have a course load of at least twelve (12) credits in middle school and fourteen (14) credits in high school per school year to participate in summer courses, and a full course load to participate in overload courses during the school year.

Students are expected to enroll and successfully complete dual credit or professional-technical education courses during their eleventh and/or twelfth grade year.

Dual Credit for Early Completers

The program is open to any student who has completed all the state's high school graduation requirements, excluding the senior project and any other course that the State Board of Education requires to be completed during the final year of high school. Please review Idaho state graduation minimum requirements on the other side of this document.

Students can take up to eighteen (18) credits per semester or twelve (12) credits per trimester term of postsecondary credits.

SDE will reimburse the district or public charter school up to \$75 per college credit earned.

Students are required to remain enrolled at the high school to have their college credits reimbursed.

Students are eligible to receive reimbursement for college credit-bearing examinations; up to six (6) examinations per semester or four (4) per trimester, up to \$90 per examinations.

Mastery Advancement Program

Enables districts and public charter schools to utilize mastery exams to allow students to progress more quickly through high school and earn a scholarship for postsecondary education.

Students who have completed all district/public charter school and state graduation requirements for grades 1-12 within 11 full school years or less are eligible to receive a scholarship redeemable at any Idaho public postsecondary institution.

Students must have attended an Idaho public school for four full school years immediately prior to graduation to receive a full scholarship.

Idaho State Graduation Minimum Requirements - 46 credits*

29 CORE OF INSTRUCTION – 17 ELECTIVES

(44 required for Dual Credit for Early Completers. IDAPA 08.02.03 104, 105, 106)

Language Arts

9 credits total: English - 8 credits and Speech - 1 credit

Speech may be obtained through other courses that meet the state speech requirement as approved by the local district

Mathematics

6 credits total: Including Algebra I and Geometry. 2 credits must be taken in the last year of high school (4 credits required for Dual Credit for Early Completers)

Students who have completed six (6) credits of math prior to the fall of their last year of high school, including at least two (2) semesters of an Advanced Placement or dual credit calculus or high level course, are exempt from taking math during their last year of high school

Science

6 credits total

4 lab credits

Social Studies

5 credits total

US History, Economics and American Government

Humanities

2 credits total

Interdisciplinary Humanities, Fine Arts or Foreign Language

Health

1 credit total

CPR is required to be taught in Health

Electives

17 credits total

Elective courses as determined by school district/public charter school

*Additional non-course graduation requirements (such as college entrance exams) can be found: [http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/hs_grad_requirements/docs/Grad minimum Requirements.pdf](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/hs_grad_requirements/docs/Grad%20minimum%20Requirements.pdf)

Which Program Works Best for Me?

“I’m a student who is always working ahead and hopes to get a jump-start on college before I graduate from high school. How can I get access to more courses outside my regular schedule?”

This student should enroll in the 8-in-6 Program. It helps students progress through the state’s high school graduation requirements at an accelerated pace by covering costs associated with overload and summer courses so students will be prepared to take dual credit or professional-technical courses later in high school.

“I’m a student who wants to take full advantage of as many college-level courses as possible before I graduate from high school.”

This student should participate in the Dual Credit for Early Completers program, if possible. This program will cover the costs of up to 18 credits per semester (or 12 credits per trimester). It gives students the best opportunity to complete as many dual credits or professional-technical credits before they graduate from high school – paid for by the state. To be eligible, students must first complete the Idaho graduation requirements. If they are unable to do this, students can still take advantage of advanced opportunities from the state through the Fast Forward Program which offers up to \$200 for every high school junior and \$400 for every high school senior to help cover 75% of the cost of taking dual credit courses, college-bearing exams, or professional-technical exams.

“I’m a student who is working ahead and would like to graduate from high school early.”

This student should participate in the Mastery Advancement Program. If students graduate early, they are eligible to receive a scholarship of approximately \$1,400 per year that they graduate early, to use at any Idaho public institution of higher education.

“I’m a student who wants to take some college-level courses before I graduate from high school, but I have not satisfied graduation requirements yet.”

This student should take advantage of Idaho’s new Fast Forward Program in which each high school junior can receive up to \$200 a year and each high school senior can receive up to \$400 a year to help cover 75% of the cost of taking dual credit courses, college-bearing exams, or professional-technical exams.

“I’m a student who has taken professional-technical courses from my local high school. Now, I would like to take the certification exam.”

This student should take advantage of Idaho’s new Fast Forward Program in which each high school junior can receive up to \$200 a year and each high school senior can receive up to \$400 a year to help cover the costs of taking dual credit courses, college-bearing exams, or professional-technical exams.

Please be advised students should discuss programs with local counselors to ensure courses taken align with postsecondary program goals.

For more information about the Advanced Opportunities Programs, contact: Jennifer Caprile at (208) 332-6944 or jcaprile@sde.idaho.gov.

Please visit our site at www.sde.idaho.gov/site/advancedOpp/