



NONPUBLIC SCHOOL

STUDENT GUIDEBOOK

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## ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES OVERVIEW

Advanced Opportunities is a program that provides funding for Idaho students to use toward educational and career pathways. The program provides **\$2,500** for each student in grades 7-12 attending a Cognia accredited Idaho private school. Funds can be utilized toward particular costs that students may incur.

- ✔ **Dual Credit Courses:** A dual credit course is a college course taken for both high school and college credit. Students can request funding for up to **\$75** per credit.
- ✔ **Exams:** Students can use funds to pay for the full cost of many exams (including proctoring fees). Exams can include college entrance exams, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), and professional certifications.

# MAKING A PLAN

## STUDENT CAREER PATHWAY PLANNING

Before a student uses Advanced Opportunities funding, the student should develop a career pathway plan for their high school journey. Eighth grade is the perfect time for students to begin thinking about their plans after high school and map out the types of advanced coursework they can leverage while in high school. The plan is adaptable and may change over time. Talk with a school counselor to begin the process.

## COURSE & CREDIT TRANSFERABILITY

Transferring courses between schools/colleges can be complex to navigate. How a course is transferred or accepted is determined by the receiving school/college. If a student is receiving college credit from more than one college, it is important to plan ahead and consider how courses will transfer, including transcript requirements, and which courses will count toward the degree program. Each college has a transfer guide that provides information on how credits will be accepted.

**[Coursetransfer.idaho.gov](http://Coursetransfer.idaho.gov)** can help.



# HOW TO PARTICIPATE

## CREATE A STUDENT ACCOUNT

Students can create an AO account at **[advancedops.sde.idaho.gov](https://advancedops.sde.idaho.gov)**. Creating an account will allow students to request funds and track their account balance.

Once an account is created, it must be approved by school staff. Please follow local policies and procedures as they can vary. Contact the Advanced Opportunities staff at the student's school district for details.

## PARTICIPATION FORM

Students and parents must complete the Advanced Opportunities participation form that outlines program risks and regulations prior to using funds. This form needs to be turned in at the school and will be kept on file with other student records. The participation form can be found online in the student's account at **[advancedops.sde.idaho.gov](https://advancedops.sde.idaho.gov)** or at the student's school.

## SCHOOL OPTIONS

Students have many options when considering school enrollment for Advanced Opportunities courses or exams. Students can attend:

- ✓ Public school (charter and traditional districts).
- ✓ Cognia accredited private schools.
- ✓ Dual enrollment (public and nonpublic).

These options can provide students access to a wide variety of opportunities.

### IDAHO DIGITAL LEARNING ALLIANCE

Idaho Digital Learning Alliance (IDLA) is an online course provider available to all Idaho students that offers a variety of courses. If certain courses are not available through the student's local school, students can sign up for the course online through IDLA. In addition to typical course offerings for secondary credit, IDLA offers dual credit, Advanced Placement, and flex options. More information can be found at **[idahodigitalllearning.org](http://idahodigitalllearning.org)**.

### HOMESCHOOL AND PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

According to Idaho code 33-4602, the Advanced Opportunities program is available to all students who attend an Idaho public school. School district attendance policies vary. Homeschool students can choose to dual enroll in a public school that will allow them access to Advanced Opportunities funding. Students attending a Cognia accredited private school can utilize Advanced Opportunities for nonpublic school students.



## DUAL CREDIT

Across the state of Idaho, numerous colleges and universities offer dual credit to earn both high school and college credit. Generally, courses are offered through the student's high school from highly certified Idaho teachers. Students can attend courses on college campuses or online (fees may vary). Courses must be provided by a regionally accredited college. When maximized, the Advanced Opportunities program enables Idaho families to save thousands of dollars on college tuition.

Scenario	Typical Cost for In-state University*	Typical cost for Community College**	Cost to Idaho from AO Funding	Cost to Family after using AO
Student earns 60 college credits (Associates degree)	\$17,755	\$9,000	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
Student earns 30 college credits (1 year of college)	\$8,878	\$4,500	<b>\$2,250</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Student earns 15 college credits (1 semester of college)	\$4,439	\$2,250	<b>\$1,125</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Please note Advanced Opportunities only pays for tuition costs. Additional costs such as books and lab fees are not provided. Talk to the provider if assistance is needed. Possible savings are listed below.

\*Average in-state University costs per semester based on Boise State University (\$4,682), Idaho State University (\$4,457), Lewis-Clark State College (\$3,938) and University of Idaho (\$4,678)

\*\*Average community college costs per credit based on North Idaho College (\$147), College of Western Idaho (\$156), College of Southern Idaho (\$147), and College of Eastern Idaho (\$150)

## DUAL CREDIT ENROLLMENT

As processes vary by each college, students should contact the college and their school’s Advanced Opportunities staff directly for more information before enrolling in a dual credit course.

- 1 Submit a dual credit application with the provider.
- 2 Register for the college course.
- 3 Create an Advanced Opportunities account.
- 4 Request Advanced Opportunities funding to pay for course.

It is important to keep track of the college(s) from which students receive dual credit. Upon enrolling in a college after high school, students will be required to provide official transcripts in order for course credits to be applied to a degree program.

Idaho College	Website	Phone
Boise State University	<a href="https://boisestate.edu/concurrentenrollment">boisestate.edu/concurrentenrollment</a>	(208) 426-3750
Brigham Young University-Idaho	<a href="https://byui.edu/concurrent-enrollment">byui.edu/concurrent-enrollment</a>	(208) 496-1411
College of Eastern Idaho	<a href="https://cei.edu/early-college">cei.edu/early-college</a>	(208) 535-5309
College of Southern Idaho	<a href="https://csi.edu/dual-credit">csi.edu/dual-credit</a>	(208) 933-2320
College of Western Idaho	<a href="https://cwi.edu/dual-credit">cwi.edu/dual-credit</a>	(208) 562-3371
Idaho State University	<a href="https://isu.edu/ecp">isu.edu/ecp</a>	(208) 282-6067
Lewis-Clark State College	<a href="https://lcsc.edu/dual-credit">lcsc.edu/dual-credit</a>	(208) 792-2280
North Idaho College	<a href="https://nic.edu/dualcredit">nic.edu/dualcredit</a>	(208) 625-2329
Northwest Nazarene University	<a href="https://nnu.edu/admissions-aid/concurrent-credit/">https://nnu.edu/admissions-aid/concurrent-credit/</a>	(208) 467-8109
University of Idaho	<a href="https://dualcredit.uidaho.edu">dualcredit.uidaho.edu</a>	(208) 885-4074



# EXAMS

## COLLEGE CREDIT BY EXAM

**AP/IB:** Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses are college-level courses that prepare students through advanced and rigorous curriculum. Students take an AP or IB exam and receive a score. Depending on the score, a college/university may waive a requirement or grant credit for a parallel course. Requirements may vary by college.

**CLEP:** The College Level Examination Program allows students to challenge a course by taking an exam. By doing this, a student may receive both high school and/or college credit. Local school district policies may vary.

## COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

College entrance exams are available for funding such as ACT, SAT and others.



## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Advanced Opportunities program is an opportunity for students to participate in challenging and rigorous coursework. As students navigate the program, it is important to meet with an academic advisor or counselor to create a plan, work hard to successfully complete all courses/exams, and pay attention to important deadlines and registration processes. If a student fails to earn or successfully complete a course or exam for which Idaho Department of Education has paid a reimbursement, the student shall pay for and successfully earn credit or pay for an exam before Advanced Opportunities pays any further reimbursement for the student.

### ADVISING

Proper advising is key to navigating the Advanced Opportunities program. Making connections with the school counselor, a college and career advocate, and/or a college advisor will be critical. Students who use Advanced Opportunities funds to earn more than 15 dual credits must receive advising on how the credits will translate into their post-high school aspirations and fit into their program of study.





Contact your school's Advanced Opportunities representative to learn more about the Advanced Opportunities program.

For additional assistance, contact us at (208) 332-6800  
**[sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/advanced-ops](https://sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/advanced-ops)**