



A Parent's Guide to Dual Credit

Supporting Your Dual Credit Student

Although dual credit students are still enrolled in high school, they are also Weatherford College students and are expected to meet all college policies, procedures, and academic standards.

Parents play an important role in supporting student success by encouraging strong study habits, monitoring important deadlines, and communicating with their student about their progress. However, students are responsible for attending class, completing assignments, communicating with instructors, and meeting all course requirements.

College Expectations

College courses differ from high school courses in several important ways. Dual credit students should expect:

- Increased academic rigor and independent learning.
- More reading, writing, and outside study time.
- Strict assignment and testing deadlines.
- Greater responsibility for managing time and communicating with instructors.
- College grading standards that may differ from those used in high school.

Successful dual credit students are motivated, organized, and willing to seek assistance when needed.

Weatherford College Student Systems

Dual credit students will use several online systems throughout their time at Weatherford College. Understanding the purpose of each system will help students stay organized and access important information.

Coyote Connect

Coyote Connect is the student portal and serves as the primary access point for Weatherford College student services. Students will use Coyote Connect to:

- Register for classes
- View class schedules
- Make payments and view account balances
- Access financial aid information (if applicable)
- View unofficial transcripts and final grades
- Update personal information
- Access other Weatherford College student resources

Students should check Coyote Connect regularly throughout each semester.

Canvas

Canvas is the online learning platform where students complete their coursework. Whether a course is offered online, hybrid, or face-to-face, instructors commonly use Canvas to communicate with students and manage course materials.

Students will use Canvas to:

- Access course content and syllabi
- Submit assignments
- Take quizzes and exams, when applicable
- View grades and instructor feedback
- Participate in class discussions, if required
- Receive announcements from instructors

Students should log into Canvas frequently and review their courses each week to ensure they do not miss assignments or important announcements.

Weatherford College Student Email

All official Weatherford College communication is sent to the student's Weatherford College email account. This includes messages from instructors, the Dual Credit Office, Admissions, Business Office, Financial Aid, and other college departments.

Students are responsible for checking their Weatherford College email regularly. Missing an email does not excuse missed deadlines or required actions.

Student Privacy (FERPA)

Dual credit students are protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law that governs the privacy of student education records.

Once a student enrolls in Weatherford College, educational records belong to the student, regardless of the student's age. College employees are generally prohibited from discussing grades, attendance, academic progress, schedules, or other educational records with parents or guardians without the student's written consent, except as permitted by law.

Parents are encouraged to communicate regularly with their student regarding academic progress and important college deadlines.

Course Modalities

Weatherford College dual credit courses are offered in a variety of instructional formats to meet the needs of students and partner school districts. Depending on the course and partnership agreement, classes may be offered face-to-face at the high school, face-to-face on a Weatherford College campus, online, hybrid (a combination of online and face-to-face instruction), or through other approved instructional methods. Regardless of the course modality, all dual credit courses maintain the same college-level learning outcomes, academic standards, and expectations.

Attendance and Academic Performance

Attendance expectations for dual credit courses are governed by Weatherford College policies and individual instructor requirements. Students are expected to attend class regularly and complete all coursework by established deadlines.

Poor attendance or failure to complete coursework may affect both the student's college transcript and, when applicable, high school graduation requirements.

College Transcript

All dual credit courses become part of the student's permanent Weatherford College transcript.

Grades earned in dual credit courses are calculated in the student's Weatherford College grade point average (GPA) and remain on the college transcript even after high school graduation. Students should carefully consider the long-term impact of their academic performance.

Academic Support

Weatherford College offers a variety of academic support services to help dual credit students succeed. Available resources may include:

- Academic advising
- Tutoring services
- Library resources
- Writing assistance
- Accessibility Services
- Technical support
- Canvas and student email assistance

Students are encouraged to seek assistance early whenever they encounter academic challenges.

Staying Informed

Parents can best support their student by:

- Encouraging regular attendance and course participation.
- Asking their student about assignments and upcoming deadlines.
- Reminding students to check their Weatherford College email and Canvas regularly.
- Helping students develop effective time-management skills.
- Encouraging students to communicate directly with their instructors when questions arise.

Questions?

Questions regarding course availability, scheduling, or high school graduation requirements should be directed to the student's high school counselor.

Questions regarding admissions, registration, eligibility, tuition, college policies, or Weatherford College procedures should be directed to the Weatherford College Dual Credit Office.