

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS DUAL ENROLLMENT STUDENTS AND THE 8-WEEK SCHEDULE

Does the 8-Week Advantage affect concurrent classes (those taught in the high school by a high school teacher)?

No. Concurrent classes will be offered the same as they have in the past. The change to eight week courses will affect on-line and in-person dual enrollment classes.

Has the eligibility for dual enrollment classes in this model changed?

No. Students must still meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled in a high school that has a current dual enrollment agreement with GFC MSU. Home-schooled students may enroll through the school district in which they reside.
- Be at least 16 years of age or a high school junior.
- Meet prerequisites for the course including placement tests or proficiency scores.
- Complete the Dual Enrollment Application and Registration/Release of Information Form. Have approval signatures of a parent or guardian, high school official, and designated college official. Forms can be found at admissions.gfcmsu.edu/highschool

What type of student would be best suited to the 8-Week Advantage?

We have always encouraged high school counselors and teachers to carefully consider which students they recommend for dual enrollment. Students should always be motivated, academically prepared for college rigor, and willing to work hard. Students must maintain good class attendance, have all textbooks and materials by the first day of class, and be willing to ask for help when they need it. All of these traits will be even more important in the condensed session as students will not have time to catch up if they get behind in their work.

How about the student who has an active extracurricular or co-curricular schedule?

The 8-Week Advantage should work very well for this type of student because it allows for greater flexibility. For example, a student who competes in a fall sport could register for their dual enrollment class to start in the second 8-week session so as not to interfere. For more information, see the academic calendar at students.gfcmsu.edu/academiccalendar.html

When do I register for classes?

Students will register for all classes at the beginning of the semester. They cannot add classes at mid-semester.

What will be the dates for adding, dropping, or withdrawing from classes be with this shorter time frame?

Please see the Academic Calendar at our website, students.gfcmsu.edu/academiccalendar.html.

Will the number of credits change for an 8-week class?

No. Credits associated with courses will remain the same. Remember, it is the same 16-week course now condensed to 8 weeks. Course content and required outcomes are the same.

Our high school allows release time during the regular school day for students to complete their dual enrollment course. We schedule their courses in the regular 16-week semester. If a student only takes one class during one 8-week time frame, they will now have an open period (which we do not allow). How do you recommend we handle that?

If this is your policy, GFC MSU advises the student to take one dual credit course during the first 8-week session and one dual credit course during the second 8-week session.

Is there a limit to the number of dual credit classes a student can take?

No, there is no limit. However, we strongly advise students to consider their high school, work, and activity schedule before registering for a rigorous college course. In this new 8-week model, students have the chance to earn more college credits in a shorter amount of time. This can help them get a head start of their college degree.

What about the price of classes? Has that changed?

Dual Enrollment courses are still offered to students at a reduced rate (half the cost of regular tuition). Each 8-week course will cost \$57.34 per credit. So, for a 3-credit course, students should expect to pay \$172.02 per course.

If a student register for classes in the first and second block, when do they pay for those courses?

Once a student has been registered for a course, they owe a bill with the College. Bills will be mailed to them. They are responsible to make payment arrangements with Student Accounts by the appropriate deadlines. There is a deferred payment plan option. If questions, please contact Student Accounts at 406-771-4315 or 406-771-5129 or studentaccounts@gfcmsu.edu.

Is financial assistance provided to dual enrollment students?

Check with your local school district, foundation, or businesses. GFC MSU does not provide financial assistance other than the reduced price of tuition. Many school districts have scholarship funds available for dual enrollment students.

Resources to assist dual enrollment students at our high school are limited. How can we provide additional support?

We encourage students to access the Weaver Library, the Technology Assistance Center, and tutoring services offered through the Academic Success Center. All of these services are available and free to any enrolled GFC MSU student and many are available online.

What courses are best for students to take as dual enrollment?

Students should plan and register for courses that provide a foundational knowledge of a subject area and/or count as required core classes. We encourage students to be strategic in selecting their dual enrollment courses and aim for taking high-value packages of credit. For example, a student can explore the field of finance and accounting by taking both a dual credit math course as well as an introductory business or accounting class.

Dual Enrollment is a tool to earn college credits and also explore college and career interests. One resource for selecting courses are the sheets found at www.mus.edu/mcp/ We also encourage you to use the GFC MSU catalog to see specific program requirements and the Montana University System (MUS) core.

Visit, catalog.gfcmsu.edu/academic-programs/montana-university-system-core/

For additional information about dual enrollment, go to <http://admissions.gfcmsu.edu/highschool/index.html>. All of these questions will be listed there as well as an anonymous question form where students can list a question they would like answered.



The flexible-schedule **ADVANTAGE**

Plan your classes based on your **extracurricular schedule**. For example if you play a sport during the first 8 weeks of the semester, you can take dual enrollment classes during the second 8 weeks.



The take-it-seriously **ADVANTAGE**

Successful dual enrollment students are the ones who are **motivated and willing to work hard**. The 8-Week Advantage allows students to focus quickly on content and complete college classes in less time.



The try-it-out **ADVANTAGE**

In an 8-week course, you'll get a fast-paced look at a particular topic. You can decide if you want to take more classes like it or try something different the next time.