

# Shawnee Community College

## **Shawnee Community College Adheres to the Guidelines Set by the [Higher Learning Commission](#) – Quality Assurance for Dual Credit Courses or Programs**

Linked to the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation and the findings of the Commission's dual credit study, the following five critical elements constitute the quality assurance for dual credit courses or programs:

- 1. Faculty credentials and qualifications, orientation and training (*Criterion Three*)**

The institution requires the same level of credentials and qualifications for faculty in dual credit courses or programs that it does for its regular higher education courses. Currently, this is the standard practice. The Commission's dual credit study notes: "The most common of these provisions [about instructor eligibility] is that colleges and universities use the same standards in selecting instructors for dual credit courses as they do for courses offered on their own campuses" (p. 19). Additionally, faculty teaching in dual credit courses or programs are appropriately trained with proper orientation for teaching at the higher education level.
- 2. Rigor of courses or programs and curricular standards (*Criterion Four*)**

The institution mandates the same level of rigor in dual credit courses or programs as it does for its regular higher- education courses or programs. Dual credit courses or programs meet the same curricular standards and undergo the same institutional approval processes as the institution's regular courses or programs.
- 3. Expectations for student learning and learning outcomes (*Criterion Four*)**

Expectations for student learning and learning outcomes in dual credit courses or programs are consistent with the same courses or programs that the institution offers at the higher-education level.
- 4. Access to learning resources (*Criteria Three and Four*)**

Students as well as faculty in dual credit courses or programs have the same level of access to learning resources (libraries, laboratories, databases, etc.) as the institution's students and faculty in the same higher-education courses or programs.
- 5. Institutional monitoring and oversight (*Criteria Three and Four*)**

The institution, specifically its academic departments and disciplinary faculty, exercises proper monitoring and oversight of its dual credit activity to ensure that dual credit courses or programs meet higher education standards.