



Kentucky's Dual Credit Scholarship and Its Effect on College Affordability

Kentucky's Dual Credit Scholarship program plays a key role in improving college affordability. The scholarships, available for general education and career-technical courses, allow students access to more dual credit courses while in high school, resulting in:

Link to scholarship information on KHEEA's website:



- ➔ **Accelerated completion, enabling students to finish faster and enter the workforce quicker.**
 - **KCTCS students: Reduced by over a semester.**
The average time to degree for KCTCS students who have not participated in dual credit is 3.3 years; dual credit students finish on average in 2.5 years.
 - **Public university students: Reduced nearly one semester.**
The average time to degree for public university students with no dual credit is 4.2 years, dual credit participants finish in 3.9 years, meaning dual credit can result in bachelor's completion in under four years.
- ➔ **Reduction in overall net price, lowering the cost burden for students and their families.**
 - **KCTCS students: Graduate with 60% less debt - a savings of over \$3,000.**
The average debt of KCTCS students who did not take dual credit is \$5,337, compared to dual credit students with \$2,115 in debt..

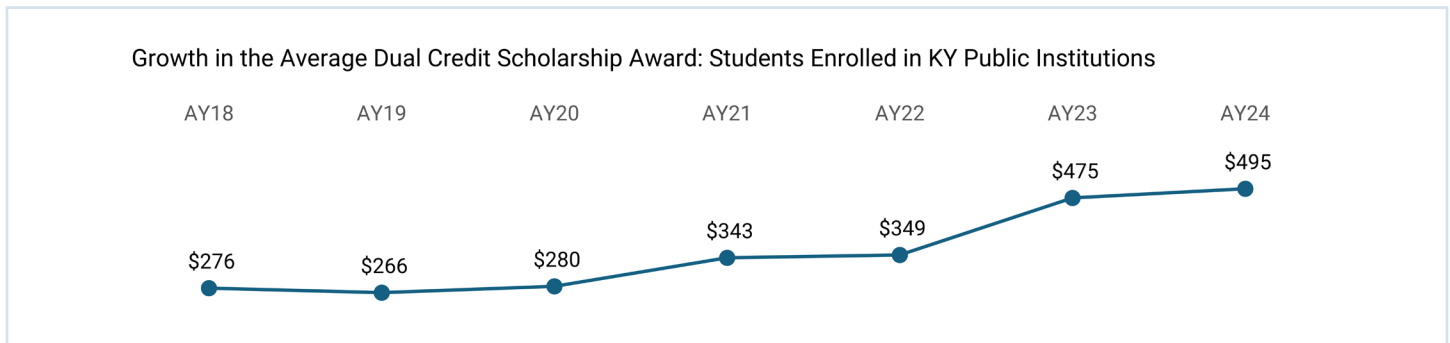
Dual credit also affects the share of KCTCS students graduating with debt: 37% for non-dual-credit participants versus 18% for dual credit students – a 19 percentage point difference.

- **Public university students: Graduate with 38% less debt, an \$8,000 savings.**
The average debt of non-dual-credit public university students is \$21,666; dual credit participants graduated with \$13,450.

Dual credit participation also reduced the percentage of students graduating with debt by 5 percentage points – from 57% of non-dual-credit participants to 52% of dual credit participants.

Scholarship Availability and Usage

When established, Kentucky’s Dual Credit Scholarship funded \$4.5M in scholarships to students attending public institutions. Since that time, available total awards to public university and KCTCS students have grown \$6.7M, bringing the amount to nearly \$10.2M.



- ➔ The number of recipients has grown 30%, from just over 14,000 in AY18 to nearly 21,000 in AY24.
- ➔ The average amount awarded has growth from \$276 during AY18 to \$495 during AY24, an increase of \$220, or 79%

Outcomes of Dual Credit Scholarship Utilization

The General Dual Credit Scholarship covers general education courses. It will pay for up to two courses each year during a student’s junior and senior years (maximum of four).

	College-Going Rate	Persistence Rate	First-Year GPA
Scholarship Recipient	82.3%	82.2%	2.79
No Scholarship	40.6%	64.6%	2.06
Difference	+42pp	+20pp	+0.73

The WorkReady Dual Credit Scholarship covers career and technical courses This program will pay for up to two courses each year of a student’s high school experience (maximum of eight).

	College-Going Rate	Persistence Rate	First-Year GPA
Scholarship Recipient	71.5%	77.7%	2.64
No Scholarship	53.8%	73.3%	2.42
Difference	+18pp	+5pp	+0.22

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