

Community College of Vermont  
Dual Enrollment and Programs for Secondary Students 4.7.16

Brief Overview

Based on the success of the 2009 dual enrollment program funded through Next Generation funding, Vermont expanded dual enrollment in the 2013 Flexible Pathways Bill to provide two dual enrollment vouchers for every Vermont junior and senior. More recently, in response to the Vermont workforce's worsening skills gap, particularly among low-income Vermonters, and in partnership with the Lumina Foundation, state partners set a goal of 70% of Vermont's citizenry holding a post-secondary credential by 2025. To achieve this objective, dual enrollment programs are essential for building strong levels of participation among first generation, low-income, and other student populations that are less likely to have access to college, but who may also have the most potential to benefit.

Trends

- In the last three years schools have more than doubled the number of students who participate in the program to nearly 20% of all eligible juniors and seniors.
- There has been an increase in the number of low income students who participate in the program from 383 to 605, although the percentage does not mirror the population of students overall (42% statewide eligibility).

	AY13-14		AY14-15	
Students	1,490		2,236	
Free/Reduced Lunch	383	26%	605	27%
First Generation	675	45%	648	29%

- Early college success – VSC Early College/VAST college continuation rate of first cohort 85%. In VSC 38% in first year were 1st generation students.
- Numbers don't change overnight, but we are working to improve participation rates of 1st gen and low income students.
- Growth in DE (SU15-SP16) – Statewide 2,204 - CCV Vouchers 1,423

What CCV is Doing to Help

**Continuum of Programs** - Designed to begin in lower grades (middle school) to help students begin thinking about college and career options. Built on statewide partnerships (VSAC/AOE), and local relationships with schools and community organizations (Lund/Boys & Girls Club). Different “flavors” of dual enrollment that support students in high schools, technical centers and other programs (developmental skills).

**Intro to College Studies** – FREE - developed 15 years ago to help young students prepare/succeed in college ~70 sections/year. Supported by VSAC/GEAR-UP. Serves 50-60% 1<sup>st</sup> Generation students. ICS students go onto college at a rate 15% higher than the state college going rate. Offered in high schools to improve access and support freshmen and sophomores. 71% of high schools award credit for ICS. McLure Foundation supports transportation and other resources to improve access to ICS for students.

### **Developmental Skills Vouchers**

DE access issue and college readiness. VSAC/GU supports developmental skills courses at CCV with goal of increasing readiness for subsequent DE courses. 39 in FA15/SP16.

### **Middle School Access Days**

Work with middle school students to encourage college at a younger age and make educational and career choices sooner. Each day starts with a pre-visit to the school that includes information about college. Then middle school students are bussed to CCV where they learn about going to college, take mini-classes, see student panel, ask questions. Helps students see value of college and role in PLP development. 14 middle schools participated this year. Transportation and other activities supported with grants and funding from donors.

### **Parent Events**

Work with families and students: dinner/information events, often presenting with VSAC counselors to provide information on financial aid. Events targeted low-performing DE schools and nearby sending schools. Support for these events comes from grants and donors.

### **Professional Development**

Partnership with VSAC & AOE: statewide professional development to address needs of 1st Gen and low income families in accessing and succeeding in college. September 2014, Dr. April Yee, attended by 78 Vermont educators. December 2015, Dr. Michael J. Corso - Quaglia Institute on Student Aspirations, attended by 94 Vermont educators. Workshops at CCV centers with local partner schools (GB, Highly Supported Courses). Statewide VSAC trainings on PLP's and College Pathways conferences for high school juniors and their parents. VSC guidance counselor breakfasts including ICS, DE and EC. Continued training how to best implement Act 77.

### **Concurrent Enrollment (DE offered in High Schools)**

Partnership with local schools. HS teachers connect with college as PT faculty. Students meet with advisors and learn about CCV/college. 49 DE courses offered in high schools this spring and 44 DE courses offered in technical centers. Local partnerships/connections help improve student participation. CCV 505 students in courses this spring.

### **Fast Forward (DE offered in Tech Centers)**

Program supports students in CTE programs at 17 tech centers & CCV/VTC. Targets students less likely to go to college. Numbers this year: CCV 413/VTC 208 (621 total) At CCV 49% of FF students are 1<sup>st</sup> Gen.

### **Work with Specific Schools**

Target low-performing schools for special focus, including outreach, parent events, and work with middle school students preparing to enter high school. Local, face-to-face nature of this work helps build partnerships.

### **Early college**

In 2014-15, 40% of CCV's early college students – 1st gen. This year increased to 47% 1st Gen and represents 27 high schools as well as home schooled students. 29% (15) of those EC students who responded qualified for FRL. Preliminary data on subsequent college enrollment 84% of students who started at CCV in the fall 2014 are currently enrolled in college.

### **Philanthropic Support**

CCV leverages all kinds of funding to support the work we are doing to serve high school students going to college.

### Stories/Examples

#### **School - Springfield High School**

Partnership between CCV and school DE counselor where all students are supported to take ICS and DE/CE courses. 60+ students in DE/CE this spring.

**Student - Abbie – Morrisville** (Abbie is 1<sup>st</sup> Generation and Eligible for FRL – Received textbook stipend)

I had low grades, would do anything to not go to school. This all was happening since the fifth grade. A lot has happened, so much stress in my life I didn't think I could make it through. There was even a moment when I didn't even think I could graduate. It wasn't until my junior year in high school that I knew things had to change. I sat down and had a long talk with my guidance counselor about what I needed to get done.

Intro to College Studies answered the questions that I as a high schooler would like to know. Questions that maybe couldn't be answered by parents; high school teachers, or other college students. ICS prepared me [for other college classes] in the sense that it made me realize that I have to depend upon myself. My college teachers aren't going to "chase me down" trying to get work from me. It taught me that I need to take responsibility, which most people don't realize before it is far too late.

Taking these dual enrollment classes helped me see the ideal future I wanted for myself. The classes up as CCV not only were a great learning experience but they were a great social experience. Helping me get to know the area, classmates, and staff for when I go this next fall. I'm not one to stand up and talk in front of a whole class, so having a small class where everyone is encouraged to speak really gave me an incentive to work on public speaking. The classes have helped by giving me a voice in what I want to learn. If I am confused or would like a further explanation I ask questions, not only regular ones either. We are encouraged to question the topic we are learning. Asking why or how something is the way that it is, and not be dismissed for such question. With the CCV dual enrollment classes they want you to grow into your own

person. Unlike high school where everyone learns the same material, does the same projects/work, and has to take the same classes. The dual enrollment classes made me realize that I can take charge of my education. Yes, there are some types of classes that you need to take, but your possible choices with in those types are many. The dual enrollment classes got me engaged, not only in my education, but in my community. CCV has the students plan activities and contribute to them. Everyone working as a team to accomplish one goal. When really we accomplish so much more. The dual enrollment classes have helped me make connections. The community there is impeccable, it's hard to struggle when you have the best support anyone could hope for. The dual enrollment classes were amazing this semester, and I can't wait for next Fall.

Now here I am, at the end of my senior year of high school. Ever since I started at CCV at the beginning of this semester, I have been more determined than ever to achieve what I want out of life. After I graduate in June, I plan to take the summer off. Then I am going to CCV Morrisville in the fall. I plan on double majoring in Childcare and Early Childhood Education.