

Tips for Families

Dual credit allows high school students to begin college courses, offering an excellent opportunity for those who are ready. Although taught in high school, the expectations for college coursework differ. College demands greater focus, determination, and personal responsibility than previous academic experiences. Here are supportive tips to help your students succeed.

Understand FERPA: FERPA applies to all college students, regardless of age. Dual credit participants have sole ownership of their academic records. Staff cannot disclose specific information to anyone other than the student, even if the student is a minor.

Let Your Students Do Their College Processes: We strongly encourage students to handle registering themselves. You can still assist them, but allowing them to do it will foster their understanding of the differences between college and high school procedures.

Trust Your Parenting Skills: If your student feels ready to take a college-level course, they are ready for the responsibility that comes with that. You've taught them well. Let them learn as much as they can from this experience.

Help Students Advocate for Themselves: Encourage your student to talk to the teacher about any course-related concerns. If the issue remains unresolved, advise them to contact Willamette Promise Staff. Guiding students through appropriate channels promotes their understanding of accountability for their coursework.

Encourage Good Habits: Simple things like meeting deadlines and arriving at class on time can teach skills that will serve your student for a lifetime. Set reasonable expectations and support your student when they need help finding assistance.

Don't Expect Perfection: College is full of learning opportunities. Making mistakes is a great way to learn. Don't expect your student to be exempt from consequences.