Providing Opportunity

Dual enrollment appears to be successful at providing the opportunity for motivated high school students to achieve college completion. Institutions and school divisions have the SCHEV reports as a resource to inform their dual enrollment agreements and help meet the Commonwealth’s goal of 100,000 additional in-state undergraduate degrees by 2025.

Read the Report

The new SCHEV reports released in the spring of 2013, Graduation Rates, Institutional Profile, 3-10 Years, by Subcohorts (http://research.schev.edu/gradrates/subcohorts_inst-profile.asp)

Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment offers a way to improve access to and degree completion at institutions of higher education in Virginia and has been in existence for decades. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) defines dual enrollment as an “organized system with special guidelines that allows high school students to take college courses” for the purpose of earning college credit.

Through dual enrollment, motivated high school students can take more-challenging course work, getting a head start on college and potentially shortening the time toward a career. Dual enrollment also serves to bridge any existing readiness gap between high school and college.

Dual enrollment was given a boost by the 2013 Virginia General Assembly with a bill that requires all school divisions to establish dual enrollment agreements with their local community colleges. The bill will undoubtedly increase the already growing number of students interested in dual enrollment and improve access to Virginia institutions of higher education.

Since 2001, dual enrollment through the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and Richard Bland College has increased from 11,523 individual students to 26,149 in 2012 and now represents 13.5% of all fall enrollments in VCCS. In 1992, dual enrollment accounted for only 3,754 students.