

College *of the* Mainland

I N F O R M A T I O N S E S S I O N

COM  
DUAL  
CREDIT  
ADVANTAGE

THE OPENING DOORS  
& PROMISE  
SCHOLARSHIP

TUESDAY, MARCH 11 | 6-7:30 P.M.  
COM CONFERENCE CENTER







# Event Agenda

6 p.m.	Welcome Remarks
6:10 p.m.	Meet the Dual Credit & CHS Team
6:20 p.m.	Dual Credit Advantage & Promise Scholarship Overview
6:40 p.m.	Student Panel – Real Experiences
7 p.m.	Next Steps
7 p.m.	Meet the Staff & Take Action

# Meet Your Dual Credit Advantage Team

Dual Credit & Collegiate High School Staff

**We are here to support you at every step!**



Dual Credit Staff



Collegiate High School Staff



THE OPENING DOORS  
**PROMISE**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**

COM DUAL CREDIT ADVANTAGE  
& THE OPENING DOORS PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

College of *the* Mainland®



# Opening Doors Promise Scholarship: Your Path to Free College

The Opening Doors Promise Scholarship covers full tuition & fees for eligible students at COM after scholarships, state or federal aid has been applied!

## What Does It Cover?

- Remaining tuition & fees for up to two years at College of the Mainland
- Available for both academic and workforce training programs
- Helps students earn an associate degree or workforce certificate debt-free

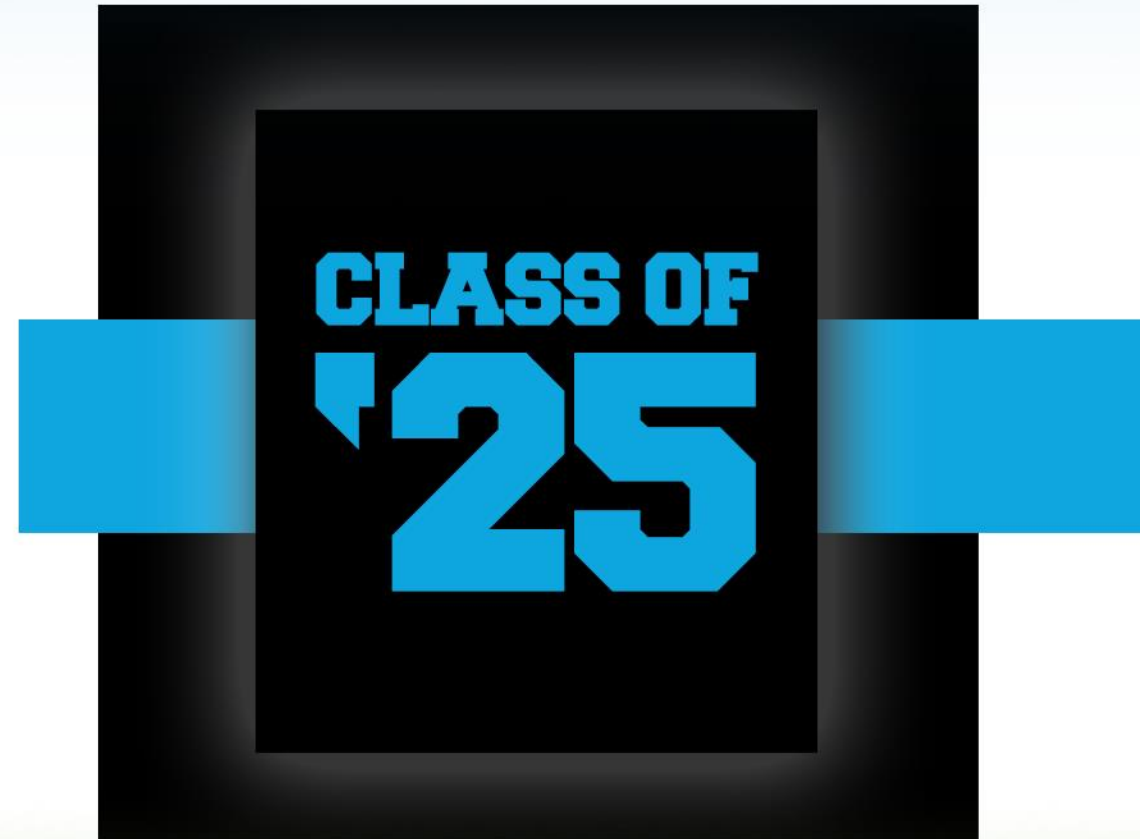
**NO TUITION.  
LIKE, FOR REAL.**

[com.edu/promise](http://com.edu/promise)

# How to Qualify for the Promise Scholarship

To receive the Promise Scholarship, students must:

- Live in a Participating Community:
- Texas City, La Marque, Hitchcock, Santa Fe, or Dickinson
- Be a 2025 High School Graduate.
- Must have earned a **high school diploma** from an eligible school district, charter school, private school, home school or GED.
- Apply & Enroll at COM full time for fall 2025 (Either starting fall session 1 or 2).
- Complete FAFSA (or TASFA) and maintain good academic standing.





# Steps to Apply as a Promise Scholarship Student

## Step 1: Apply to COM

Complete the **ApplyTexas** application for College of the Mainland

## Step 2: Complete the FAFSA

*(or TAFSA for eligible students)*

Submit financial aid forms to determine eligibility

## Step 3: Enroll Full-Time at COM

Must take at least **12 credit hours** per semester (or full-time in a workforce program)

## Step 4: Maintain Academic Progress

Stay in **good academic standing** to remain eligible for funding

# The COM Dual Credit Advantage



The COM Dual Credit Advantage gives high school students two pathways to earn college credit while completing their high school diploma.

- **Dual Credit Courses** – Take individual college classes at your high school, at COM, or online.
- **Collegiate High School (CHS)** – Enroll in a structured program taking both high school and college courses at COM to earn an associate degree by high school graduation.

Save time, save money, and get a head start on your future!

# What is Dual Credit?

**Students can earn both high school and college credit by completing one course.**

## **Earn College Credit**

Earn college credit early to save time and money.

## **College Resources**

Dual Credit students have access to the college library, tutoring services, career exploration and more.

## **East Transition**

Dual Credit students are eased into the demands of college level work in a familiar, supportive environment.

## **Head Start**

Complete foundation courses that will transfer to a public college or university in Texas or get ahead on earning a workforce certificate.

Dual Credit is a special program that allows high school students to take college courses while still earning high school credit.

- Take **real college courses** while still in high school
- Earn **both high school and college credit** for the same class
- Classes may be taught **at your high school, at COM, or online**



# How Does Dual Credit Work?

- You enroll in a college-level course approved by both your high school and College of the Mainland.
- The course follows college standards and earns you real college credits upon passing.

## Taught by College-Approved Instructors

- Courses follow college-level standards.
- Classes may be taught by high school teachers or college professors.

## Where Can You Take Dual Credit Courses?

- **At Your High School** – Convenient & familiar.
- **At College of the Mainland (COM) Campus** – Experience college life!
- **Online** – Flexible learning on your own schedule.

STRATEGIC

# Dual Credit Course Formats & Scheduling

- **At your high school?**  
16-week courses
- **At COM or online?**  
8-week courses
- Mix & match to fit your schedule!

**Ask your  
counselor  
which format  
is best for you!**





# What is Collegiate High School?

Collegiate High School (CHS) is a structured program where students take all classes at COM and graduate high school with both a diploma and an associate degree!

- Enjoy a college campus experience!
- Receive personalized support for high school & college success.

**Graduate high school as a college sophomore!**





# What is Collegiate High School (Cont.)

## CHS at a Glance

### Location

All classes are taken at College of the Mainland.

Participation in high school and college extra-curricular activities is encouraged.

### Target Students

Students who want the rigor and challenge of college courses and the freedom of a flexible schedule.

### Goal

All students will work towards high school graduation and associate degree requirements simultaneously.

### Course Load

Students are enrolled as full-time college students and take a minimum of 12 college hours a semester.

# How Does Collegiate High School Work?

- Students enroll in college-level courses while completing high school requirements at COM
- CHS students follow a structured academic degree plan to stay on track for graduation

**CHS is the fastest way to earn a college degree while still in high school—saving time and money!**

## **Taught by College Professors**

- Courses meet college-level standards
- Students have access to college resources, advising, and student life

## **Where and When Do CHS Students Take Classes?**

- All classes are taken on the COM campus, giving students a true college experience
- Courses may be offered in person, hybrid or online for flexibility
- Most CHS students complete their associate's degree without having to participate in summer courses.

STRATEGIC

# College Readiness and Support Resources for Student Success



# College Courses = Higher Expectations

Dual Credit and CHS students are enrolled in real college classes and must meet college-level standards.

Here's what to expect:

- **More Independence** – Professors treat you like a college student.
- **Time Management is Key** – Fewer reminders, more personal responsibility
- **Stronger Study Habits** – College coursework requires deeper thinking and preparation
- **Critical Thinking & Participation** – Expect discussions, research and writing at a higher level
- **Grading Differences** – College grades are based on fewer assignments and exams

**Be prepared, stay organized, and make the most of your college experience!**

# College Readiness (Cont.)

## College Readiness Minimum Score Requirements

### Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA2)

English Language Arts & Reading (ELAR)	Mathematics
945 AND essay score of 5 OR less than 945 with an essay score of 5 AND an NRS score of 5	950 OR less than 950 AND an NRS score of 6

### Assessment Exemptions

Exam	Composite	Exempts TSIA2 ELAR	Exempts TSIA2 Mathematics
SAT	N/A	EBRW: 480	MATH: 530
ACT	23	English: 19	MATH: 19
STAAR EOC	English III: 4000	Algebra II: 4000	

# COM Student Support Services

## Free Academic Resources

- **Tutoring Center** – Get help with writing, math, and more
- **Library & Research Assistance** – Access online databases and research support
- **Advising & Counseling** – Meet with advisors to stay on track with your academic goals

## Career & College Planning

- **College & Career Services** – Resume building, career counseling, and job placement assistance
- **Transfer Assistance** – Help with transferring credits to universities

## Student Life & Well-Being

- **Student Clubs & Activities** – Get involved on campus
- **Mental Health & Wellness Services** – Access counseling and wellness programs



# Upward Bound: Your Pathway to College Success

Upward Bound (UB) is a federally funded program that helps high school students prepare for college.

- **Academic Tutoring** – Get extra help in core subjects
- **College Prep & Mentorship** – Support in choosing colleges and applying for scholarships
- **Summer College Experience** – Take part in summer enrichment programs on a college campus
- **Financial Aid & FAFSA Assistance** – Help with applying for financial aid and understanding college costs

## Who Can Join?

- High school students from first-generation or low-income backgrounds
- Students motivated to attend college but need additional support

**Upward Bound provides a strong foundation to help students succeed in higher education!**

# Dual Credit vs. CHS Eligibility Comparison

DUAL CREDIT VS. CHS ELIGIBILITY COMPARISON		
Requirement	Dual Credit	Collegiate High School (CHS)
Grade Level	Grades 9-12	Grades 11-12
Academic Standing	Good standing at high school	Strong academic performance & motivation
College Readiness (TSI, ACT, SAT)	Required for most courses	Required for all students
Course Location	High school, COM campus, or online	Primarily at COM campus
Application Process	ApplyTexas application & counselor approval	ApplyTexas + CHS application, essay and recommendations
Additional Requirements	Meet course prerequisites	Counselor & teacher recommendations, interview process

CHS – Grades 9-10 may participate with a waiver.

# Eligibility, Steps to Apply & Costs

# Steps to Apply for Dual Credit & Collegiate High School

## How to Apply: Dual Credit and CHS

### **Step 1:**

Complete the  
Interest Form

### **Step 2:**

Take the TSIA2 or  
submit qualifying  
ACT or SAT scores

### **Step 3:**

**Complete the ApplyTexas Application.**

- Select **College of the Mainland** as your institution
- Use your high school email for easy communication

### **Step 4:**

**Meet with Your High School Counselor**

- Dual Credit will select classes.
- CHS will discuss requirements



# Steps to Apply for Dual Credit & Collegiate High School (Cont.)

## Step 5:

**Submit the CHS application packet**  
*(CHS applicants only)*

- **Includes:**
  - **Personal Essay** explaining your academic goals
  - **Parent (or Guardian), Counselor & Teacher Recommendations**
  - **Immunization Records**

## Step 6:

**Attend a CHS Interview** *(CHS applicants only)*

## Step 7:

**Enroll in Classes**

## Step 8:

**Pay Tuition or Confirm Scholarship Eligibility.**

- Check if you qualify for the FAST Scholarship (free tuition for eligible students)
- Make payment arrangements if needed

# Cost of Attendance

## DUAL CREDIT TUITION

VS

## COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL TUITION

- **In-District:**  
**\$33/credit hour**  
(\$99 for a 3-credit class)
- **Out-of-District:**  
**\$45/credit hour**  
(\$135 for a 3-credit class)

- **\$31/credit hour**  
(\$93 for a 3-credit class)
- \$2700/year Administrative Fee
- Paid by select ISDs

# Fast Scholarship: Free Tuition for Eligible Students

The **FAST Scholarship** helps make college more affordable for **Dual Credit and CHS students**.

## What Does It Cover?

- **Full tuition** for Dual Credit and CHS courses
- **Any additional fees** (not including \$2,700 administrative fee for Collegiate High School)
- **Textbooks & supplies** – no out-of-pocket costs!

## Who Qualifies?

- Students who received **Free or Reduced Lunch** in the past **four years**
- Students enrolled in COM Dual Credit courses or CHS

## No Application Needed!

- COM automatically confirms eligibility – no extra paperwork required!

# Important Dates: Registration Periods

## Registration Periods

### Fall 2025:

- **16-week and 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week:**  
April 8 - Aug. 15
- **2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week:**  
April 8 - Oct. 10

### Spring 2026:

- **16-week and 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week:**  
Nov. 4 - Jan. 26
- **2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week:**  
Nov. 4 - March 13

## FAFSA

### Fall 2025:

- **Priority Deadline for  
16-week and both  
8-week sessions:**  
June 2

## Promise

- **Scholarship  
application:**  
July 1

**First Day  
of Fall 2025  
Classes:  
Aug. 18**



# Student Panel: Real Experiences

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## Hear from our students!

- Why they chose Dual Credit or CHS
- Challenges they overcame
- How it helped prepare for college/career
- The financial benefits





# Student Panel: Real Experiences



**Demarcus Hunter**



**Mya Moore**



**Grace Pope**



**Adrian Lewis**



# Next Steps

Get started today!



Meet with staff  
tonight for questions!

## Submit your interest form!



Dual Credit  
Registration  
Form &  
Instructions





Collegiate  
High School



Schedule an  
advising session  
before deadlines

# Thank You!

## Stay connected:

-  Email: [DualCredit@com.edu](mailto:DualCredit@com.edu)
-  Call: **409-933-8679**
- Questions?

## See you at COM!