SUBJECT: Dual Credit

I. Introduction

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board guidelines (THECB), Chapter 4, Subchapter D, Section 4.84 state that “For any instructional partnership between a secondary school and a public college, an agreement must be approved by the governing boards or designated authorities (e.g. principal and chief academic officer) of both the public school district or private secondary school and the public college prior to the offering of courses.” In keeping with these guidelines, Midland College (MC) has established the following policy which governs these partnership agreements.

II. Dual Credit Requirements

Dual course credit students must comply with the rules and regulations of Chapter 4, Subchapters C and D of the THECB guidelines.

A. Eligible Courses

1. Courses offered for dual credit by MC must be identified as college-level academic courses in the current edition of the Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual adopted by THECB or as college-level workforce education courses in the current edition of the Workforce Education Course Manual adopted by THECB.

2. Midland College does not offer remedial and developmental courses for dual credit.

B. Student Eligibility

1. A high school student is eligible to enroll at MC in dual credit courses if the student:

   a. demonstrates college readiness by achieving the minimum passing standards under the provisions of the Texas Success Initiative,

   b. demonstrates that he or she is exempt under the provisions of the Texas Success Initiative

   c. waiver,
2. A high school student is eligible to enroll in dual credit courses if the student meets eligibility requirements established in current State of Texas statutes and Texas Education Agency code.

3. Students who are enrolled in private or non-accredited secondary schools or who are home-schooled must satisfy 1 – 3 of subsection II. B.

4. To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course offered at MC, students must meet all the college’s regular prerequisite requirements designated for that course. (e.g., minimum score on a specified placement test, minimum grade in a specified previous course, etc.)

C. Location of Class

Dual credit courses must be taught on the MC campus or on the high school campus that has an agreement with MC. For dual credit courses taught exclusively to high school students on the high school campus and for dual credit courses taught electronically, MC shall comply with applicable rules and procedures for offering courses at a distance as stated in Chapter 4 Subchapter E relating to Distance Education and Off-Campus Instruction of THECB guidelines. In addition, dual credit courses taught electronically shall comply with the THECB’s adopted Principles of Good Practice for Courses Offered Electronically.

D. Composition of Class

Dual credit courses may be composed of dual credit students only or of dual and college credit students. Exceptions for a mixed class, which would also include high school credit-only students, may be allowed only under one of the following conditions:

1. If the course involved is required for completion under the State Board of Education Recommended or Distinguished Achievements High School Program graduation requirements and the high school involved is otherwise unable to offer such course.

2. If the high school credit-only students are College Board Advanced Placement students.

3. If the course is a career and technology/college workforce education course and the high school credit-only students are earning articulated college credit.

E. Faculty Selection, Supervision, and Evaluation
1. Instructors teaching courses which result in the award of dual credit must be regularly employed faculty members of MC or must meet the same standards, (including minimal requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) and approval procedures used by MC to select faculty responsible for teaching the same courses at the main campus of the college. Official transcripts of instructors must be kept on file at MC.

2. Midland College supervises and evaluates instructors of dual credit courses using the same or comparable procedures used for faculty at the main campus.

F. Course Curriculum, Instruction, and Grading

Dual credit courses and the corresponding courses offered at the main campus of the college are equivalent with respect to the curriculum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of student evaluation. These standards are upheld regardless of the student composition of the class.

G. Academic Policies and Student Support Services

1. All regular academic policies applicable to courses taught at the college’s main campus also apply to dual credit courses.

2. Students in dual credit courses are eligible to utilize the same or comparable support services that are afforded college students on the main campus. MC ensures timely and efficient access to such services as academic advising and counseling, library resources and to other benefits for which the student may be eligible.

H. Transcripting of Credit

For dual credit courses, high school as well as college credit are transcripted immediately upon a student’s successful completion of the performance required in the course.

I. Funding

1. The state funding for dual credit courses is available to both the high school and MC based on the current funding rules of the State Board of Education and THECB.

2. Midland College claims funding for all students getting college credit in dual credit courses.