

The state of Texas recently enacted several rules that can affect students' eligibility for in-state tuition based on limiting the amount of college courses that may be funded by the state. Dual credit courses ARE NOT excluded from these rules, so it is important to CONSIDER CAREFULLY the rules below and their possible impact prior to enrolling in, or withdrawing from, a dual credit course. For more information on these rules, visit www.theccb.org or see the CTC catalog.

6-Drop Rule

Beginning in the fall of 2007, a student cannot drop more than six courses during the lifetime of their undergraduate enrollment while attending any public institution in Texas. Under section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code, "an institution of higher education may not permit a student to drop more than six courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education." Any course that a student drops is counted toward the six-course limit if "(1) the student was able to drop the course without receiving a grade or incurring an academic penalty; (2) the student's transcript indicates or will indicate the student was enrolled in the course; and (3) the student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the institution." Some exemptions for good cause could allow a student to drop a course without having it counted toward this limit, but it is the responsibility of the student to establish that good cause. **Students may be charged out of state tuition once the Six-Drop threshold is met; some colleges are suspending students.**

Third Course Repeat

The Texas Legislature eliminated funding to higher education for any courses, other than non-degree credit developmental courses, which contain the same content if attempted by a student three or more times at their institution. This applies to credit and continuing education course work. Attempted courses are defined as any courses in which a grade is earned on a transcript, including repeated courses, courses dropped with a grade of "W," and courses with grades of A, B, C, D, F, FI, FN, XN, N, P, I, or IP.

Students may be charged out of state tuition when a course is repeated for the third time.

Certain courses may be exempt from the Third Attempt Repeat Rule, including:

- courses that involve different or more advanced content each time taken such as individual music lessons, Workforce Education Course Manual Special Topics courses when topic changes, theater practicum, music performance, ensembles, certain physical education courses and studio art.
 - independent study courses.
 - special topics and seminar courses.
 - continuing education courses that must be repeated to retain professional certification.
 - remedial and developmental courses if within the 27-hour limit.
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Excessive Undergraduate Credits Toward a Degree

In accordance with Texas Education Code 54.068 as amended, undergraduate students who initially enroll in the fall 2006 semester or subsequent terms or semesters cannot exceed the number of hours required for completion of the degree program in which the student is enrolled by more than 30 credit hours. This includes credit hours in which a student was registered as of the official census date (last date to drop), and is based on the degree plan designated by the student as of the official census date. **Students may be charged out of state tuition when the excess hours threshold is met.**

Instructor Initiated Drop

When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent so many times he/she is unlikely to complete the objectives of the course, the instructor may initiate steps to drop them by notifying the CTC dual credit coordinator, who will contact the high school counselor and student. Instructors who administratively drop a student may award a W, FN, or other grade as determined by the instructor based on the student's performance. Students will not be dropped after the published "W" date and will receive a grade for the course enrolled.