



Media & Community Relations

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Media Contact: Chris Thomes, Executive Director of Media & Community Relations, 747-3250

GCCC leads the State with Dual Enrollment Participation

PANAMA CITY, FL – For the second consecutive year Gulf Coast Community College has the highest number of high school students dual enrolled in college courses. According to a recent report by the Florida College System, Gulf Coast’s dual enrollment participation rate was 49.0% for 2005-06 and 47.4% for 2007-08. Participation rates are calculated by dividing the yearly dual enrollment headcount by public school membership for grades 11 and 12 in the same year.

Dual enrollment programs provide a way for high school students to simultaneously meet high school requirements while earning college credits providing families with cost savings for college tuition and decreasing the time it takes students to earn a degree.

“Dual enrollment is an incredible opportunity for high school students who are academically ready and socially mature enough to thrive in a college environment,” says Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman, GCCC’s Dean of Off-Campus & Community Development. “It is a unique opportunity to earn college and high school credit at the same time—tuition free. These students will significantly cut down the time and expense to an associate or baccalaureate degree.”

Another noteworthy statistic is that GCCC also has the highest participation rates for Hispanic and black students and is the only college where the dual enrolled participation rate for Hispanic students surpassed that of white students (54.3% versus 51.6%, respectively).

The success rates for students that are dual-enrolled at Gulf Coast are high, because in order to be accepted into the program, students must have a minimum 3.0 grade point average and pass the appropriate section of the College Placement Test (CPT). Thus students accepted into the program have already demonstrated an ability to succeed at the college level.



Gulf Coast places a high priority on working with teachers and guidance counselors throughout Bay, Gulf and Franklin counties to ensure the community's needs are being met. However, expanding learning opportunities and fostering success of our students is always a team effort. Dr. Flax-Hyman comments, "We are so very fortunate to have strong partnerships with the school districts we serve, which is the main reason for the program's success."

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