

Executive Summary: Rock Valley College Dual and Articulated Credit MOU (2026-2027)

This partnership between Meridian CUSD 223 and Rock Valley College (RVC) allows eligible high school students to earn college-level credit while completing their secondary education, facilitating a smoother transition to postsecondary institutions.

Program Overview

The agreement governs two distinct pathways for students to earn college credit:

- **Dual Credit:** Courses taught by qualified District instructors at Stillman Valley High School where students earn both high school and college credit simultaneously.
- **Articulated Credit:** Courses where students earn a T (Advanced Placement) grade on their RVC transcript after earning an A or B in the high school course and successfully completing a subsequent course at RVC with a C or better.

Key Terms and Conditions

- **Term:** The agreement is effective from August 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
- **Tuition and Fees:** RVC will charge a per-student enrollment fee of \$50.00 for each dual credit course for the 2026-2027 academic year. RVC waives associated student fees; however, this means participating students do not have access to RVC student organizations or select support services.
- **Instructor Qualifications:** All dual credit instructors must meet Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and Higher Learning Commission (HLC) standards, typically requiring a Master's degree in the discipline or a Master's with 18 graduate hours in the field.
- **Course Offerings:** Proposed dual credit courses for the upcoming year include Introduction to Computer and Information Systems, Programming Logic & Design, Introduction to Education, English Composition I & II, Introduction to Geology, Medical Terminology, General Education Mathematics, Calculus I, Statistics, and General Psychology.
- **Student Eligibility:** Students must demonstrate readiness for college-level work through RVC's placement procedures. Students not meeting these requirements may still enroll for high school credit only to ensure access to rigorous curriculum.

District Obligations

Under this MOU, the District is responsible for:

- Providing qualified instructors and appropriate instructional materials.
- Maintaining student records and ensuring compliance with FERPA and ISSRA.

- Providing necessary accommodations for students with IEP or 504 plans, acting as the Local Education Agency (LEA).
- Collaborating with RVC on roster verification and grade reporting through shared systems.

Recommendation

Administration recommends the Board consider the approval of the Dual and Articulated Credit Memorandum of Understanding Between Rock Valley College and Meridian CUSD 223. This partnership continues to provide our students with cost-effective access to higher education and maintains the high academic standards of our school district.