

# Introduction

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This resource is designed to help middle school and high school counselors explain to students and parents the various methods students may earn college credit while enrolled in high school and how to effectively integrate these courses into college programs.

Section I provides an overview and comparison of five methods to earn college credit in high school, including well-known programs such as the College Board Advanced Placement Program and the newer Advanced Technical Credit Program, or ATC (also known as statewide articulation).

Section II explains the Advanced Technical Credit (ATC) Program in greater detail, including criteria for award of articulated college credit.

Section III includes the current secondary-to-postsecondary course crosswalk for the Advanced Technical Credit (ATC) Program and the text of the ATC Standard Articulation Agreement.

Section IV includes an overview of a college-preparatory and advanced placement program for technical careers called College Tech Prep, as well as an explanation of how to use PEIMS codes for career and technology student identification.

Section V demonstrates how high school students who choose to do college-level work can use college-equivalent courses effectively in their high school graduation plans.

The loose-leaf format allows pages and sections to be updated periodically and allows schools to adapt materials for local use.

**For more information and to access this document in PDF format, refer to:**

**[www.atcTexas.org](http://www.atcTexas.org)**