

FACT SHEET

ENHANCED COMPREHENSIVE CREDIT-BASED TRANSITION PROGRAMS¹

Enhanced comprehensive credit-based transition programs are the most intensive form of credit-based transition program. Enhanced comprehensive programs seek to prepare students for college, not only through rigorous academic instruction, but also by offering a wide range of activities and support services to students. These activities and support services can include: counseling, assistance with applications, mentoring and general personal support. The most common type of enhanced comprehensive program is the middle college high school (MCHS)², although some dual enrollment³ programs also fit this program type.

Students enrolled in enhanced comprehensive credit-based transition programs receive rigorous academic instruction and support services and participate in activities that help them prepare for the social, behavioral and academic demands of college. The extra support services and enhanced student-teacher relationships can also help encourage high school students to pursue postsecondary education and training. Enhanced comprehensive programs are primarily focused on middle or low achieving students and appear to have the most potential to prepare

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Enhanced comprehensive credit-based transition programs combine all the components of a comprehensive program with additional activities and support services for students such as counseling, assistance with applications, mentoring and general support.

students not traditionally seen as college-bound to enter postsecondary education.

Enhanced comprehensive programs, such as middle college high schools, are usually located on a college campus, but many are located at the local high school campus. Classes are taught by either high school or college instructors, and students earn their credit upon completion of their courses. The goal of enhanced comprehensive programs is to support students in all aspects of their high school to college transition.

These programs essentially encompass the majority of a students' high school experience. Because of the intensity and reliance on close student-teacher relationships, these programs are much less common than singleton⁴ or comprehensive⁵ credit-based transition programs.

¹This fact sheet on enhanced comprehensive programs was prepared under contract for the U.S. Department of Education by DTI Associates, Inc. (DTI) and the Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University (CCRC). The purpose of this fact sheet, and others related to this project, is to give a broad overview and description of the types of programs that the *Accelerating Student Success* project is studying. For more information on the *Accelerating Student Success* study, please see the study's webpage on the U.S. Department of Education's website at: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/cclo/cbtrans/index.html>.

²For some more information on Middle College High Schools, please go to: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/cclo/dualenroll.html?exp=0>.

³Dual enrollment programs, administered by state and local education agencies, allow high school students to take college level classes, and possibly earn simultaneous credit toward a high school diploma and a postsecondary degree or certificate.

⁴Singleton programs are credit-based transition programs that focus on exposing students to college-level academics, and providing them with the option of taking one or more college-level classes that may allow them to earn college credit.

⁵Comprehensive credit-based transition programs provide students with academic preparation, exposure to rigorous coursework through multiple college-level courses, and the ability to earn college credit.