DUAL ENROLLMENT GAINS MOMENTUM



PROGRAM HELPING TO CLOSE THE GAP

When Maria Ramos graduated from Brownsville's Lopez High School in 2004, she already had college credits through the Dual Enrollment program.

"The program helps you develop good habits for college while you are still in high school," Ramos, UTB/TSC senior, said. "They help prepare you to be successful. You don't go into college blind-folded."

Since 2000, the program has seen a 1,822 percent increase in enrollment from over 13 school districts in the area.

"I think the biggest factor in the increase is due to the articulation of our curriculum with local high schools," Linda Fossen, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Planning, said. "We have started to streamline everything to make the transition from high school to college easier."



Students enrolled take college classes at their high schools with instructors certified to teach college courses. The program offers about 56 courses that count toward both college and high school credit, which include core college classes.

One dual enrollment class costs $5 per student, usually paid by the district, which saves students and parents tuition and fees. This year, the program is helping high school students take 16,349 credit hours toward a college education.

"It is important that high schools and colleges work together," Fossen said. "This is a great way for students to know that they can attend college and succeed."

To learn more about the Dual Enrollment program, call Cynthia Cantu, Academic Advisor, at (956) 982-0194 or email at cynthia.cantu@utb.edu.