

## **Considerations When Earning College Credit in High School**

College in the High School courses offered in high school are academic transfer courses. They can be applied to a variety of educational programs at Bellevue College and at other state two and four year colleges and universities. However, when making decisions about earning college credit in high school, it is best to have a plan, or at least some ideas, for your future educational and career goals. It is advisable to do some research, speak with your high school counselor, career specialist, or someone at the college in order to figure out if, and how, the credits earned in high school will apply toward the desired future degree or certificate. Additionally, there are two other aspects to consider:

**GPA:** High School students who participate in dual credit or concurrent enrollment college courses all have an official college transcript record automatically created for them when they register for, and receive a grade for the course, just like any other college student. When students graduate from high school and apply to attend the college of their choice, an official college transcript must be submitted to the receiving college. Grades earned while participating in concurrent enrollment college courses in high school are incorporated into the student's official college GPA. College admissions officers may consider GPA for admission to their institutions.

**Financial Aid:** Students in dual credit programs such as College in the High School generally are not eligible for federal financial aid while in high school. However, college credits earned in dual credit programs are used to evaluate satisfactory academic progress in college. Among other things, this is used to determine financial aid eligibility and subsequent maximum eligibility to participate in financial aid. The coursework also counts toward maximum accumulated college credit allowed for financial aid eligibility.