



VERMONT

State Profile

Academic Pathways	Present in the State		Special Efforts to Reach Underserved Students		State Support	
Advanced Placement (AP)	Yes	No details known or available	Yes	Rural students	No	
Bridge Programs	Yes	Through Talent Search. Programs are related to GEAR UP.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-generation students • Low-income students 	No	Federal funding
Career Academies	Yes	High schools have displayed strong interest in the program, 16 high schools are currently working closely with the Vermont Department of Education	Yes	First-generation students	Yes	Federal grant flows through the state to the local level
College Level Exam Program (CLEP)	No		No		No	
Distance Learning/ Virtual School	Yes	No virtual school, but VT Interactive Learning Network links all high schools in VT through interactive TV. Local schools determine use.	No		No	
Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment	Yes	Opportunities are available in some parts of the state for high school students to enroll in all 5 VT colleges including the Community College of Vermont (CCV), the University of Vermont (UVM), and private colleges within the Vermont State Colleges system.	Yes	Community college partnerships assist the following groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-generation students • Low-income students 	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College partnership policy is under development • State funding
Early or Middle College High Schools	No		No		No	
GED in College Settings	No	Offered through VT statewide adult learning	No		No	
<u>High Schools on the Move</u>	Yes	Statewide taskforce established by the then Governor and Commissioner of Education	No	All students	DK	No further information available

Academic Pathways	Present in the State		Special Efforts to Reach Underserved Students		State Support	
International Baccalaureate (IB)	No	State is beginning to discuss implementation	No		No	
<u>Tech Prep</u>	Yes	Helps students pursue their career and life goals by providing career development and academic courses and by expanding community and work-based learning opportunities	No		Yes	Federal Perkins funding
<u>Vermont Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) Program</u>	Yes	One dual credit program provides an opportunity for high school seniors with a strong interest and ability in science and math to complete their senior year at Vermont Technical College.	No	All students	Yes	State funding, free tuition; legislation in place to fund a portion of the cost through the state's general education fund

Summary of academic pathways:

Vermont is making connections between high schools and colleges by exposing low-income students to college and promoting partnerships between high school teachers and college faculty. The state has begun to discuss the potential of the IB program to increase high school students' access to and readiness for college and thus students' overall learning options. In addition, the Vermont Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) program has been successful in providing opportunities for high school seniors to become familiar with the higher education environment by completing their senior year at Vermont Technical College.

State's effort to encourage college prep curriculum:

Vermont's School Quality Standards and the standards-based graduation requirements are suggested by a state-level task force that has encouraged:

- Eliminating low-level courses and the non-college track
- Expanding AP programs and raising standards for special needs students
- Expanding dual enrollment opportunities
- Increasing the level and challenge of required course sequences

The state's K-20 Council focuses on alignment at transition points. The Vermont Public Education Partnership (VPEP) was established in 2000 as a K-20 Council made up of the education commissioner, the President of the University of Vermont, and the Chancellor of the State Colleges. VPEP's charge is to extend genuine education access to all, make progress in addressing shared issues, and interactively manage transitions between secondary education and higher education.

Interesting or unique models identified by state officials:



- Dual credit/dual enrollment makes connections between high school and college, especially exposing low-income students to college
- The Community College of Vermont works with disengaged high school students
- VAST program: <http://dawn.vtc.vsc.edu/site/special/vast.html>

Observations by state officials about special efforts to reach underserved students:

Dual credit, bridge programs, AP, and career academies have made special efforts to reach traditionally underserved students. In particular, dual credit and bridge programs have served low-income, first-generation, and at-risk students, inspiring them to go beyond high school. Serving students in rural areas through televised AP courses is part of the effort to provide equitable educational opportunities.

Observations by state officials about state support for pathways:

Vermont is actively making an effort to support dual enrollment and the VAST program. These programs are supported through state funding and policy.

Lessons learned by state officials:

- Equity and access to multiple pathways are primary concerns, which are well reflected in High Schools on the Move.
- It is important to build a vision for a change and to get support from persons who are able to work effectively in response to bottom up and top down change efforts.
- More partnership is needed between the college and high school levels.
- More resources are needed to ensure effective programs.
- Vermont State College System is a public education partnership organization used to create a variety of different forms to increase access.

Programs recommended by state officials:

<u>Pathways</u>	<u>Educational Institution</u>	<u>Contact person</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Career academy	People’s Academy	Zorinne Dorfan	--	(812) 888-4600
High Schools That Work	Bellows Falls Union High School	John Doughty	--	(812) 463-3944
VAST	Vermont Technical College	Dwight Cross	--	(802) 728-3391
Unique model	Community College of Vermont	Joyce Judy	--	(802) 241-1180



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State official's contact information:

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