



Hope Scholarship

LevelUp WV Overview
March 20, 2026



LEVELUP WV



LevelUp WV: History & Legal Authority

Program History & Timeline

- **2023 — Legislative Action**

WV Legislature passes **HB 2005**; Gov. Justice signs into law. Creates WV's first state-funded dual enrollment pilot program via **WV Code §18B-14-4**. HEPC and CTCS authorized to administer in conjunction with the State Board of Education.

- **Fall 2023 — Pilot Launch**

LevelUp WV launches statewide. HEPC promulgates **Series 19** establishing program rules. Year 1 appropriation: **\$4.2 million**. ~4,600 students from 52 of 55 counties in Year 1.

- **2024–25 — Growth & Expansion**

Year 2 appropriation: **\$5.8 million**. Enrollment grows to 6,700+ students — an 11.5% increase in dual enrollment statewide. Estimated **\$11 million** in cumulative student tuition savings.

- **2026–27 — Pilot Conclusion**

Four-year pilot concludes. Chancellor required to report to LOCEA and recommend whether the program should continue beyond the pilot period (§18B-14-4(e)).

LevelUp WV: History & Legal Authority

Legal Authority

WV Code §18B-14-4

- Establishes a **four-year pilot program** beginning in the 2023-2024 school year
- **Eligible students:** (junior and senior) secondary students in public, homeschool, charter, microschool, learning pod, and private schools
- Rulemaking authority granted to HEPC/CTCS in consultation with WVDE

HEPC Series 19

- Eligibility (Student / Pathway/ Secondary School)
- MOUs (Institution and Secondary School)
- Pathway Approval
- Institutional Reimbursement (\$75/credit hour)
- Academic Support Services

Career Pathways

information
technology

science

technology

engineering

math (STEM) fields

education

advanced
manufacturing

fabrication

construction

agriculture

welding

“...and any other program that meets a workforce need in the state as determined by the Department of Commerce.”

Funding

👤 Funding- From Appropriations to the Commission and the Council

\$4.2 Million – year 1 of pilot program

\$5.8 Million – year 2-3 of the pilot program

\$6.4 Million – year 4 of pilot program

(If budget is passed during the 2026 Legislative Session)

👤 Pays directly to the institution : \$75 per credit hour

👤 60% up front upon submission of a roster

👤 40% paid once final grades are submitted

👤 **The student shall have no out-of-pocket fees** if enrolled in a LevelUp WV dual enrollment course (tuition)



LevelUp: WV's Dual Enrollment Program

Fall 2025 Data

Program Parameters

- High school **juniors & seniors** earn college credit tuition-free
- State-funded through HEPC; **no cost to students or families** for tuition
- Courses taught by college faculty or approved high school instructors
- **MOUs govern partnerships** between institutions and school districts / home school / private school / charter school
- **Academic pathways** align with Workforce WV

20

Partnering Institutions

16K

Student Enrollments
Statewide

54

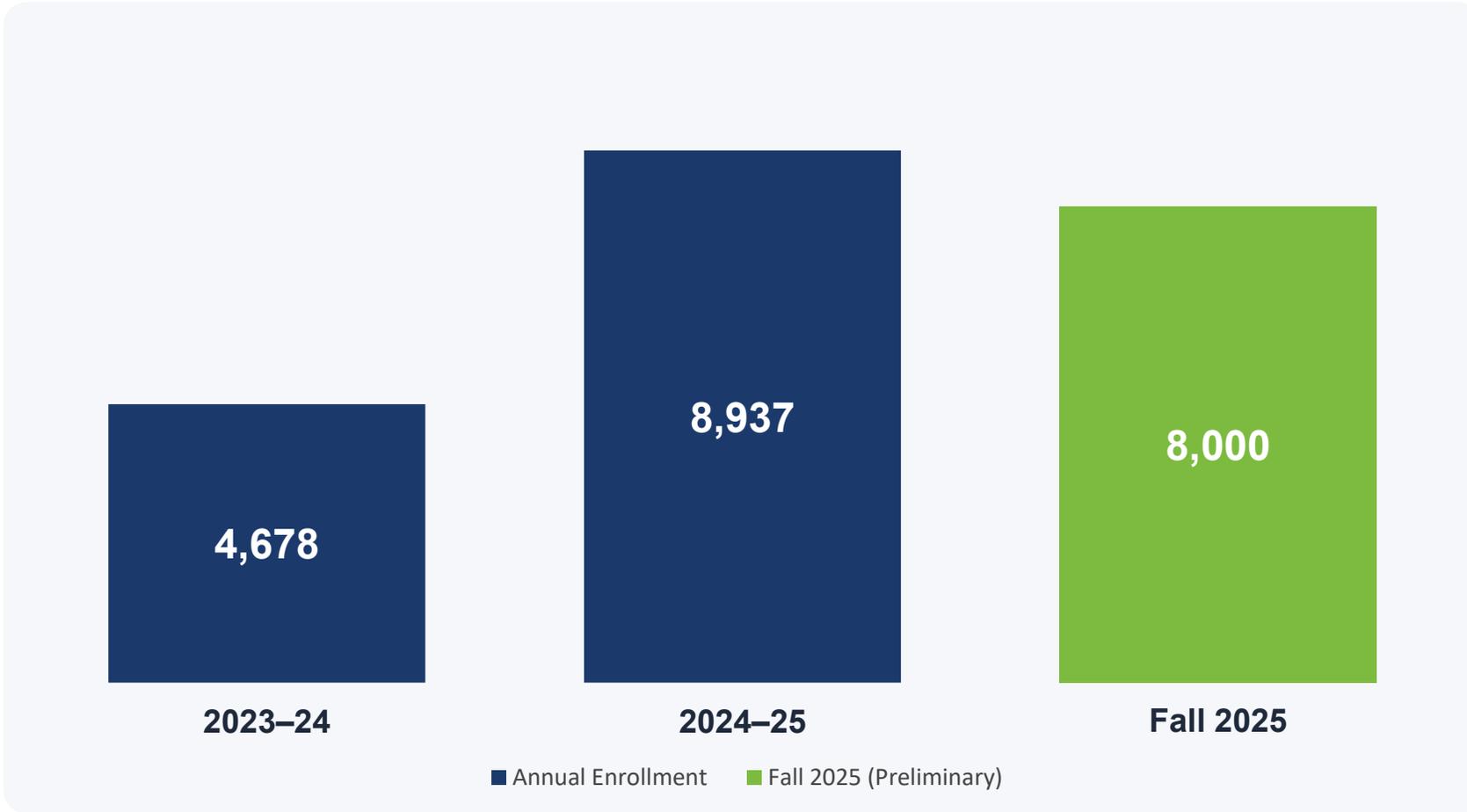
Counties

48K

College Credits
Earnable Per Year

LevelUp WV: Student Enrollment Trend

Unique student enrollment by academic year and semester | Source: HEPC LevelUp WV Program Data



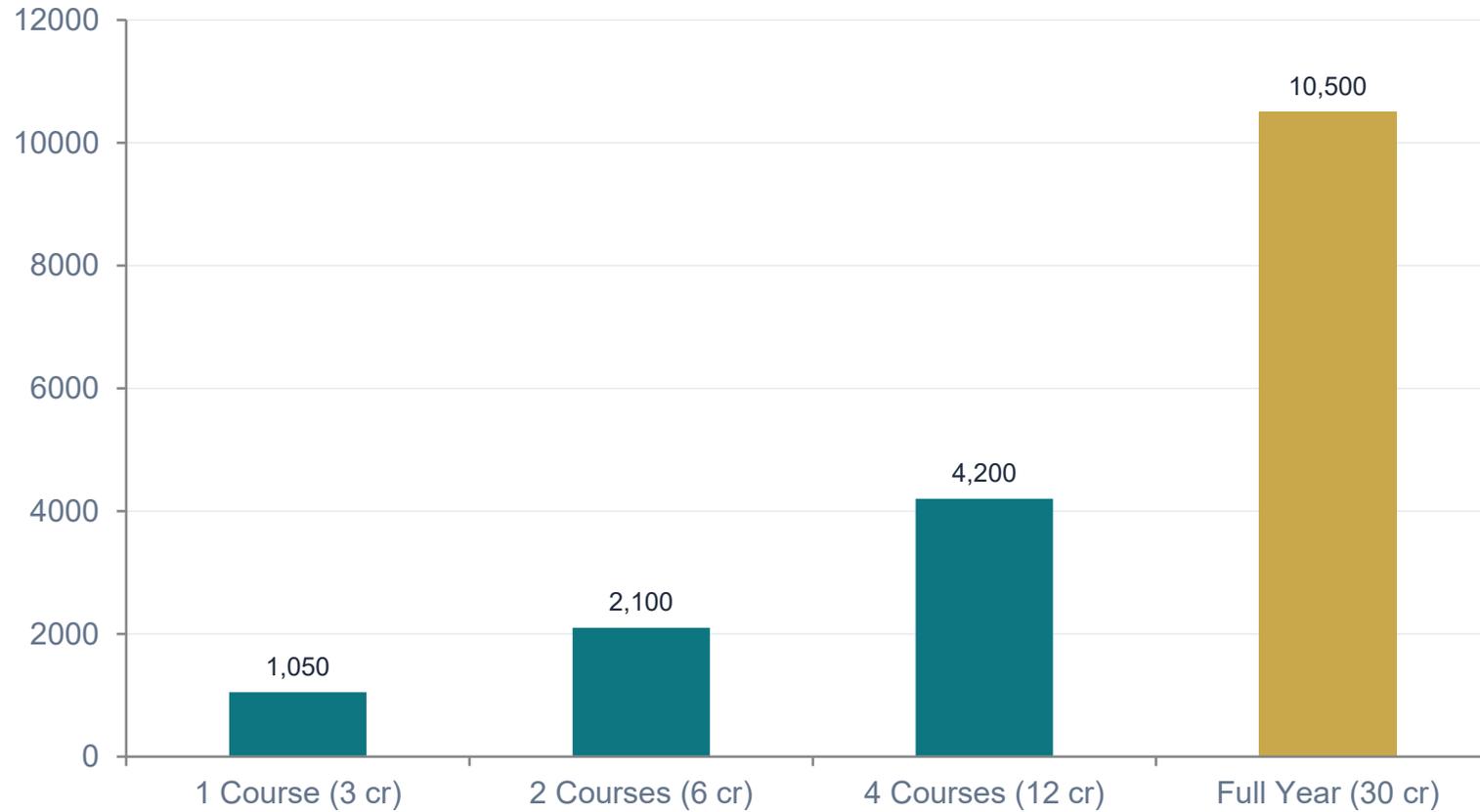
4,678
2023-24 Students
Pilot Year 1

8,937
2024-25 Students
Pilot Year 2 | +91% vs. Year 1

8,000
Fall 2025 Students
Semester only — Preliminary

LevelUp: Cost Savings for WV Students & Families

Estimated Tuition Savings (Based on ~\$350/credit hour)



Avg. savings per student

\$2,100–\$4,200/yr

Up to 1 year of college credit — FREE

30 credits

**Savings estimates based on average WV public university tuition rates (~\$350/credit hour)*

Be Intentional: Balancing Early College Access & Long-Term Aid Eligibility

Plan Ahead

- Focus dual enrollment on courses that fulfill degree requirements — general education, core prerequisites
- Avoid 'credit shopping' — extra credits that don't map to a declared pathway waste aid eligibility

Protect Your Aid Eligibility

- Calculate total credits at college entry vs. remaining aid eligibility
- Counsel families on Pell Grant lifetime limits — once exhausted, they cannot be restored
- Connect students with institutional financial aid office BEFORE excessive accumulation

WV State Code §18B.14.4. Clarification

§18B.14.4. “Eligible student” means any secondary school student, including a **homeschool, charter school, microschool, learning pod, or private school student**, who meets minimum criteria established by the state school board and the commission or the council, as appropriate, for the purpose of enrolling in a dual credit course.

WVDE had concerns with the transfer of high school credits to a county high school system from school systems indicated.

Acknowledgment:

I acknowledge that the courses listed in the approved pathway under the LEVEL UP Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pertain to students enrolled in a homeschool, charter school, microschool, learning pod, or private school setting and an institution of higher education. I further understand that while the courses listed will count toward graduation at the high school level within the PK-12 setting specified in the MOU, they may or may not be accepted by a West Virginia county school system if the student should transfer back to a county school.



Where to Start

- **Decide on a Pathway**
- **Choose an institution**
- **Develop an MOU**
 - **One to one correspondence for college course and high school course**
 - **ex. English 11 English 101**
English 12 English 102
- **The institution will send the MOU to HEPC for processing**
 - **NOTE: All MOUs must be signed and submitted by September 15 annually.**
- **Once the MOU is approved, the student may enroll in the course(s)**

Online Updates



[THE FACTS](#) [SUPPORTING INITIATIVES](#) ▼ [CONTACT](#)



[LEVELUPWV](#) [OVERVIEW](#) [HOW TO PARTICIPATE](#) [ELIGIBILITY](#) [DUAL ENROLLMENT DASHBOARD](#) [REQUIREMENTS](#)

[LevelUpWV – West Virginia's Climb](#)



LevelUp WV Institutional Contacts

Institution 2025	Primary Contact Person		
	Name	Email	Phone
BridgeValley Community & Technical College	Jennifer Hurt	jennifer.hurt@bridgevalley.edu	304-205-6787
Concord University	Amanda Sauchuck Robin Farly	asauchuck@concord.edu rfarley@concod.edu	304-384-6306
Eastern WV Community & Technical College	Monica Wilson	monica.wilson@easternwv.edu	304-434-8000
Fairmont State University	Scott Phillips	scott.phillips@fairmontstate.edu	304-368-7258 ext 5263
Glennville State University	Rachel A. Clutter	rachel.clutter@glennville.edu	304-462-6129
Marshall University	Michelle Biggs	miller138@marshall.edu	
Mountwest Community & Technical College	Sarah Dick	crouse@mctc.edu	304-710-3452
New River Community & Technical College	Marsha Hicks	Mhicks@newrier.edu	304-929-5037
Pierpont Community & Technical College	Lauren Jannotta	ljannotta@pierpont.edu	3043629610
Shepherd University	Barbara Kandalis	bkandali@shepherd.edu	304-876-5162
Southern WV Community & Technical College	Melinda Saunders	mindy.saunders@southernwv.edu	304-896-7303 304-784-1007
West Liberty University	Stephanie North	northsm@westliberty.edu	304-336-8311
West Virginia Northern Community College	Ida Williams	iwilliams@wvncc.edu	304-723-7514
West Virginia State University	Brandy Conrad	brandy.conrad@wvstateu.edu	304-766-3145
West Virginia University at Parkersburg	Corinne Full	cfull@wvup.edu	304-494-1572
West Virginia University	Rishira Dille	Rishira.Dille@mail.wvu.edu	304-293-9420
WVU Tech	Dawn Surbaugh	Dawn.Surbaugh@mail.wvu.edu	304-929-1685
WVU-Potomac State	Vicki Huffman	vicki.huffman@mail.wvu.edu	304-788-6971

Parents

- 👤 Students must be enrolled in an **approved pathway**.
- 👤 WV HEPC will cover the cost of the college course only for students in an **approved pathway** and taking courses specifically approved for that pathway.
- 👤 The student will not be charged tuition or additional fees, and the institution will be reimbursed.
- 👤 Please contact the college/university for specific course and programmatic questions.

Questions



Jodi Oliveto: jodi.oliveto@wvhepc.edu