

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ATHENS**  
**EARLY COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAM (ECCP)**

#343

Adopted: 6/18/18

The Board recognizes the value to students and to the District of students participating in programs offered by University of Wisconsin system institutions, tribally controlled colleges and private, non-profit higher education institutions in Wisconsin.

The Board will allow any high school student who satisfies the eligibility requirements to participate in the Early College Credit Program (ECCP) to enroll in an approved course at an ECCP-approved institution of higher education while attending in the District. Students will be eligible to receive college and high school credit for completing course(s) at authorized institutions of higher education provided they complete the course(s) and receive a passing grade.

Admission to such courses shall be contingent on meeting the institution's entrance requirements and availability of space. Application and notification procedures shall be consistent with State law and regulations.

The high school principal shall determine whether a course taken through the Early College Credit Program is comparable to a course offered in the District, whether it satisfies graduation requirements and what, if any, high school credits will be awarded to the student. Such decisions may be appealed to the State Superintendent in accordance with State law.

Courses taken as part of the Early College Credit Program shall be paid for as follows:

- The District shall pay for, on behalf of a student taking a course at an institution of higher education, which the Board (or the State Superintendent on appeal) has determined qualifies for high school credit and is not comparable to a course already offered in the District.
- However, the student shall be responsible for providing pens, pencils, and notebooks typically used and paid for by the student while taking a course at the School District.
- Further, any equipment purchased by the School District for use by the student in the course (e.g., calculator, computer, tools) shall be the property of the School District and shall be returned to the School District upon completion of the course.

The District shall pay seventy-five percent (75%) of the cost of a postsecondary course or courses taken solely for postsecondary credit. The Board shall waive the cost to the student if it is informed by the Department of Public Instruction that payment of the costs would pose an undue financial burden on the student's family. The student shall pay the student's cost of the tuition in advance of the start of the course.

A student taking a postsecondary course or courses, which the School Board has determined is comparable to a course offered in the School District, is solely responsible for the tuition and fees for the postsecondary course. The District has no responsibility for these costs.

The School District's responsibility to pay for tuition, fees, books and other necessary materials shall be limited to eighteen (18) postsecondary credits per student. A student may be granted one-fourth (1/4) high school credit per one (1) semester credit offered by a postsecondary course. To receive high school credit, the student must complete the postsecondary course and receive a passing grade. The District shall not, however, limit the number of postsecondary semester credits a student may take at his/her own expense.

If a student receives a failing grade in a course or fails to complete a course, the student's parent or guardian, or the student if an adult, shall reimburse the School District the amount paid on the student's behalf under this program. If the School Board is not reimbursed as requested, the student shall not be eligible for further participation in the program. A grade that constitutes a failing grade in the School District shall constitute a failing grade under this section of the guideline.

Grades received for courses taken under the Early College Credit Program will affect the student's GPA and class rank if the district pays for the course. Students are able to drop courses under the Early College Credit Program while following the ECCP-approved institutions guidelines and the District will record this in a consistent fashion. Students are not able to drop courses if it places them at less than full-time status (unless they are beyond the statutory attendance age).

Students participating in the Early College Credit Program shall be responsible for providing their own transportation to and from postsecondary courses under this program. If they are unable to pay the cost of such transportation and are taking the course for high school credit, they may apply to the State Superintendent for reimbursement of such costs, in accordance with State law.

The high school principal shall administer the Early College Credit Program in the District.

Annually, by October 1st of each year, the high school principal shall provide information regarding the Early College Credit Program to students currently enrolled in grades 8, 9, 10, and 11 and their parents or guardians. This information should be mailed to the student's current address. A record should be kept of the mailing list and the date of the mailing to confirm compliance with State rules.

LEGAL REFERENCES:	Sections	§118.37	Wisconsin Statutes
		§118.55	
		PI 40	DPI Administrative Rules