

EARLY COLLEGE ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

The intent of this policy is to establish the requirements for student enrollment in post-secondary courses taken before high school graduation.

Eligible Institutions

Students may take courses at eligible post-secondary institutions within Maine, which include the University of Maine System, the Community College System.

Students will be allowed to take courses at private colleges or other local institutions.

Student Eligibility Requirements

A student may take no more than two courses per semester and four courses per academic year.

A student must meet the following criteria prior to enrolling in an early college course:

[NOTE: The following are statutory requirements.]

- A. Have a minimum of a “B” **[or 3.0]** average in his/her courses overall;
- B. Meet the course admission standards of the eligible institution;
- C. Provide evidence of parent/guardian approval for taking the course; and
- D. Obtain approval from the principal and guidance counselor.

Exceptions to Eligibility Requirements

A student enrolled in grade 11 or 12 who does not meet the “B” **[or 3.0]** average in his/her courses overall is eligible to take an early college course provided that he/she:

- A. Has been assessed and received a recommendation to take the course from the school principal/guidance counselor and

- B. Has been approved for participation in the course by the eligible institution.

Awarding of Credits

The eligible institution shall grant full credit to any student who successfully completes a course.

- A. The course must meet for a minimum of one semester.
- B. The student must earn a passing grade in the course.
- C. Attendance must satisfy the instructor’s requirements.
- D. If the above criteria are met, the student shall receive one (1) credit.
- E. For the class to meet a graduation requirement, it must be pre-approved by the Content Learning Area (i.e.science, math).

Financial Assistance

- A. The Maine Department of Education may pay applicable tuition costs for any student enrolled in a course under this policy if the eligible institution requires tuition payment.
- B. The student and his/her parent/guardian are responsible for paying for all textbooks, course fees and transportation costs.
- C. The school will help eligible families access available grant monies.

School Unit Reporting Requirements

The Superintendent shall ensure that information concerning post-secondary enrollment options is made available to parents and students.

The Superintendent shall provide an annual report to the School Board regarding the number of students taking courses at post-secondary institutions and the courses taken.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 4771 et seq.

Adopted: July 11, 2017