CollegeCredit PLUS

Why wait for your future?

With College Credit Plus, you can earn college and high school credits at the same time...

And if you take courses from a public college, it's free!

Ohio's new College Credit Plus can help you earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking college courses from colleges and/or universities. The purpose of this program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wide variety of options to college-ready students. Taking a College Credit Plus course from a public college or university is free, which means no cost for tuition, books, or fees. If you choose to attend a private college or university, you may have limited costs.

Your high school may have an agreement with a local college for specific courses; however, you can choose to take College Credit Plus courses that would benefit your future from any college. This includes online courses.

Ohio | Board of Regents
Department of Education

Can I Participate?

If you are a student in grades 7-12 you can apply for College Credit Plus admission to a public or participating private college. The college will admit you based on your college-readiness in one or more subject areas. Your school counselor can help you understand your options, deadlines, and how to proceed. You may not participate in the College Credit Plus program beyond your anticipated high school graduation date.

How Can College Credit Plus Benefit Me?

College Credit Plus provides more options for you to pursue rigorous academic coursework beyond the high school classroom. Under College Credit Plus, you can complete your freshman year of college or more, or explore college content that interests you. Earning college credits while you're in high school can reduce your time and costs of attending college after high school.

Does College Credit Plus Differ from the Previous PSEO Program?

College Credit Plus is a student-directed program. Students and their families can explore courses offered at all Ohio public colleges and participating private colleges for possible participation in College Credit Plus. Unlike PSEO, College Credit Plus is open to students beginning in the seventh grade and districts are not permitted to restrict an otherwise qualified student's participation in any way.

How Do College Courses Earn Me High School Credit?

College Credit Plus allows high school students to earn college credit and apply that credit toward their high school graduation requirements. Successful completion of a three or more credit-hour college course will result in 1.0 Carnegie unit earned at the high school. A two credit-hour college course will earn students 2/3 of a high school credit and a one credit-hour college course will convert to 1/3 of a high school credit.

How Are High School Graduation Requirements Affected?

High school graduation requirements will not be waived as a result of participation in College Credit Plus. You will not receive a diploma until after the course is successfully completed and the graduation requirement is met. However, you may participate in the graduation ceremony if proof is presented that you are progressing satisfactorily one week prior to graduation.

College Credit Plus (CCP) does not replace the requirements to earn a high school diploma. This includes earning 18 points or more on the graduation tests. Even if you are enrolled in college courses, you must take the end-of-course exams in English I, English II, Algebra I and Geometry. You do not have to take the end-of-course exams in Physical Science, American Government, and American History if you are enrolled in College Credit Plus courses that substitute. A CCP student's end-of-course grades in Physical Science, American Government, and American History will correspond with a point scale used for graduation requirements.

Where Can I Take College Classes?

Some college courses under College Credit Plus may be offered at your high school. You may also travel to the college where you have been admitted or enroll in one or more online courses offered by that college.

My High School Has a Formal Arrangement With a Local College to Offer College Credit Plus. Are Those the Only Courses I Can Take?

No. After you are admitted to a college, you can take any courses offered by that college that you are college-ready to take. Also, each Ohio high school has developed two sample pathways – one leading to 15 credits and another to 30 credits. These should be included in your high school's course offerings. However, students have no obligation to take courses identified on a pathway or to complete a pathway. Students can take courses offered in person or online by any public or participating private college in Ohio.

Will College Credit Plus Grades Appear on My High School Transcript?

Yes. High school credit awarded for courses successfully completed under College Credit Plus will satisfy or exceed the graduation requirements and subject area requirements of the school district. Courses successfully completed under College Credit Plus must be listed by course title on the high school transcript. All College Credit Plus courses will be computed into the GPA using the same scale as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses in your district.

How Does College Credit Plus Impact Athletic Eligibility?

If you are a student athlete, you must remain eligible in accordance with the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) bylaws. To be athletically eligible, students must be passing five, one credit courses or the equivalent per grading period with the high school and college courses combined. Most College Credit Plus courses taken during a semester will equal one Carnegie unit, allowing students to earn more than the required five for athletic eligibility. Please check with your counselor to ensure that the course work you are taking is compliant the OHSAA.

What Are My Academic and Social Responsibilities?

You will be expected to follow the rules and regulations set by the college/university. You will also be expected to follow the rules and regulations set for high school students detailed in the student handbook. Once enrolled, you are eligible to receive advising from campus-based support services of that institution. Additionally, you will continue to have access to your school counselor and all other resources available to high school students. Participation in College Credit Plus does not guarantee you admission to college after high school. You should follow the regular undergraduate application process for whatever college you plan to attend after high school.

What Courses Are Available through College Credit Plus?

Once you are admitted to a college for College Credit Plus, you may take any course in the college's course catalogue that is not remedial or religious, and that applies toward a degree or professional certificate, in a subject area in which you are college-ready.

Who Pays for College Admission, Textbooks, Fees, and Transportation?

Students attending a public college will not be charged for tuition, books, or fees. Students attending a private college may be charged based on the particular private college and where the course is delivered, in accordance with law. Although the amount students can be charged may vary, in 2014 the maximum would have been up to $153 per credit hour. Responsibility for transportation rests with the student. Students who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program may not have to pay any fees to a private college. Please talk with your counselor for details.

What If I Fail a Class?

Classes failed or withdrawn with an "F" will receive an "F" on the high school and college transcripts and will be computed into the high school and college GPA. If you do not receive a passing grade, the district may, in some instances, seek reimbursement for the amount of state funds paid to the college on your behalf for that college course. The school district may withhold grades and credits received for high school courses taken until reimbursement has been made.

Does College Credit Transfer After Graduation?

Thanks to Ohio's Transfer to Degree Guarantee, many entry-level courses earned at an Ohio public college are guaranteed to transfer to any other Ohio public college. Credits earned at private colleges, or those that you want to transfer to an out-of-state institution, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the institution you are seeking to attend. Go to ***HTTPS://TRANSFERCREDIT.OHIO.GOV*** to learn more about credit transfer among the state's public institutions of higher education. This tool allows you to find the best pathways to degree completion and launch successful careers! Earning college credit will not affect applications for financial aid/scholarships limited to entering freshmen.

Are Private School and Homeschool Students Eligible for College Credit Plus?

Yes. College Credit Plus is an opportunity available to all 7-12 grade students who are accepted into the program by a college or university within Ohio. The program operates in much the same way regardless of what high school a student attends. However, students attending a private high school and homeschool students must apply to the department of education to receive funding to underwrite their costs. ***PLEASE CHECK HTTPS://OHIOHIGHERED.ORG/CCP FOR INFORMATION, FORMS AND UPDATES.***

I Am Ready to Sign Up. What Are the Next Steps?

- Talk with your school counselor. Discuss your interest in taking college courses and how it fits in with your overall academic plan and career goals.
- Prior to **March 1**, your district will provide information about the College Credit Plus program to all students in grades 7-12. An informational session will be held by **March 30** and all colleges and universities within a 30-mile radius will be invited to attend . If you cannot attend, schedule an appointment with your school counselor.
- By **April 1**, notify your school counselor if you intend to participate in College Credit Plus next year. After April 1, you will need permission from the school district superintendent to participate.
- You and your family should contact colleges for information, application forms, and criteria for acceptance into College Credit Plus. Some materials are available from your high school counselor and at the college's website. You must go through the procedures established by the colleges/universities to apply to College Credit Plus and to enroll in the course(s). You may have to take a college placement test to make sure you are college-ready. A map showing all Ohio public colleges can be found here: ***https://ohiohighered.org/campuses***. Ohio private colleges can be found here: ***http://aicuo.edu/aboutOhiocolleges.html***
- Prior to college class attendance, your high school counselor will assist you in determining a course's equivalency to a high school course(s).
- Register for classes and provide a copy of your schedule to your high school counselor for review.