

POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS PROGRAM

Parent/Student Information
Tech High School
Minnesota Department of Education



Choosing Wisely – Choosing Well

ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

The program could benefit you in several ways:

- 1) You have the opportunity to take courses that may not be offered by your high school.
- 2) You have a chance to see what postsecondary education is all about.
- 3) You can take classes which academically challenge you or which cover areas of particular interest to you.
- 4) You and your parents can use this opportunity to become involved with your high school in your education and career planning.
- 5) You can earn high school credits for postsecondary courses with the opportunity of receiving postsecondary credit after leaving high school.
- 6) Tuition and books are paid for by the State of MN and District 742.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

- 1) You can enroll in the postsecondary program, if you are a Minnesota 10th, 11th or 12th grade student enrolled in a public school.
- 2) Sometime in March counselors will host an informational meeting for students interested in participating.
- 3) After this meeting, set up a time to talk with your counselor about your specific situation and pick up necessary forms.
- 4) By June 1, you need to complete the application and required testing if you intend to participate in the program in the following school year. If for some reason, you change your decision about participating after June 2, you should notify your counselor immediately.
- 5) You must be admitted by an eligible postsecondary institution. The postsecondary institution you want to attend may have special entrance requirements you must meet before you can take courses there.
- 6) If you choose to take a course at a participating college or university, the cost of tuition and textbooks will be paid for you. You may need to pay for equipment, such as tools, laptops or calculators.
- 7) After you leave high school you will receive college credit at the institution. If you transfer to another college/university, that institution will determine if they will accept the credit you earned under PSEO.
- 8) You can attend a postsecondary institution either full-time or part-time.
- 9) You are not eligible for state student financial aid when you participate in the Post-Secondary Program.

DECIDING TO PARTICIPATE

Before you decide to participate in the program, you and your parents should consider these points:

- 1) Future Plans: If you plan well, this program can assist you in making future education and career decisions and in exploring postsecondary educational opportunities.
- 2) High School Graduation: Even if you participate in this program, you still meet your high school graduation requirements in order to earn a high school diploma. Review the requirements and your standing with your high school counselor. Make sure that the number and types of courses you take will meet local graduation requirements. You should keep in mind that the grades you earn in postsecondary courses may affect your grade point average and may affect your eligibility to graduate.
- 3) Tech High School Graduation Requirements:
 - a) Class of 2019 = 58 credits ; Class of 2020 & beyond = 63 credits
 - b) 4 years of Language Arts
3 ½ years of Social Studies
3 years of Science
3 years of Math
1 year of Art
2 credits of PE and Health

See PSEO checklist for a list of college courses that meet Tech High School requirements
- 4) Each college semester credit is equal to .75 high school credit.
- 5) Scheduling: Participating in this program on a part-time basis means that you must schedule classes at your high school and at a postsecondary institution. Yearly schedules and vacation times usually are different between the two. Sometimes it may be difficult or impossible to take the courses you want at both schools because of scheduling conflicts. You are not allowed to double book two (2) classes, even if you'd only miss a class at Tech High School once a week or less.
- 6) College-Level Work: You may find college-level classes to be more accelerated and academically challenging than high school courses. You need to be able to work without supervision and have self-discipline both academically and socially. Be sure you are ready for those responsibilities. SCSU and SCTCC college courses are equal to level 1 classes at Tech.
- 7) Transportation: If you attend classes at both a high school and postsecondary institution, you need to think about transportation between the two schools. It is your responsibility to provide your own transportation. Be sure to make arrangements to get to class on time. Parking passes are paid for by the student. Funds are available to help pay transportation expenses for PSEO students whose families are at or below the poverty level, as determined by the federal government to participate in PSEO courses on college campuses. View Post Secondary Enrollment Options Mileage Reimbursement Program Instructions. If you have any questions regarding the mileage reimbursement for low-income students participating in the Post Secondary Programs, contact Kelly Wosika at 651-582-8855.
- 8) Extracurricular Activities: If you take part in this program, you will not be in your high school full-time. You might miss out on participating in some high school activities as a result of your enrollment in postsecondary courses, but you do have the option to participate.

STEPS TO FOLLOW

If you are interested in participating in this program, you will want to talk to your parents, your school counselor, and a representative of the postsecondary institution you plan to attend. Do this as far in advance of your postsecondary enrollment as possible. Remember you need to

notify your district of your intent to participate and complete the enrollment process by **June 1**, if you plan to enroll next year. Follow this process each semester:

- 1) Discuss your plans with your parents.
- 2) Attend the informational meeting in January and meet with your school counselor to discuss the program and how it might fit with your educational and personal goals.
- 3) Meet with the admissions staff of the postsecondary institution you want to attend.
SCSU, Heather – (320)308-5535: SCTC, Molly – (320)308-6022.
- 4) If you decide to participate, you must complete an application, have an official transcript sent, and submit a three-part NOSR registration form. Part I of this form is completed by you and your parents. Part II of this form is to be completed by your high school counselor or principal. Failure to provide all the information and signatures required may delay your registration at the postsecondary institution. **(The 3-part NOSR form must be completed each semester you participate in PSEO.)**
- 5) Your post secondary institution should mail you a letter within two to three weeks with additional instructions such as required testing, meetings, orientation.
- 6) It is your responsibility to provide the high school with a copy of your schedule and the grades you earned at the postsecondary institution once your courses are completed. Failure to do so will result in incomplete records at the high school which may mean you will not receive credit. A grade of “N” at a postsecondary institution will be considered as a “F” at Tech High School. Be sure to contact your counselor if you made course changes from your original plan when you registered.
- 7) At the end of the semester you must return your books to the college. If you do not, you will be charged for them. You do have the option of buying the books if you would like to keep them.

WITHDRAWAL

If you decide you will no longer participate in the program before the term has ended, you must file withdrawal forms with the postsecondary institution and **meet with your high school counselor** to develop a new schedule. Failure to file the necessary forms may result in a failing grade.

CONCLUSION

This guide should have helped answer some of your questions about the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options . Think carefully about the advantages the program gives you and your decision to participate. Talk it over with your parents. If you have more questions, see your school counselor or visit <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/CollReadi/PSEO/> for more detailed information on admission, standards, participating colleges and universities, course, and travel reimbursement.