

Early College Credit and Start College Now

Chippewa Falls Senior High School

Early College Credit and Start College Now programs allow Wisconsin public high school students to take courses at an institution of higher education for high school and/or college credit. Both programs have rules, regulations and deadlines. Be sure to allow yourself enough time so you can meet the deadline to apply.

Deadline to Apply: **February 1** (for summer sessions)
 March 1 (for fall semester)
 October 1 (for spring semester)

Early College Credit: Students take classes within the University of Wisconsin System, a tribally controlled college, or a private, nonprofit institution of higher education within the state. Please note: Online classes can only be taken through UW-Colleges Online. This may be subject to change based on state statute.

Start College Now: Students take classes at a technical college.

Important points to remember:

- The school district will pay for a maximum total of 18 post-secondary credits. This includes credits taken through Early College Credit, Start College Now and Academy programs.
- Only courses that are less than 80% comparable to a course we offer will be approved for payment. Registration for college courses is on a “space available” basis. Students may want to have several courses approved by the district; otherwise a student may find all approved courses filled and they may not have an option to enroll.
- Chippewa Falls High School awards .25 credit for each college credit earned (if they are courses for which the district is providing payment).
- The school district **shall require reimbursement from the student** if they fail a course, or drop a course after the date tuition can be refunded. College drop dates are early in the semester. Both the college and high school advisor/counselor need to be notified.
- Students are treated as college students. They are expected to arrive on time and ready-to-learn. The student is responsible for their attendance and success in the course(s). These classes are the beginning of the student’s college transcript and could impact future financial aid.

- ❑ Students must retain full-time status, which is the equivalent of 2.5 high school credits per semester. This requirement can be fulfilled by taking 10 or more college credits or by taking a combination of high school and college credits.
- ❑ Some colleges limit the number of credits high school students can take. For instance, UW-Eau Claire limits high school students to six credits or two classes per semester.
- ❑ Colleges may have their own approval criteria. UW-Eau Claire and UW-Stout base approval on class rank and/or ACT scores.
- ❑ The school district only pays for non-consumable textbooks. As a result these books are the property of the school district and will need to be returned to the district. Consumables (workbooks, supplies, etc.) are the responsibility of the student. This can be costly. It is in your best interest to contact the technical college or university and ask about an estimated cost for workbooks, and other supplies required for the class(es). If you have any questions about what the school district pays for and what you will be responsible for, please contact your school counselor ASAP.
- ❑ All costs associated with transportation are the responsibility of the student.

The Process and Required Materials:

1. Meet with your high school counselor to talk about course possibilities.
2. Make sure you meet admission criteria and return completed required application materials by **February 1** (for summer session), **March 1** (for fall semester), and/or **October 1** (for spring semester) to your school counselor, not to the college admissions office as indicated on their website.
 - ❑ UW-Colleges (taking online courses) [application materials](#)
 - ❑ UW-Eau Claire [application materials](#)
 - ❑ UW-Stout [application materials](#). [ECCP](#) is also required (although not available on their website)
 - ❑ [CVTC application materials](#)
3. Watch the mail for notification from the school district and the post-secondary school regarding approval and course registration. Typically, you will have to go to the campus, meet with an advisor, and register for your classes.
4. Bring a copy of your college schedule to your high school counselor so we can confirm enrollment and, if possible, make necessary adjustments to your schedule.