

RSU #16 (Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland)

Policy Code: IHDA

Adopted: February 2004

Revised: October 2012

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 and the Community College System. Students will be allowed to take courses at private colleges or other local institutions.

Student Eligibility Requirements

A student must meet the criteria for early college programs at any post-secondary institution prior to enrolling in a post-secondary course:

- A. Have a minimum of a 3.0 average in his/her courses overall;
- B. Have a strong desire to try an early college course;
- C. Meet the course admission standards of the eligible institution;
- D. Provide evidence of parent/guardian approval for taking the course;
- E. Obtain approval from the principal and school counselor;
- F. Provide own transportation.

Exceptions to Eligibility Requirements

A student enrolled in grade 11 or 12 who does not meet the 3.0 average in his/her courses overall is eligible to take a post-secondary course provided that he/she:

- A. Has been assessed and received a recommendation to take the course from the school; 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. High school credit for a course taken under this policy shall be awarded as follows:

- A. The course must meet for a minimum of one semester or the equivalent.
- B. The student must earn a passing grade in the course.
- C. If the above criteria are met, the student shall receive 1 for each 3 credit college course and 1.5 credits for a 4 credit college class.
- D. 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 or the college 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 early college options is made available to parents and students.

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Legal Reference:

20-A MRSA § 4771 et seq.

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