

EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL

The State of Ohio now offers a variety of possible ways for a student to get dual credit, that is, to get high school credit and college credit simultaneously for taking a single course. Listed below are the avenues the State has provided for students to be challenged with college-level coursework while still in high school.

Each program offers students a path to college credit which could potentially save students a good deal of money. There is little to no cost to the student in any one of these programs. In most of the programs listed below, the college credit is transferable to any public college or university in Ohio and to many private institutions as well.

However, there are details associated with each program that you need to understand, and there are risks and rewards that come along with each. The descriptions below are intended as basic overviews, not as detailed descriptions. Contact one of the guidance counselors listed below before enrolling in any one of them.

Tom Kagy	419-935-0181 ext. 1032	kagy.tom@willardschools.org
Dianne Steinmetz	419-935-0181 ext. 1031	steinmetz.dianne@willardschools.org

Advanced Placement Courses (AP)

One of the older options available to students, Advanced Placement courses involve coursework spread out over an entire year that is intended for superior students. In May, students may register for the AP exam in that course. If the student scores well enough on the exam (usually a 3, 4, or 5 on a 5 point scale), most colleges will consider awarding college credit or advanced placement.

Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

Again, one of the older options, PSEO allows students to take college level coursework if they meet the eligibility requirements of the college. Students may take the PSEO courses that North Central State College offers at Willard High School or they may attend a college campus of their choice to take more courses and to take advantage of a far wider range of course offerings. This option is potentially available to any high school student, but colleges make the eligibility requirements far stiffer for younger students. It is extremely rare for freshmen or sophomores to be adequately prepared for such a high level of coursework.

Dual Enrollment

This new grant funded program allows students to take coursework offered in a high school curriculum that can provide the student with college credit. In the past, The State funded certain math, foreign language, and science courses. However, that funding has recently been severely restricted and Willard High School no longer offers dual enrollment courses.

Seniors to Sophomores (S2S)

Governor Strickland created S2S very recently. It is so new that many schools in the State of Ohio have not yet been able to participate in this program, and Willard is one of those. Funding for this program is no longer stable, so Willard may not be able to join for some time. This program could eventually offer seniors the opportunity to enroll in and attend a college as a full-time commuting student and receive a chance to earn a year's worth of both high school and college credit (at least 36 quarter hours) at no cost to the student. All courses are taken on the college campus.

CollegeNow

High school juniors who enroll in this program have the opportunity, in their junior and senior years of high school, to earn an Associate Degree in Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology by the time they graduate from high school. These students then have three options: enter the workforce using their Associate Degree, transfer to four-year institutions as juniors to complete their Bachelor's Degree in their field, or transfer but pursue a different major (though not all of the credit would necessarily transfer in this case). Students choosing this route would become students of Pioneer Career and Technology Center and would be housed at the Kehoe Center in Shelby.

Tech Prep

Pioneer Career and Technology Center (PCTC) offers a variety of programs that offer college credits through a more hands-on approach leading to high-skill technical occupations. Some students may enter the workforce directly after graduating from high school, and some may continue on to an Associate Degree with credits already earned in their high school program. There are also transfer agreements with some four-year colleges in Ohio which can lead to a Bachelor's Degree.