

POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

The intent of this policy is to establish the guidelines for student enrollment in post-secondary courses taken before high school graduation.

Eligible Institutions

Students in grades 9-12 may apply to take courses at eligible post-secondary institutions within Maine, which include the University of Maine System, the Community College System, Maine Maritime Academy, or at any other post-secondary institution which the student and family deem appropriate, and which has been approved by the school. Some programs may limit enrollment in early college programs to students in grades 11-12. Any requests for financial assistance shall be considered on a case-by-case basis to the extent that funds are available.

Student Eligibility Requirements

As required by Maine statute, a student must meet the following criteria prior to enrolling in a post-secondary course:

- A. Has been assessed and received a recommendation to take the course from the school counselor
- B. Meet the course admission standards of the eligible institution;
- C. Provide evidence of parent/guardian approval for taking the course; and
- D. Notify the school counselor.

Awarding of Credits

ICS shall grant full credit to any student who successfully completes a course approved by the school.

High school graduation 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 if individually paced, will end upon successful completion of the course.
- B. The student must earn a passing grade in the course.
- C. Attendance must satisfy the instructor's requirements.
- D. If the above criteria are met, the student shall receive appropriate high school credit.

Financial Assistance

- A. Funding for applicable tuition costs may be available for students 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. Additional funding for textbooks, course fees and transportation may be available through ICS for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.

School Unit Reporting Requirements

The school counselor shall ensure that information concerning post-secondary enrollment options is made available to parents and students.

The Superintendent shall provide an annual report to the School Board regarding the number of students taking courses at post-secondary institutions and the courses taken.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 4771 et seq.

Adopted: _____