

POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS (PSEO)

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) is a program that allows public and nonpublic students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades to earn college credit while still in high school, through enrollment in and successful completion of college nonsectarian courses at eligible postsecondary institutions. Students generate both college credit and high school credit by successful completion of the course. Most PSEO courses are offered on the campus of the postsecondary institution. Some courses are offered online. Each participating college or university sets its own admissions requirements for enrollment into the PSEO courses. Eleventh and 12th-grade students may take PSEO courses on a full-time or part-time basis. Tenth graders are eligible to enroll in PSEO on a more limited basis (see note below). Students must meet the PSEO residency and eligibility requirements and abide by participation limits specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09. If the school district determines a pupil is not on track to graduate, she/he may continue to participate in PSEO on a term-by-term basis.

PSEO FOR 10TH GRADE STUDENTS

Legislation allows public and nonpublic 10th-grade students to enroll initially in one Career and Technical Education (CTE) course through PSEO. If the student earns a “C” or higher grade in this first course, she/he is eligible to take additional CTE courses while in 10th grade. In order to be eligible, a 10th-grade student must have met the proficiency level of “meets or exceeds” on the 8th-grade MCA reading test. If the student did not take the MCA, another reading assessment accepted by the enrolling postsecondary institution can be substituted. For students with disabilities, there is an alternative option to demonstrate reading proficiency.

ELIGIBLE COURSES & INSTITUTIONS

Courses taken through PSEO must meet graduation requirements at their high school. Only nonsectarian and non-developmental courses are considered eligible by statute. Courses must be offered by Minnesota PSEO eligible postsecondary institutions. [Access the list of Participating Postsecondary Institutions](#) for a list of schools and their contact information. Postsecondary institutions are required to allow PSEO students to enroll in online courses consistent with the institution’s policy regarding postsecondary student enrollment in online courses.

COST

There is no charge to PSEO students for tuition, books or fees for items that are required to participate in a course; however, students may incur fees for equipment that becomes their property when the course or program is completed or for textbooks that are not returned to the postsecondary institution according to their policies. Public school students may be responsible for tuition costs if they do not notify the district by May 30 and the district does not waive this date requirement.

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. [Access the PSEO Mileage Reimbursement Program Instructions](#).

HOW TO ENROLL IN PSEO

Students must meet the PSEO eligibility requirements and abide by participation limits outlined in the [Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act](#) and explained in the PSEO Reference Guide (link at bottom of page). Interested and eligible 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students should contact the postsecondary institution to find out their admissions requirements, which courses are offered and what the application process/timeline is at that institution. Students should meet with their high school counselor to discuss graduation requirements and the benefits and risks of enrolling in the PSEO program. All students must complete the [PSEO Notice of Student Registration](#) for the school year during which they intend to enroll.

To assist the district in planning, public school students are required to inform their district of their intent to enroll in PSEO courses during the following school year by **May 30**. If public school students do not notify the enrolling district by May 30, and the enrolling district does not waive the deadline, the family may be responsible for the postsecondary tuition expense.

PARTICIPATION IN HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Enrolling in a PSEO course does not prohibit a student from participating in activities sponsored by the high school.

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

By March 1 of each year, or three weeks prior to the date a student registers for courses for the following school year (whichever is earlier), a district must provide up-to-date information on the district's website and in materials that are distributed to all students and their parents in grades eight through grade 11 about the program, including information about enrollment requirements and the ability to earn postsecondary credit.

GRADE WEIGHTING POLICIES & ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

Each year, districts must publish their grade-weighting policy on their website, including a list of courses for which students can earn weighted grades. School districts must allow a PSEO student reasonable access to the high school building, computers and/or other technology resources during regular school hours to participate in PSEO courses, whether on-line or on campus.

CREDITS AND TRANSCRIPTS

Districts must transcript credits earned in PSEO by a ratio prescribed in statute. Districts have the authority to decide which subject area and standards the PSEO course meets. If there is a dispute between the district and the student regarding the number of credits granted for a particular course, the student may appeal the board's decision to the commissioner. The commissioner's decision regarding the number of credits will be final.

For current information about the PSEO program, visit the [Minnesota Department of Education's Postsecondary Enrollment Options \(PSEO\) webpage](#).