

Evergreen High School

Counseling Department



College Credit Plus is a new program governed by the State of Ohio that provides full-time enrolled, college ready students in grades 7-12 the opportunity to earn both high school and college credit before graduation. College Credit Plus replaces the post-secondary and dual enrollment options that have been offered in the past and will be effective beginning the 2015-2016 school year. It is vital that both students and parent/guardians educate themselves on the pros and cons of the program and understand the steps that must be taken to qualify for participation.

Program Eligibility: Students must meet ALL criteria in order to participate in College Credit Plus. Failure to meet any of the criteria, listed below, will disqualify a student from participation in CCP for the following school year. The deadlines and expectations outlined are non-negotiable and exceptions will not be made for students who fail to comply. Students who are disqualified from participation may re-qualify the following year.

- ◆ Student must be enrolled full-time in grades 7-12 at Evergreen Local Schools. Full-time students must meet all state testing and graduation requirements.
- ◆ Student must attend a MANDATORY information and counseling meeting with a parent/guardian each year prior to the year of participation.
- ◆ Student must meet the regular admission requirements and be accepted by a participating institution of higher education.
- ◆ Student must submit a signed "CCP Intent to Participate" form by April 1 of each year prior to the year of participation.
- ◆ Student must complete all enrollment requirements of the institution of higher education and have a completed college schedule submitted to the EHS guidance office by August 7 (for Fall semester courses) and December 14 (for Spring semester courses)

Participation in Courses: Qualified students are eligible to take any available, non-remedial and non-sectarian, course listed in the course catalogue of any participating institution of higher education (IHE). Courses should be transferrable and related to a degree of study. Students may take courses from one or multiple participating IHE. Students may earn a maximum of 30 college credits per academic school year and will be limited in the amount of college credit approved based upon the amount of high school or middle school courses they are also enrolled in. Students may take courses through a variety of means including:

- ◆ Taking courses on the college campus by college instructors
- ◆ Taking courses online

Partnering Institutions of Higher Education: Students may participate with any public or private participating institution of higher education in the State of Ohio.

Awarding of Credit and Grades: Students may be awarded credit based on one of two options (see below). Students will be awarded high school credit upon completion of the college coursework and will be awarded the letter grade assigned by the institution of higher education. Grades and credit will be listed on the high school transcript and factored into the high school GPA and class rank.

Option A: Student elects to receive college credit only and student is held financially responsible for the cost of college coursework.

Option B: Courses are taken for high school and college credit and Evergreen Local Schools is responsible for all costs associated with courses taken at Ohio publicly funded colleges. Costs associated with courses taken at Ohio private colleges may be shared between the student and Evergreen Local Schools.

Under Option B, students may earn a maximum of 30 college credits each academic year.

- The maximum number of credits changes according to how many credits a student is participating in at the high school.
- Example: 5 credits taken at EHS
- $30 - (5 \times 3) = 15$ semester hours maximum through CC+

- Courses worth 3-5 semester hours equate to 1 full credit at the high school.
 - 2 semester hours = 0.66 credits
 - 1 semester hour = 0.33 credits

Costs: Students participating in Option B at a public institution of higher education will have no personal costs associated with participation in college coursework. Students choosing to participate with a private institution of higher education may be assessed a portion of the cost for college coursework. Students participating under Option A will be held responsible for all financial costs associated with their participation.

Failure or Non-Completion of Courses: Students who fail or do not complete any College Credit Plus course will be held financially responsible for the full cost of the course. Failure or non-completion of college courses will negatively impact a student's high school academic standing and can potentially negatively impact their future college academic standing. Students will be prohibited from receiving their high school diploma until all costs due to the school have been remitted to Evergreen Schools. Students who qualify for free and reduced lunch cannot be held financially responsible for the cost of failed courses.

Transportation: Students are responsible for transporting themselves to and from all college courses. Families whose income falls below the federal poverty level, may request reimbursement for transportation costs.

Textbooks: All textbooks will be provided to the student either by the IHE or school district at no cost to the student. The textbooks are the property of the IHE or the school district and must be returned after the course is completed. Failure to return textbooks will result in non-issuance of the college transcript and adding of the cost of the textbook to the student's fees.

Support Services: As participants in College Credit Plus, students are considered to be a student of the IHE and thus have access to all support services available to the student. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these services including academic tutoring, campus libraries, computer labs, career services, transfer coordinators, etc. Students are prohibited from asking Evergreen High School staff for assistance with their college coursework and are required to utilize their college professors and support services for assistance.

Special Needs Students: Any special needs student who is served on an Individualized Educational Plan or 504 Plan may request to have a copy of that plan sent to the IHE. The college will make decisions about modifications or accommodations to the college courses. In addition, the college, not the high school, will provide any educational interventions that the student and the college feel are appropriate.

School Calendar: CCP courses will follow the IHE calendar as far as start/end dates for their semester and breaks. The EHS/EMS calendars may not align with the IHE calendar. Students will be expected to attend IHE classes even if the EHS/EMS do not have school and will need to attend EHS/EMS even if the college does not have school. Schedules may change at EHS/EMS due to inclement weather and students will need to work with the college and Evergreen to figure out how to deal with this. School cancellations or delays do not apply to CCP courses taken on the college campus. Students will still be expected to go to class unless the IHE also cancels. Students may not sign up for CCP courses whose meeting time will cause a student to be late or need to leave early from a high school class. Travel time to and from the college must be factored into the students schedule.

Scheduling: Students are responsible for working with their advisor assigned by the IHE to schedule their college coursework. All courses being taken at the IHE that are being used to replace an Evergreen High School graduation requirement must be pre-approved by the EHS guidance counselor. Upon completion of the college schedule, the Evergreen High School or Middle School guidance counselor will work with students to align their high school/middle school schedule accordingly. Students must maintain full time status when high school and college courses are combined. Schedules for fall semester must be submitted to the appropriate Evergreen guidance office by August 7 and for spring semester must be submitted by December 14. Students will only come to the high school or middle school during their scheduled course times.

Athletic Eligibility: Prior to finalizing the high school and college schedules, student athletes need to make sure they are taking enough courses to meet Ohio High School Athletic Association eligibility standards. Also, since college grades are only posted at the end of each semester, quarterly eligibility may be affected by taking college classes. Students, who believe they may be eligible to place NCAA or NAIA sports in college, should check with the high school counselor to make sure they are meeting NCAA or NAIA core curriculum guidelines.

Graduation Requirement: All students must meet the Evergreen Local School Board policy for graduation requirements. CCP students will have to take ALL required state end of course and college readiness assessments. The content of many CCP courses will not properly prepare a student for the state end of course exams. For example, a sophomore taking Composition I will be required to take the English 2 end of course exam that covers all areas of English/Language Arts, not just composition.

In the event that the IHE has not provided EHS with a college transcript prior to commencement, the student be allowed to participate in the graduation exercises but will not receive his/her diploma until satisfactory completion of the course(s) is documented on a college transcript provided by the college.

Point of Contact: Questions regarding the College Credit Plus program should be directed to Susan Lamour, school counselor, at slamour@evgvikings.org or by calling 419-644-2951 ext. 1109.

Academic and Social Responsibilities of Participation Strong study skills

- ◆ Ability to write and read at the college level
- ◆ Excellent time-management skills
- ◆ Self-motivated learner
- ◆ Ability to ask questions and seek help without the support of an adult
- ◆ Open-minded to new ideas and differences of opinion
- ◆ Ability to work with students of various ages and backgrounds
- ◆ Social maturity to be able to interact successfully with older students

Pros of Participation

- ◆ Can reduce the overall cost of post-secondary education
- ◆ Can reduce the overall time needed to complete a degree
- ◆ Exposes students to the demands and expectations of college prior to high school graduation
- ◆ Allows students opportunities to expand their learning options
- ◆ Expands curriculum available to students
- ◆ May expose students to more challenging coursework

Cons of Participation

- ◆ Increased responsibility for learning. Parents and the high school will not be notified if the student is not attending class or doing poorly. Missing ANY college classes may adversely affect the grade in the course
- ◆ May negatively impact a student's connection to the high school and limit participation in high school activities and increase exposure to college activities
- ◆ May interfere with the ability to work part-time
- ◆ Increased financial obligations for education with Option A and Option B if the course is dropped or failed
- ◆ Student may not be comfortable being in class with other students who are much older
- ◆ Students will be interacting with college students who are unknown to parents
- ◆ Increased demands of college coursework and travel
- ◆ May have a negative impact on grade point average and class rank
- ◆ Credits may not transfer to out of state or private colleges
- ◆ May have a negative impact on college admission, some colleges have said that they prefer that students exhaust the college preparatory classes at the high school before taking college classes
- ◆ Poor grades may impact the academic standing of student upon enrollment at an institution of higher education after graduation
- ◆ College and high school vacations may not coincide. Students will need to attend college classes even if the high school is on winter or spring break or the high school is delayed or cancelled due to weather

Examples of College Credit Plus course pathways:

15 Credit Hour Pathway (Northwest State Community College)

Composition I	3 Hours
Arts & Humanities Elective	3 Hours
Mathematics Elective	3 Hours
Natural Science Elective	4 Hours
Social/Behavioral Science Elective	3 Hours

* Visit NSCC website for listing of elective options

30 Credit Hour Pathway (Northwest State Community College)

Business	Construction Engineering
Education	Electrical Engineering
Healthcare	Mechanical Engineering
STEM	* Visit NSCC website for details