

Career and College Success Resources

In today's global economy, students must be well-prepared for the demands of college and the workplace. Red Rock Central High School provides support to assist students as they transition from middle school to high school and into an increasingly wide array of postsecondary options. Each of the options is described below.



For questions on any of these resources please contact: Superintendent Todd Lee, Principal Greg Ewing, or School Counselor, Rachel Karnitz 507-752-7361

Concurrent Enrollment

Concurrent Enrollment is a “dual credit” option under the Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) Act that provides high school students with the opportunity to take college credit-bearing courses taught by college-approved high school teachers or college faculty, at a high school. High school students may earn both high school and college credit at no cost by successfully completing the course. Widely known as “College in the High School”, concurrent enrollment offerings vary by high school and may be branded by other names, depending on the partnering postsecondary institution(s). Red Rock Central ISD 2884 partners with [Southwest Minnesota State University](#) to offer college credit courses to our high school students.

There is no cost to the student to participate in these courses, but there are requirements for students to participate. These courses provide high school students with advanced skills and greater flexibility when they enter college full-time. More information can be found through the [MN Department of Education](#).

Advanced Placement (AP)

[AP is a College Board program](#) that offers Minnesota high school students the opportunity to take rigorous, college-level courses and the potential to earn college credit while in high school. Students engage in intense discussions, solve problems collaboratively, and learn to write clearly and persuasively.

Instructors are highly trained and utilize research-based strategies to reach all students. The content in AP courses is structured similarly to college coursework. These courses prepare students for further education and college admissions offices often look favorably on a history of AP coursework on student transcripts. AP courses are not offered at every school.

Students who complete an AP course and/or take the end-of-course examination may qualify for college credit from postsecondary institutions, provided their score meets the institution’s credit policy. Students should check with individual colleges for the most current list of the AP courses each institution accepts for college credit.

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

[The CLEP Program](#) allows students to accelerate their education by earning college credit by taking a computer-based test of their knowledge. Learning can be done through general academic instruction, independent study, extracurricular work or volunteerism. The time and money saved can be significant. Check with the postsecondary institution of your choice for their most recent CLEP credit policy. Visit the College Board website for more information.

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

[Postsecondary Enrollment Options \(PSEO\)](#) is a program that allows 10th-, 11th- and 12th-grade students to earn both high school and college credit while still in high school, through enrollment in and successful completion of college nonsectarian courses at eligible participating postsecondary institutions. 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- or part-time basis; 10th 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 a 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.

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), schools must provide PSEO information to all students in grades 8-11 and their families. To assist the district in planning, a student must inform the district by May 30 of each year of their intent to enroll in postsecondary courses during the following school year.

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, textbooks that are not returned to the postsecondary institution according to their policies, or 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 qualifying students to participate in PSEO courses on college campuses. For more information on these funds, [access the PSEO Mileage Reimbursement Program Instructions](#).

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

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.

Each year, districts must publish their grade-weighting policy on their website, including a list of courses for which students can earn weighted grades.

All courses taken through the PSEO program must meet graduation requirements. 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.

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.

Tenth-grade students may initially enroll in one Career and Technical Education (CTE) PSEO course if they receive a reading proficiency score of "meets" or "exceeds" on the 8th grade MCA. If 10th graders taking a CTE PSEO course earn at least a grade C in that class, they may take additional postsecondary courses. If the student did not take the MCA in 8th-grade, 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.

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