

START COLLEGE NOW PROGRAM

Courses Taken through the Technical Colleges

Upon the student's request and with the written approval of the parent/guardian, any student who meets the following criteria may apply to attend a technical college under the "Start College Now (SCN)" Program:

Eligibility Criteria

1. The student has completed 10th grade.
2. The student is in good academic standing-defined as a cumulative GPA of 2.0 and no F's in the semester prior to application and/or enrollment.
3. The student is not a child at risk as defined in state law 118.153(1)(a).
4. The student and parent/guardian consent in writing to allow the District to communicate with the Technical College regarding the student's disciplinary record.
5. The student is not eligible to participate in the program for failure to reimburse the District for a SCN or Early College Credit Program (ECCP) course the student failed to complete or in which they received a failing grade.
6. The student is not habitually truant.
7. The student attends the onsite mandatory meeting and meets deadlines and documentation required as provided by the school counselor.

Undue Financial Burden

The District has the authority under State law §115.76(5) to deny participation to a student with a disability if the cost would impose an undue financial burden on the District.

District Guidelines

1. At least 30 days before the beginning of the technical college semester in which the student will be enrolled, the school counselor shall notify the pupil if a course in which the student will be enrolled does not meet the high school graduation requirements and whether the course is comparable to a course offered in the District.
2. For each student attending a technical college, the Board shall pay to the Technical College District Board, in 2 installments payable upon initial enrollment and at the end of the semester, for those courses taken for high school credit, an amount equal to the cost of tuition, course fees, and books that a student who is attending the technical college and who is a resident of this state would be charged.
 - a. The Board is not responsible for payment for any courses that are comparable to courses offered in the District.
 - b. If a student who is attending a technical college and is a child with a disability, the payment shall be adjusted to reflect the cost of any special services required for the pupil.
 - c. Enrolled Start College Now Students who receive a failing grade, are withdrawn from their course(s) by the technical college, fail to attend or complete their course(s), fail to adhere to all technical college policies, including attendance policies, will be responsible for reimbursing the school district for all costs related to the enrolled course(s), including textbooks and required supplies paid for by the school district.
3. The Board is not responsible for transporting a student attending a technical college under this subsection to or from the technical college, except as may be required by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Awarding of High School Credit

If a SCN course is approved for high school credit, one-quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) high school credit shall be granted per one (1) semester credit at the technical college. Grades for credits earned through-SCN will be calculated into a student's GPA. High school credit may be denied for a course if it repeats the content for which a student has already received a passing grade and high school credit. In order to receive high school credit for a course taken under SCN, a student must successfully complete the course and receive a passing grade.

Athletic Eligibility

Grades earned in SCN will be used to determine athletic eligibility. A failing grade earned in SCN will be considered along with the other grades earned by a student during the second and fourth quarters for determining eligibility. Similarly, grades earned in SCN will be calculated into the student's second and fourth quarter GPA to check for eligibility.

Appeal Process

If a student is not satisfied with the District's decision regarding comparability of courses, the number of high school credits to be awarded, or satisfaction of high school graduation requirements, they may appeal such decision within 30 days to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

APPROVED: June 15, 2015
March 20, 2017
April 23, 2018
February 15, 2021
MAY 18, 2026