Kick Start Your College Education
While Still in High School

POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

Eligibility • Options • Advantages •
Considerations • Applying

www.alextech.edu • 320-762-0221 • 888-234-1222
1601 Jefferson Street • Alexandria, MN 56308
A Member of Minnesota State
An Equal Opportunity Employer/Educator
This document is available in alternative formats by calling
888-234-1222 ext. 4673 or 320-762-4673.
PSEO

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) is a program that offers 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students the opportunity to take college level courses. The credits earned apply towards both high school graduation and college degree requirements. Tuition and textbooks for college level courses are at no cost for students in the PSEO program. Developed by the Minnesota legislature in 1985, the purpose of the program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wider variety of options to eligible students.

Eligibility

10th grade students who have attained a meets or exceeds standards score on the 8th grade Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) in reading, and meet any other course prerequisites or enrollment standards established by the college, may enroll in one career or technical education course. A 10th grade student who did not take the 8th grade MCA in reading may substitute another reading assessment accepted by the college. If the student receives a grade of C or better in the course, the student may take additional courses in subsequent terms. 11th and 12th grade students need ACCUPLACER, ACT, SAT, and/or MCA scores. These test scores along with the high school transcript and the student’s career goals are used to determine acceptance to the PSEO program.

Options

PSEO students have an opportunity to work toward completing:

- Individual courses
- 40 credit MN Transfer Curriculum (MNTC) package
- 60 credit AA and AS transfer degrees
- Many other certificate, diploma, and AAS degrees

Depending upon high school graduation requirements, students have the opportunity to work toward the completion of the first two years of a bachelor’s degree or enroll in many programs at ATCC. The MNTC is a 40-credit package that transfers to all colleges within the Minnesota State system.

To see a list of course options for the MN Transfer Curriculum, go to www.alextech.edu/MNTC

Transfer Pathway degrees will directly transfer and apply to the designated bachelor’s degree programs in a related field.
www.alextech.edu/la-tp

Advantages

The advantages of participating in PSEO at ATCC include:

- Assistance and guidance with career and educational planning
- Option to earn a college degree and a high school diploma at the same time
- One-on-one advising with course selection and registration each semester based on individual needs
- Flexibility to choose to be part-time (with as little as one college class) or a full-time college student
- Take classes on campus, online, or both
Considerations

Attending college is an important life decision and should be considered carefully. PSEO students have the same rights and responsibilities as all college students and must be able to:

- Take full responsibility for managing time and assignments
- Determine what to learn and know how to study with fewer instructions
- Handle multiple deadlines without reminders
- Take initiative to seek help when needed

Students who try to work more than 20 hours per week may have difficulty keeping up with the faster pace of college. Students can expect to spend two hours outside of class in preparation for every one hour of classroom lecture. Social maturity is also important in handling the academic challenge of college. PSEO students’ grades become part of their permanent college record. A student’s academic performance in college may impact their future eligibility for financial aid as well as their high school graduation.

PSEO students can still participate in high school extra-curricular activities, so college course sections should be chosen wisely to limit any conflicts during the semester. High school and college calendars will differ. Attendance is critical for success. Students must be committed to be in class.

The decision to participate in Post-Secondary Enrollment Options at any college is an important one. Ask questions and be informed to make the best choice!

Applying

Complete the PSEO application forms. These forms are available online at www.alextech.edu/PSEO. Scroll down to ‘How to Start” and click on the link for PSEO application instructions. Plan ahead as students must inform their district by May 30 each year of their intent to enroll in postsecondary courses during the following school year. This deadline is for both fall and spring semesters.

Return the completed application forms along with a copy of your high school/home school transcript to pseo@alextech.edu or mail to:

PSEO Department
Alexandria Technical & Community College
1601 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, MN 56308

Contact Information

320-762-4545
pseo@alextech.edu
www.alextech.edu/pseo