

My Choices **DUAL-CREDIT**

Take a moment to consider all your school options. You can earn college credit, gain industry-accepted certification, save time, money, and participate in more challenging coursework, all while earning your high school diploma. Exploring the wide array of dual credit options will allow you to make education choices that best meet your life goals.

Use this brochure and folder as a planning guide to learn about and register for dual credit courses -- Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and the Diploma Programme (DP), Career and Technical Education Programs, The College Level Examination Program (CLEP), Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) and Concurrent Enrollment .

Advanced Placement

The Advanced Placement (AP) program provides you the opportunity to take college-level courses in high school. The program consists of 37 college-level courses and exams in 22 subjects. Individual high schools determine which courses and exams to offer; however, schools and students derive the greatest benefit from having as wide a variety of AP courses as possible. You can take courses and test any time between your freshman and senior year.

Taking AP courses will enhance your confidence and you will be better prepared for college. You may also increase your chances of admission to the college of your choice, save time and money, and graduate earlier or earn additional degrees. Funding is available to provide for a portion or all of the exam fees.

If you like challenging courses of high academic intensity and quality, AP courses will enable you to meet the standards for college-level learning. Upon completion of the AP course, you can demonstrate your mastery of a college-level subject by taking an exam in May and earning a qualifying grade. More than 3,000 colleges and universities award college credit or placement into higher-level college courses allowing you to move directly into courses that match your level of academic preparation.

Contact:

MyChoices.DualCredit@state.mn.us

International Baccalaureate

The IB Diploma is recognized as a superior education, preparing you to do rigorous academic work and succeed at post-secondary institutions around the world.

The program encourages you to think from an international perspective while first developing an understanding of your own cultural and national identity. You will learn a second language and develop the skills to live and work with others internationally -- essential for life in the 21st century. The emphasis on interdisciplinary learning requires that students study courses across six disciplines, including computer



science and mathematics, individuals and societies, and the arts.

Part of the diploma process involves submitting a 4,000-word essay, taking the Theory of Knowledge course, and participating in creativity, action, and service projects. Completing an IB diploma

will, at the same time, meet your high school's graduation requirements. You can choose to take individual IB courses and exams and earn IB certificates which are recognized for credit at most colleges and universities.

Funding is available to cover all or part of the exam fees.

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Career and Technical Education

Career and technical education courses utilize a hands-on style of learning that promotes both the attainment of technical skills and an understanding of how academic concepts are used in the workplace. These programs can help you prepare for a career. Many high school career and technical education programs are designed to be the first part of a program of study that continues for up to two years beyond high school at a state technical or community college. Students may earn college credits during high school where agreements are in place or where the course is taught through a concurrent enrollment arrangement.

Courses are developed collaboratively by high school and college faculty. Many career and technical education programs include opportunities for you to continue your learning in the community through service or employment.

To find out more about career and technical education programs of study, talk to your counselor or career and technical education teacher.

Did you know that you can earn college credit while in high school by taking a computer-based test of your knowledge?

College Level Examination Program®

The College-Level Examination Program® (CLEP®) is a CollegeBoard program that allows you to accelerate your education by skipping introductory college-level courses in subjects you have already mastered.

You can earn college credit by achieving a qualifying score on any of 34 exams. The time and money saved can be used toward early college completion or to pursue a second major or advanced degree.

The 90-minute exams are administered at **over 1,400 test centers** year-round across the country. Log on to: www.collegeboard.com.CLEPtestcenters for a list of test centers in Minnesota.

Looking for hands-on learning?

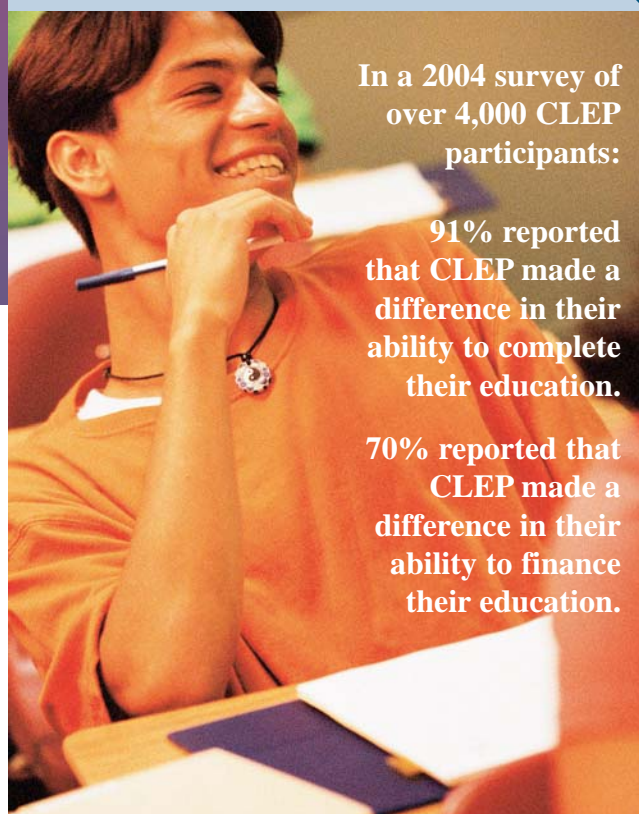
Courses are available in many fields including: agriculture, business, family and consumer sciences, health sciences, technology, and the trades.

Additional resources to check out:

- ✓ Minnesota Career Information System
<http://www.education.state.mn.us>
- ✓ Project C-3 <http://www.c3online.org/>
- ✓ ISEEK
<http://www.iseek.org/sv/index.jsp>
- ✓ Get Ready for College
<http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/>

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In a 2004 survey of over 4,000 CLEP participants:

91% reported that CLEP made a difference in their ability to complete their education.

70% reported that CLEP made a difference in their ability to finance their education.

CLEP exams are accepted for credit by more than 2,900 colleges and universities -- often, at no cost to you! Minnesota may reimburse CLEP test fees for Minnesota public and private high school students.

Talk to your advisor or counselor about the details of the CLEP program. Detailed information is available at:

<http://www.education.state.mn.us>

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Regardless of the way that you participate in PSEO, check with your high school counselor to see how PSEO is offered in your area. You'll earn both high school and college or university credit if you successfully complete the course.

Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

For students in their junior or senior year, it's possible to **earn college credit while in high school** by participating in the PSEO program!

When people hear "PSEO," they tend to think of high school students taking a course -- taught by a college instructor -- on a college or university campus. However, there are at least three other ways you can participate:

- Courses at your high school taught by a qualified high school instructor (see concurrent enrollment);
- Courses at your high school taught by a college instructor;
- Courses offered online or via ITV at your high school taught by a college instructor.

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Concurrent Enrollment

Want to participate in PSEO but don't want to leave your high school? Consider taking a course through concurrent enrollment. These courses are offered through a partnership between your high school and a college or university.

Taught during the regular school day, you can earn high school and college credit when you successfully complete the course. Qualified high school instructors who are mentored by college faculty teach the courses. The same assessment methods and content are used, as the equivalent sections taught on the college campus.

Concurrent enrollment goes by a variety of names, such as *College in the Schools* at the University of

Concurrent enrollment is the most popular and fastest-growing form of PSEO in Minnesota!

Minnesota and Fond du Lac Community College, *Senior to Sophomore* at St. Cloud State University, and *Challenge Program* at Southwest Minnesota State University.

The concurrent enrollment courses offered by the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, the University of Minnesota Duluth, and Mesabi Range Community and Technical College are NACEP-accredited. Many other local concurrent enrollment providers are taking the first steps toward accreditation as well.

The NACEP accreditation serves as confirmation of high quality concurrent enrollment programs.

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