



RIVERLAND
Community College

PSEO Informational Session

What is Post-Secondary Enrollment Options?

- The **Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)** program is a state program for high school and home school juniors and seniors (and eligible sophomores), which offers the opportunity to enroll in and attend college-level courses and apply earned credits towards high school graduation requirements and a college degree.
- State funding covers the cost of tuition and required books for eligible courses. Technical or career programs may require you to pay for tools, clothing, consumable or personal supplies.

College Credit in High School Options

Differences

Concurrent/College in the Schools/Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment

- Classes held at the high school, taught by high school faculty
- Available to 9th-12th grades
- Students will work mainly with their High School Counselor or Dean of Students for the entire process – applying through completion of course(s)/graduation

Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO)

- Classes held at Riverland (including Zoom & Online), taught by College faculty
- Available to 10th-12th grades
- Students will work together with High School Counselor/Dean of Students and College Advisor throughout the process – applying through completion of course(s)/graduation
- Need to fill out PSEO specific paperwork

College Credit in High School Options

Similarities

- Both Concurrent and PSEO students will need to:
 - Meet with their High School Counselor to determine eligibility
 - Apply & be accepted to Riverland, includes application and most recent high school transcript
 - Submit assessment test scores, can be MCAs, ACT/SAT, or Accuplacer
 - Riverland in a Pilot Program now adds additional option of using solely HS GPA for course placement through Fall 2023
 - Register for Riverland courses
 - Stay in communication with the high school and Riverland to ensure your success!

Eligibility Requirements

Concurrent

- Need to meet the minimum assessment scores required for the courses you would be taking (via Accuplacer, MCA, or ACT/SAT)
 - Stand Alone GPA options through Fall 2023
- All must be approved by the high school and accepted to Riverland in addition to the assessment scores

PSEO

- **Sophomores (current freshmen):** must have attained a passing score (“meets and exceeds” or a score of 850) on the 8th grade MCA reading test or an appropriate Accuplacer score and meet any other pre-requisite required for the course(s) they are interested in
- **Juniors (current sophomores):** must be in the upper 1/3 of their class or test at/above the 70% on any nationally standardized test
- **Seniors (current juniors):** must be in the upper 1/2 of their class or test at/above the 50% on any nationally standardized test
- **All** must be approved by high school and accepted to Riverland in addition to the above requirements
- Stand Alone GPA only applies to course placement, not to overall PSEO participation eligibility

Minimum Assessment Score Requirements for Course Placement

- **Accuplacer**

- Reading: 250 (for English Composition I)
- Reading: 242 (for most Liberal Arts classes)
- Math/QAS: 252 (for Fundamentals of Stats)
- Math/AAF: 250 (for College Algebra)
- Math/AAF: 265 (for Pre-Calculus)

- **ACT**

- Reading: 21 (for English Composition I)
- Reading: 16 (for most Liberal Arts classes)
- Math: 16 (for Fundamentals of Stats)
- Math: 22 (for College Algebra)
- Math: 24 (for Pre-Calculus)

- **MCA**

- Reading: 1047 (for English Composition I)
- Reading: 1042 (for most Liberal Arts classes)
- Math: 1148 (for Fundamentals of Stats)
- Math: 1158 (for College Algebra)

PSEO Paperwork Deadlines

- Fall Priority Deadline: May 30 (same as MDE's)
Final Deadline: June 30
- Spring Priority Deadline: October 30
Final Deadline: November 30
- Paperwork includes your online Riverland application, up-to-date high school transcript, Notice of Student Registration form (NOSR), the Student Planning Guide, and any assessment scores you may already have (MCA, ACT, Accuplacer)
- Students who submit paperwork after the final deadlines will be required to attend a PSEO Registration to register for courses (August for Fall semesters, January for Spring semesters)

Programs/Courses Not Offered to PSEO Students

- Farm Business Management (FBMT/FBMA courses)
- Supervisory Management (SMGT courses)
- Truck Driving (TRDR courses)
- CPRO 1000
- MUSC 2600
- THTR 2600

Academic Expectations Once Enrolled in Classes

- Students **must** meet satisfactory progress minimums and be a student in “good standing”
 - 2.0 Grade Point Average on a 4.0 scale (grades of C or above)
 - 67% Completion Rate for credits attempted
 - **Must** be met each semester and on a cumulative basis
 - If not met, students could end up on academic warning/suspension/probation – this does follow the student after high school into their undergraduate years if they decide stay at Riverland or transfer to a different college/university

Advantages of PSEO

- Academic rigor and challenge
- Variety of courses and many career options
- Credits count at both college and high school
- Students can still participate in all high school activities and athletics - MSHSL rules apply
- Students who earn 30+ credits of PSEO/concurrent can save between \$5000 and \$40,000
- The State of Minnesota pays for the tuition and required books for PSEO students
- Experience post secondary (college) education without leaving home
- Chance to be more independent
- Students are eligible to participate in college student activities
- Get a head start on a degree – especially helpful for those going into professions requiring advanced degrees
- Possibly earn a degree before/when graduating from High School

Things to Consider

- Is this option in your **best interest**?
- Are you **independent and self-motivated**?
- Are you doing this **for yourself or your parents**?
- What are you **“giving up”** to do this?
- Are you able to **manage your time well**?
- Can you **reach out for help** if you have any struggles, concerns or problems?

Additional Considerations

- **Attendance is important! You need to attend every class!**

Regular attendance is the number one strategy for student success!

- **Can you handle the increased free time?**

12 – 16 hours of class per week (for full-time PSEO status), rather than full days at high school.

Rule of thumb – for every hour of class, spend two hours on homework

- **How well do you manage your time?**

This is not a time to increase employment hours.

Differences between High School and College

- Scheduling and School Calendars are not the same:
 - Part-time PSEO can be challenging
- Faculty expectations:
 - Adult behavior
 - Grading may mean 2 or 3 exams and a research paper/project –
 - No late work accepted. No reminders. No extra credit.
 - No excuses for “not knowing.”
- Additional class supplies are not covered – such as art supplies, cosmetology kits, tools
- No free bus ride – You need to determine your own transportation to Riverland
 - PSEO students may be eligible for assistance with transportation costs if your family makes under the federal poverty income guidelines, see Britani for more information

Still Interested?

- Here are your next steps:
 - Meet with your high school counselor to determine if PSEO is right for you, apply to Riverland, and complete PSEO paperwork
 - Your HS Counselor will submit the paperwork for you
 - You will get an email from Riverland's PSEO Processor with instructions for the online orientation
 - Read additional PSEO information at the Riverland PSEO webpage: www.riverland.edu/pseo

Contact Information

- Britani Espe, PSEO & Accessibility Services Advisor
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- Work on all Riverland campuses and remote, year-round!