

# Parent/Guardian Quick Glance for Concurrent College Enrollment

Concurrent college enrollment refers to eligible high school juniors and seniors who enroll in college courses and earn both high school and college credit.

Concurrent enrollment is an important academic decision and should be carefully considered. This resource has been created to help you and your young adult determine if this is the right decision for them.

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## COURSE LOCATION

- College classes are offered in a variety of formats. Ask your high school counselor what options are available.

In person at the college campus	Completely online – no set class time; no in-person interaction; all assignments and most communication are done via email, internet and learning management systems; students may schedule a time to meet professor in person
In person at the high school campus – professor comes to the high school	Virtual class – class is held online at a set time; students may participate from home or the high school; virtual interaction

- Online classes do have additional fees, do require a significant time commitment, and require regular access to a computer and the internet.
- Most college courses meet only two or three days a week.
- Some college courses are offered in eight weeks, and some are offered in 16 weeks.

## YOUR RIGHTS AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN

- Even if your young adult is not yet 18, concurrent students are considered “college students.” As college students, parents/guardians cannot access student information without an express, written Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) release on file with the college. This includes grades, attendance records, contact with the professors, overall performance and bills.

## STUDENT SELF-DISCIPLINE

- Student is responsible for their own coursework.
- Student will receive fewer reminders about coursework from college faculty.
- College course grades are often determined by fewer assignments and potentially fewer exams. This means one low grade makes a larger impact on the course grade. Low grades may impact eligibility for high school extracurricular activities and continuation of concurrent enrollment.
- Student is responsible for communicating with professors. Due to FERPA, professors are not allowed to release student information to parents/guardians without written permission from the student.
- A high school student may enroll in a combined number of high school and college courses per semester not to exceed a full-time college workload of 19 semester credit hours. For purposes of calculating workload, one-half high school unit shall be equivalent to three semester credit hours of college work.
- In addition to current high school workload, students should take into consideration obligations such as extracurricular activities, family commitments and work schedules.
- With college courses, students often have more flexibility and freedom during their day; therefore, student self-discipline is very important. To be successful in college courses, concurrent students need to develop strong time-management skills.

## SELECTING COLLEGE COURSES

- Consider the student's day-to-day schedule as well as which semester is more appropriate to enroll in a course.
- Discuss with the high school counselor the courses and scheduling that might work best, taking ALL of the student's schedule into consideration.
- If you have an excused absence for a high school activity, that is not an excused absence for a college course; therefore, you may not want to take a college course during a semester that you are involved in an activity that will cause you to have absences. (There are some college course activities that cannot be made up.)

## HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS

- Every concurrent college course grade will go on the high school transcript. This also includes courses taken during the summer semester.
- A student's college transcript is a permanent record. A student's grades impact their high school and college grade point averages (GPA), future financial aid eligibility, admission to institutions of higher education, and eligibility to continue concurrent college enrollment.
- Students must earn a 2.0 GPA to continue concurrent college enrollment at any state system institution.

## COSTS

- Senior concurrent college enrollment students are eligible for up to 18 hours of tuition waiver during their senior year in high school during the summer, fall and spring terms.
- Juniors are eligible for up to nine hours of tuition waiver for concurrent enrollment. **Tuition waivers for juniors are subject to institutional funding availability depending on the legislative appropriation for the current fiscal year.**
- **THERE ARE OTHER COSTS TO CONSIDER. Students are financially responsible for course fees, books, supplies, transportation, and parking permits.** Students should contact the college or university for details.
- Tuition and mandatory fees for state system institutions of higher education can be found at [OKcollegestart.org](http://OKcollegestart.org) under Financial Aid Planning, Financial Aid 101, The Basics, Oklahoma Tuition Breakdown.

## ACADEMIC ISSUES

- Regardless of where the college course is held, your young adult is taking a college-level course. It will be different than a traditional high school class in many ways: higher expectations, independence/self-discipline, academic rigor and the academic calendar.
- Even if the high school is closed (school breaks, teacher in-service, etc.), students will have to attend the college course as scheduled by the institution of higher education. Institutions will provide students with the academic calendar for the semester.
- Students (not parents/guardians) **MUST** communicate with their high school counselors before they drop a college course.
- Dropping a college course also requires communication with the institution of higher education. Failure to properly communicate will result in a financial obligation and potentially a failing grade on the student's official high school and college transcripts.

## ENROLL IN CONCURRENT COLLEGE COURSES

- Students must talk to the high school counselor regarding admission standards and course placement.
- A concurrent college enrollment permission form provided by the institution of higher education must be signed by the student, parent/guardian, and high school counselor or principal.
- Parents/guardians are welcomed and encouraged to visit the campus with students. Support your student, but let them lead the conversation.

Questions? Contact your student's high school counselor.

[www.okhighered.org/concurrent-enrollment](http://www.okhighered.org/concurrent-enrollment)