
PSEO & CIS Classes

College options for AFSA High School Students



The Minnesota Legislature created Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) programs in 1985 to promote rigorous course taking and improve student transitions to postsecondary education.

PSEO allows high school juniors, seniors and some sophomores to take college courses.

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

- Deadline to enroll varies by institution, but will be the spring before the following school year
 - A student must notify AFSA by May 30 if they are planning to participate in PSEO
- Students can choose which school they'd like to do PSEO at, but it is their responsibility fill out the appropriate paperwork and to provide their own transportation to the school
- Must be a full time student (either full time at the college or part time at AFSA and part time at the college)
- The student must be on track to graduate to participate
- The college class must be a college-level course (no remedial courses)

General Requirements

- 11th & 12th grade students may take PSEO courses on a full or part time basis
 - Eligibility is determined at the college at which the student wants to attend
 - Century College
 - ACT Reading score of 21 or test into College-level Reading on Accuplacer
 - 11th graders must be in top third of class with a 3.0 or higher GPA
 - 12th graders must be in the top half of the class with a 2.5 or higher GPA
 - University of Minnesota
 - Unweighted GPA of 3.6 or higher (average GPA of PSEO students is 3.93)
 - Rigor of courses (and success in those courses--B or higher)
- 10th graders are eligible to enroll in PSEO on a more limited basis
 - 1 Career and Technical Education (CTE) PSEO course
 - Reading proficiency on the 8th grade MCA must be a score of “meets” or “exceeds”
 - If they earn at least a C in that class, they may take an additional CTE PSEO course
 - Specific colleges offer this option

Am I ready for PSEO classes?

Being a PSEO student is a **major** change from being at a traditional high school. You should thoughtfully consider your commitment to being a PSEO student before choosing the path. PSEO will start your college transcript and stay with you for the rest of your college career (ex. If you fail a class or two, that could put you on academic probation. It will also stay on your transcript wherever you complete your degree).

If you're considering PSEO, ask yourself the following questions...

Are you proactive in your education?

You must:

- Be an independent learner, good time management skills, and willingness to seek help when needed
- Utilize supports on campus such as the writing center and tutoring centers as well as professors' office hours
- Be responsible for your own academic experience, which means you need to be keeping track of your grade and share with your counselor if you are not on track to pass the class (D's and F's are not passing grades)

Do you have a track record of academic success?

- Depending on the college/university, there is a minimum GPA requirement to meet to be accepted
- Some schools will use MCA results for class placements
- Grades earned in PSEO will remain on your college transcript and could affect your admission to college your freshman year



Do you fully commit to academic priorities?

- Colleges and Universities do not consider high school activities (FFA, sports, band/choir concerts, standardized testing, etc.) to be excusable activities. It would be on a case by case basis with the professor (a conversation you would initiate). Professors are not required to accomodate if a test in their class conflicts with one of your high school activities.
- There is significantly more time required to commit to PSEO classes. Outside homework and learning in addition to your commute time.
- Juggling high school and PSEO courses can also be challenging. Carefully consider your course load and your extracurricular activities!

PSEO at AFSA High School

If you feel like PSEO is the right path for you please make an appointment with your school counselor to discuss your options and to make sure you would qualify for admittance to the PSEO program.

PSEO classes would have to be approved by the school to make sure that you are meeting the Minnesota and AFSA graduation requirements.

For specific admission requirements, visit the college of choice's website and search for PSEO or visit the MN Department of Education website for a full list of participating schools.

College in the Schools (CIS)



College in the Schools (CIS) is an opportunity for students to take more rigorous courses for college credits without leaving the building and being taught by teachers the students already know.

What should you expect from a CIS course?

- They are taught at AFSA by AFSA teachers who are approved to teach the college-level course by the university sponsoring the class
- Classes are more rigorous than your typical high school class--expect to move faster and have more homework outside of class
- Earning credit on both your high school and college transcript--once you commit to a CIS class, you need to complete your commitment, otherwise you will have an “incomplete” on your college transcript

College in the Schools (CIS) Classes

CIS Literature: 4 credits (U of MN)

Teacher: Jeremy Kienitz

CIS Composition: 4 credits (U of MN)

Teacher: Patt Ligan

CIS Animal Science: 4 credits (U of MN)

Teacher: Katie Crowley

CIS Political Science: 4 credits (U of MN)

Teacher: Laura Nelson

CIS Calculus: 4 credits (U of MN)

Teacher: Mandy Olson

College Now Chemistry: 4 credits
(SMSU)

Teacher: Brady Jones

CIS Creative Problem Solving: 4 credits
(U of M)

Teacher: Laura Nelson

Comparing your options...

PSEO

- College classes at a college campus (you would be responsible for getting to class)
- More independent in learning
- You are expected to initiate contact with a professor for help
- Learning with some peers, but mostly adult learners

CIS

- College classes without leaving AFSA campus
- Already know the teacher, and the teacher will reach out to you if they see you struggling
- More rigorous class than traditional high school classes
- Learning with your peers

Both PSEO and CIS...

- Starts your college transcript
 - Funded by the state (free college credits on successful completion of the class)
 - More rigorous workload
 - Look good on a college application--shows that you are challenging yourself
 - Give you a head start for college registration
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