

<b>North Providence School Department North Providence High School Early College Access Policy</b>	<b>Approved: 7/22/2015</b>

Through formal agreements with local colleges and universities, NPHS students can take college courses to simultaneously earn credit at both the high school and postsecondary institutions at no cost ~~reduced cost~~. Dual enrollment classes are college courses approved by the postsecondary institution to be taught at the high school by a high school teacher whose credentials are reviewed and approved by the postsecondary institution. Concurrent enrollment courses are part of the postsecondary institution's regular schedule and are taught by a college professor on the college campus.

These dual/concurrent options are designed for highly-motivated RI high school students, typically juniors and seniors, who seek rigorous academic challenges and want to get a head start on their college transcripts. The primary benefit of early college access opportunities is a decrease in the time and expense of obtaining a college degree. Furthermore, research shows that students who take college classes while still in high school are less likely to be placed in remedial courses, are more likely to enroll and stay in college, and are more likely to complete a degree on time. Courses are recorded on official college transcripts upon completion of the coursework. Therefore, if students drop the course after the deadline or earn a failing grade, it may impact their financial aid and/or GPA during college in the future.

Students and/or families are responsible for scheduling and transportation for concurrent enrollment coursework at a postsecondary institution. Eligible students with disabilities will be provided with appropriate accommodations.

Students who are interested in Early College Access options should speak to their guidance counselor who can provide additional information, including the name and contact information of the NPHS faculty member who coordinates each program. Information about each specific program is contained in the NPHS Course of Study available at the school or online on the school website <http://npsd.k12.ri.us/nphs>. Additionally, the website also details academic and financial information governed by the college/university about each program, including guidelines, eligibility, criteria, credit acceptance; and on each sponsoring post-secondary institution's websites.

NPHS distributes written information and holds an informational assembly each fall for students interested in these programs. Further, guidance counselors meet annually with students during the scheduling process to provide information for them and their families regarding concurrent/dual enrollment options. Students are also invited to an end of the year meeting with the high school educator to make them aware of summer work and general course expectations. The sponsoring

postsecondary institutions provide NPHS with confirmed course rosters and final grade records to track student enrolment in and completion of dual/concurrent coursework. Results are printed as part of the standard NPHS student transcripts. Students may request official college transcripts directly from the postsecondary institution; NPHS does not have access to each student's personal college records and therefore cannot provide official college transcripts.

Eligibility criteria for Concurrent Enrollment opportunities:

- Students must maintain a minimum of a "B" average in the course content area
- Teacher and/or department chair recommendation
- Parental approval
- Any other criteria required by the sponsoring postsecondary institution

Eligibility criteria for Dual Enrollment opportunities:

- Complete all NPHS Diploma System course credit requirements with the exception of Twelfth Grade English, the fourth math-related requirement, and Physical Education/Health
- Complete all NPHS Diploma System Performance-Based Graduation Requirements (PBGR's)
- Earn a 2.0 GPA
- Principal and guidance counselor approval
- Parental approval
- Attendance and conduct history will be considered
- Any other criteria required by the sponsoring postsecondary institution

Early College Access Opportunities available at NPHS include:

Early Enrollment Program (EEP): Juniors and seniors take honors courses in various subjects at NPHS and earn transferable college credits through Rhode Island College. (Dual Enrollment)

Advanced Placement (AP): Juniors and seniors take AP courses in various subjects at NPHS and complete the College Board standardized final examination. (Opportunity for college credit upon receiving minimum score on AP exams)

Early Credit High School Program: Juniors and seniors take courses at NPHS and earn transferable college credits through the University of Rhode Island (URI Writing). (Concurrent Enrollment)

Law, Public Safety, and Security Project: Students can take courses in science (Forensics) and social studies (Criminal Justice) to earn transferable college credits to Roger Williams University. (Concurrent Enrollment)

Project Running Start: Qualified seniors may complete their final year of high school as a full-time student at Community College of R.I. (Dual Enrollment)

Early Enrollment Program: Qualified seniors may complete their final year of high school as a full-time student at Johnson and Wales University (Dual Enrollment)

Computer Science (CTE Pathway): Students enrolled in the CS Pathway would earn credits for the first two courses in this pathway offered in partnership with the University of RI. (Concurrent Enrollment)

High School Enrichment Program: For enrichment purposes, students can earn six (6) college credits per semester at Community College of R.I. which may be accepted at NPHS for courses that are not available at the high school. High School Administration, guidance, and parental approval required. (Concurrent Enrollment)

Revised: 5/26/2021

Effective: 9/1/2021