

A comparison between Course Options and Youth Options

NOTES:

1. *This chart is a tool and does not contain the full provisions or details of either program; see statute and rules for actual program details.*
2. For full-time open enrolled students, the district of attendance is considered the resident district for Course Options.
3. This comparison only applies for courses taken at a college or university and taught by a college or university instructor.
4. Course Options also provides access to courses at other educational institutions; these aspects of Course Options are not reflected in this document.
5. Shaded cells indicate provisions that are the same for both Youth Options and Course Options.

| Provision | Youth Options | Course Options |
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| 1. High school credit for college course | District may award high school credit for satisfactory completion of college course(s); credit ratio is .25 high school credits for each 1 college credit | Awarding of high school credits and ratios for high school credits to college credits are not addressed |
| 2. Included colleges and universities | University of Wisconsin System institutions, tribally controlled colleges, private nonprofit institutions of higher education (collectively referred to as "Institutions of Higher Education"), and Wisconsin Technical Colleges | University of Wisconsin System, technical colleges, nonprofit institutions of higher education, and tribal colleges (also see Note 2 above) |
| 3. College course/credit limitations | 18 college credits total with corresponding district policy; no annual or semester limits | Limited to "2 courses at any time" |
| 4. Eligible students | Students attending schools in Wisconsin public school districts | Students attending schools in Wisconsin public school districts |
| 5. Eligible grades | 11 and 12 | All grades (K-12) |
| 6. Applications & Notifications | Student notifies school district ("board") using DPI developed form PI-8700-A and enrolls at college or university at which course(s) are being sought | Student submits DPI developed form PI-8900 to college or university at which course(s) are being sought; institution sends copy of form to student's district |
| 7. Deadline for notification or application | Students must notify district of intent to enroll in Youth Options courses by March 1 st (for courses to be taken in fall) and October 1 st (for courses to be taken in spring) | Students must submit application to college or university not later than 6 weeks prior to course commencement date |
| 8. Deadline for notifying student of decision | District must notify student of approval and/or rejection of desired courses by May 15 th for courses to be taken in fall and November 15 th for courses to be taken in spring | Both district and college or university must notify student of approval or rejection not later than one week prior to course commencement date |
| 9. Method of selecting applicants when they exceed available space | Not addressed beyond "if it has space available" and that method must be nondiscriminatory | IHE conducts random selection amongst eligible Course Options applicants |

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| 10. Individualized Education Program (IEP) | District may deny an application if the cost for services for a student with disabilities creates an undue financial burden on the district, though only for technical colleges | Requires districts to deny an application if “the resident school board determines that the course conflicts with the individualized education program for the pupil” |
| 11. District denial criteria for institutions of higher education (see 2 above for list) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn’t satisfy a high school graduation requirement • District offers comparable course NOTE: Student may still take the requested course under Youth Options, but will have to pay all costs and, if determined to not satisfy a high school graduation requirement, only receive college credit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn’t satisfy a high school graduation requirement • Doesn’t conform to student’s Academic and Career Plan |
| 12. District denial criteria for technical colleges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undue financial burden for a student with a disability • Doesn’t satisfy a high school graduation requirement • District offers comparable course • Student is identified as a student at risk • Student is not in good academic standing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn’t satisfy a high school graduation requirement • Doesn’t conform to student’s Academic and Career Plan |
| 13. Appeal considerations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets graduation requirements • District offers comparable course • Filed within 30 days of receiving decision | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District “decision was arbitrary or unreasonable” • IHE’s “decision was arbitrary or unreasonable” • Filed within 30 days of receiving decision |
| 14. Rights and privileges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific provisions in statute or rules | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “has all of the rights and privileges of other pupils attending the educational institution” • “subject to the same rules and regulations as those pupils” |
| 15. Expulsion/student discipline concerns | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expulsion not referenced in statute or rules • Student with “record of disciplinary problems” may be rejected by technical colleges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident district must provide expulsion or pending disciplinary proceedings records upon request from IHE |
| 16. Responsibility for paying cost of approved course | Student’s district of full-time attendance | Student’s district of full-time attendance pays cost of providing the course, but institution may charge additional tuition and fees to students |
| 17. Cost of course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For WTCS and UW-System, actual resident tuition plus books and fees • For private, non-profit colleges, lesser of actual resident tuition plus books and fees or statutory formula amount | “An amount equal to the cost of providing the course to the pupil, calculated in a manner determined by the department [DPI]” which has been set at 50% of the cost of tuition not to exceed 50% of the cost of tuition at UW Madison for the same number of credits plus books and fees |
| 18. Transportation | Student/parent responsible for any transportation costs for attending course(s) | Student/parent responsible for any transportation costs for attending course(s) |
| 19. Transportation assistance | Sum-certain funding is available to assist in transportation costs for families in need | Sum-certain funding is available to assist in transportation costs for families in need |