

Wisconsin Dual Enrollment Series, Part 2

Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Overview



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Early College Credit Program (ECCP)

ECCP applies to courses taken in person, online, or in a blended format at these Wisconsin colleges:

- University of Wisconsin
- Private college and universities
- Tribal colleges

ECCP does NOT include Wisconsin technical colleges

- However, students can take courses at technical colleges through the [Start College Now program](#)

The reimbursement for ECCP does NOT include any courses that take place at the high school/district, such as CAPP or PIE.

ECCP Application Form and Deadlines

Students must submit [ECCP Application Form](#) to their district by:

- February 1 for summer courses
- March 1 for fall courses
- October 1 for spring courses

Because these dates are in the statute, there are no exceptions.

ECCP Reimbursement at a Glance

District Offers a Comparable Course

ECCP application
can be denied

Pupil pays 100%
(Not considered ECCP, but
the student and school
should still use the ECCP
Participation Form.)

No Comparable Course + Fulfills Graduation Requirement

High school and
college credit

District pays 75%
State reimburses 25%
Pupil pays 0%

No Comparable Course + Does NOT Fulfill Graduation Requirement

College credit only

District pays 25%
State reimburses 50%
Pupil pays 25%
(unless free/reduced lunch)

Reviewing an ECCP Application

Once a student submits an ECCP application to the district (must be received by the deadline), you will review:

Step 1: Determine whether your district (not just your school) offers a comparable course.

- If you do offer a comparable course, then you can deny the application.
- If the student still wants to take the course, he/she must pay for it but can still use the ECCP application with the college or university to apply. The school district does not sign it in this case.

Reviewing an ECCP Application

Step 2: Determine whether the course will fulfill a graduation requirement for the student.

- If the course **DOES** fulfill a graduation requirement, then the student earns both high school and college credit.
- If the course **DOES NOT** fulfill a graduation requirement, then the student earns college credit only.
- Courses that count as elective credit fulfill a graduation requirement only if the student still needs elective credit to graduate.

Notification of Appeal Rights

- District must notify student of approval and/or rejection of desired courses before the beginning of the semester in which the pupil will be enrolled.
- Written notification regarding comparability of courses, satisfaction of high school graduation requirements, or the number of high school credits to be awarded shall inform the pupil of the right to appeal the school board's decision to the state superintendent within 30 days of the decision.
- The state superintendent shall review appeals made under s. 118.55 (3) (b), Stats., using the procedures under ss. PI 1.03 and 1.04 (9).

Once an ECCP Application has been approved

Once a student receives notification that his/her ECCP application has been approved, the student's next steps include:

1. Follow the application or registration requirements at the campus or program where you'd like to take classes.
2. Make sure to submit any required documentation, for example, high school transcripts along with any prerequisite documentation, such as AP scores, etc.
3. Enroll in your class.

Requirements and Prerequisites

- School districts cannot impose any additional eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to, GPA requirements or attendance requirements.
- However, the college or university may require prerequisite information to be eligible for some courses.

ECCP Tuition Limits

There are limits to how much colleges and universities can charge for ECCP courses:

- **Tribal colleges** can charge one-third of the amount that would be charged for each credit assigned to the course to an individual who is a resident of this state and who is enrolled in the educational institution as an undergraduate student.
- **UW colleges** can charge one-half of the amount that would be charged for each credit assigned to the course to an individual who is a resident of this state and who is enrolled in the college campus as an undergraduate student.
- **Private colleges** can charge one-third of the amount that would be charged for each credit assigned to a similar course offered by the University of Wisconsin-Madison to an individual who is a resident of this state and who is enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an undergraduate student.

Neither the institution of higher education nor the school board nor the governing body may charge any additional costs or fees to a pupil to attend a course.

ECCP Reimbursement Inapplicability

You **CANNOT** submit an ECCP reimbursement claim for courses that fulfill all three of the following conditions:

1. The school board of the school district or governing body of the private school and a chancellor of a University of Wisconsin System institution or the president of a private, nonprofit institution. have **entered into an agreement** to provide a college credit in high school program to academically qualified pupils under which participating pupils may take the course for postsecondary credit.
2. The instruction of pupils in the course **takes place in a school building in the school district or a school district facility.**

ECCP Reimbursement Ineligibility

3. The individual who provides instruction in the course is any of the following:
 - **A high school teacher** who is employed by the school district and certified or approved to provide the instruction by the participating University of Wisconsin System institution or by the participating private, nonprofit institution.
 - **A faculty member** of the participating University of Wisconsin System institution or the participating private, nonprofit institution.

Therefore, programs such as CAPP and PIE are not eligible for ECCP reimbursement.

ECCP Reimbursement Process

- ECCP reimbursement claims are requested using an online form. The link is sent directly to district superintendents and private school administrators in late May.
- ECCP reimbursement claims can be submitted between May 30 and July 15.
- You must retain all ECCP applications, invoices, and receipts.
- You can find an FAQ on the ECCP webpage:
<https://dpi.wi.gov/dual-enrollment/eccp/frequently-asked-questions>

ECCP Transportation Reimbursement

- Transportation reimbursement related to ECCP courses is available based on financial need, i.e., student qualifies for free and reduced lunch.
- Use the Open Enrollment Transportation Application online form available at:
<https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment/applications/transportation>
- ECCP transportation reimbursement claims can also be submitted between May 30 and July 15 (submitted by parents/families).

ECCP Board Policy Requirements

- Annually by October 1, each school board shall provide information about the program under this section to all pupils enrolled in the school district in the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grades.
- A school board or the governing body of a participating private school may establish a written policy limiting the number of credits for which the school board or governing body will pay under sub. (5) and s. 38.12 (14) (d) to the equivalent of 18 postsecondary semester credits per pupil.
 - You must offer at least 18 credits.
 - You can limit students to 18 credits or allow them to take more.
 - The 18-credit minimum includes ECCP and Start College Now. It does not include dual enrollment courses that take place at the high school.

ECCP Board Policy Requirements

- The school board shall determine whether the course is comparable to a course offered in the school district, and whether the course satisfies any of the high school graduation requirements under s. 118.33 and the number of high school credits to award the pupil for the course, if any.
 - No other restrictions on eligibility can be applied or considered.
- Students cannot enroll in ECCP and Start College Now during the same semester.

Other Items to Consider

Other items to consider including in your board policy:

- Policies that need to be update from Course/Youth Options:
 - 9-12 graders can apply for ECCP.
 - ECCP includes summer terms.
- Indicate if your district allows students to take more than 18 credits.
- Indicate the process to apply, including deadlines and the link to ECCP application forms.

Other Items to Consider

- Let students and families know what happens if a student fails an ECCP course.

Statute 118.55 states:

If a pupil receives a failing grade in a course, or fails to complete a course, at an institution of higher education or technical college for which the school board or the governing body of a participating private school has made payment, the pupil's parent or guardian, or the pupil if he or she is an adult, shall reimburse the school board or the governing body the amount paid on the pupil's behalf upon the request of the school board or governing body. If a school board or governing body that requests reimbursement of a payment made under this section is not reimbursed as requested, the pupil on whose behalf the payment was made is ineligible for any further participation in the program under this section. For the purposes of this paragraph, a grade that constitutes a failing grade for a course offered in the school district or at the participating private school constitutes a failing grade for a course taken at an institution of higher education or technical college under this section.

For More Information...

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Other state and campus dual enrollment contacts can be found at:

<https://dpi.wi.gov/dual-enrollment/eccp/contact>