

Wisconsin Dual Enrollment Series, Part 2

Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Overview

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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.

Eligible Students

All high school students enrolled in a Wisconsin public, private, or charter school (full or part time) in grades 9-12.

Beginning in 2023, students enrolled in independent (2r2x) charter schools are also eligible.

School districts cannot impose any additional eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to, GPA requirements or attendance requirements.

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 can be NO exceptions.

ECCP Reimbursement at a Glance

District Offers a Comparable Course

ECCP application can be denied

Pupil pays 100% of the normal tuition rate

(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%

*of reduced rate - see slide 12)

No Comparable Course + Does NOT Fulfill Graduation Requirement

College credit only

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

*of reduced rate - see slide 12)

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.

What is a “Comparable Course?”

A postsecondary course is comparable to a course offered by a high school if all of the following apply to the high school course:

- The high school course is offered or will be offered between the date the pupil submits a notice under s. 118.55 (3) (a), Stats., and the date the pupil is expected to graduate from high school.
- ***The content of the high school course is at least 80 percent equivalent to the content of the postsecondary course.*** A determination under this paragraph shall be made by comparing, if available, the curriculum guide, course expectations, course goals, and the scope and sequence of the high school course to the course syllabus, if available, and course description for the postsecondary course.

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.
- A pupil has the right to appeal the school board's decision to the state superintendent within 30 days of the decision for one or more of the following reasons:
 - The pupil does not agree with the decision as to whether or not the ECCP course fulfills a high school graduation requirement.
 - The pupil does not agree with the number of high school credits to be awarded for the ECCP course.
 - The pupil does not agree with the decision to deny an ECCP course because the district offers a comparable course.
 - The comparable course does not have to be offered at the high school the pupil is attending if there is another high school in the school district that offers a comparable course.
 - A high school course is considered "comparable" if at least 80 percent of the postsecondary course covers content of the high school course.

Notification of Appeal Rights

- All appeals must be in writing (can be submitted via email) and must include:
 - A copy of the notice stating the district's decision
 - Specify what decision is being appealed and the specific reasons for the appeal
 - Any other facts relevant to the appeal including the course syllabus, if available, the number, length and description of the postsecondary class periods per week as well as the relevance of the postsecondary course to the pupil's course of study or occupational goals.
- All appeals shall be signed by the appellant or the representative of the appellant. If the appellant is a minor, the appeal shall also be signed by a parent or guardian. Appeals can be emailed directly to Karin.Smith@dpi.wi.gov
- 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.

What if the course is full?

If a pupil is not admitted to attend the course that he or she specified in their participating form but is admitted to attend a different course, the pupil must notify the school district or private school immediately. The school board or governing body then must inform the pupil of its determinations regarding the course to which the pupil was admitted as soon as practicable.

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:

- **UW campuses and 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.
- **UW2 year campuses** 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 forms are accessed and submitted through the [WISEhome portal](#) between **May 30 and July 15** each year for the summer, fall, and spring terms of the most recent school year. To access your districts form, follow these steps:

1. Log into WISEhome and click on the "Request Access" tab on the top toolbar.
 2. Fill out and submit the form, selecting the application "Early College Credit Program."
 3. The request will be sent to your district's WISEsecure administrator. Once they approve your request you will see the ECCP application when you log back into WISE.
 4. Go into the ECCP application to submit your ECCP reimbursement form.
- 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>