

POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

The intent of this policy is to establish the requirements and acknowledge the “allowable costs” for student enrollment in courses at “eligible post-secondary institutions” before high school graduation under the state funded program in 20-A MRSA § 4775.

Eligible Institutions

Students may take courses at eligible post-secondary institutions within Maine, which include the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and Maine Maritime Academy.

Student Eligibility Requirements

A student may take no more than two courses per semester and four courses per academic year and must meet the following statutory requirements prior to enrolling in a post-secondary course at an eligible post-secondary institution:

- A. Have a minimum of a “B” or 3.0 average in his/her courses overall;
- B. Meet the course admission standards of the eligible institution;
- C. Provide evidence of parent/guardian approval for taking the course; and
- D. Meet with the guidance counselor to develop a plan describing how the course will help the student meet graduation requirements in order to obtain approval.

Exceptions to Eligibility Requirements

A student enrolled in grade 11 or 12 who does not meet the “B” [or 3.0] average in his/her courses overall is eligible to take a post-secondary course provided that he/she:

- A. Has been assessed and received a recommendation to take the course from the high school principal; and
- B. Has been approved for participant in the course by the eligible institution.

Awarding of Credits

The eligible institution may grant full credit to any student who successfully completes a course.

High school graduation credit for a course taken under this policy maybe awarded as follows:

- A. The course must meet for a minimum of one semester.
- B. The student must earn a passing grade in the course.
- D. If the above criteria are met, the student may receive one credit for each three-credit semester course without a grade that counts in the GPA calculations.

Financial Assistance

- A. The Maine Department of Education shall pay applicable tuition costs for any student enrolled in a course under this policy if the eligible institution requires tuition payment.
- B. The student and his/her parent/guardian are responsible for paying for all textbooks, course fees and transportation costs. For those students qualifying for free or reduced lunch, the school unit will pay the cost of, textbooks and course fees and may pay reasonable costs for transportation

School Unit Reporting Requirements

The Superintendent shall ensure that information concerning post-secondary enrollment options is made available to parents and students.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 4771 et seq.

Adopted: June 21, 2016