



Pine Island Public Schools Career and College Readiness Resources

In today's global economy, students must be well-prepared for the demands of college and the workplace. Pine Island Public Schools provide support to assist students as they transition from middle school to high school and into an increasingly wide array of postsecondary options. Each of the options is described below.

For questions on any of these resources please contact:
Building Principal Jeff Horton

Concurrent Enrollment

Pine Island Public Schools partners with Southwest State University to offer college credit courses to our high school students at Pine Island High School.

Students who successfully complete these courses generate both high school and college credit from the partnering postsecondary institution.

There is no cost to the student to participate in these courses, but there are entrance requirements. These courses provide high school students advanced skills today and greater flexibility when they enter the university setting full-time. That may include pursuing second majors and internships or studying abroad.

Pine Island Public Schools offer the following Concurrent Enrollment Courses:

Essentials of Speaking and Listening (SMSU English #110)
Introduction to Literature (SMSU English #101)
Calculus (SMSU: Math 101)
Spanish III and IV (SMSU Foreign Language Course #210/202)
Physics (SMSU Physics #120)

Advanced Placement (AP)

AP is a College Board program that offers high school students the opportunity to take rigorous, college-level courses and earn college credit while in high school. The content in AP courses is structured like college courses. Students who complete an AP course and take the end-of-course examination may qualify for college credit from postsecondary institutions, provided their score meets the institution's credit policy. These courses help prepare students for further education and many colleges look favorably on transcripts that include AP coursework.

Pine Island Public Schools offer the following Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:

AP Environmental Science
AP Statistics
AP Geography
AP History

Project Lead the Way (PLTW)

Universities and colleges throughout Minnesota offer college credit recognition to students who complete PLTW courses. Students may earn high school and college credit upon successful completion of the course with a class grade of 85% or higher and a score of 70% or higher on the PLTW exam. PLTW classes are free, but credits are approximately \$100.

Pine Island Public Schools offer the following PLTW Courses:

Human Body Systems
Medical Interventions (2017)
Principles of Biomedical Science
Intro to Engineering Design
Principles of Engineering
Computer Integrated Manufacturing
Computer Programming

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a College Board program that allows students to accelerate their education by earning college credit by taking a computer-based test of their knowledge. Learning can

be done through general academic instruction, independent study, extracurricular work or volunteerism. The time and money saved can be significant. Check with the postsecondary institution of your choice for their most recent CLEP credit policy. [Visit the College Board website for more information.](#)

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

PSEO is a program that allows students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades earn both high school and college credit while still in high school, through enrollment in and successful completion of college-level, nonsectarian courses at eligible participating postsecondary institutions. Most PSEO courses are offered on the campus of the postsecondary institution; some courses are offered online. Each participating college or university sets its own requirements for enrollment into the PSEO courses. Eleventh and 12th-grade students may take PSEO courses on a full- or part-time basis; 10th graders may take one career/technical PSEO course. If they earn at least a grade C in that class, they may take additional PSEO courses.

There is no charge to PSEO students for tuition, books or fees for items that are required to participate in a course. Students must meet the PSEO residency and eligibility requirements and abide by participation limits specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09. If a school district determines a student is not on track to graduate, she/he may continue to participate in PSEO. Funds are available to help pay transportation expenses for qualifying students to participate in PSEO courses on college campuses. Schools must provide up-to-date information to all students in grades 8-11 and their families by March 1, every year. Students must notify their school by May 30 if they want to participate in PSEO for the following school year.

For current information about the PSEO program, [visit the Minnesota Department of Education's Postsecondary Enrollment Options \(PSEO\) webpage.](#)