

POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS PROGRAM FOR OHIO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

WHAT IS THE POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS PROGRAM?

The Postsecondary Enrollment Options Program (PSEOP) permits Ohio public and nonpublic high school students in grades 9 through 12 to earn college credit and/or high school graduation credit through the successful completion of college courses. The purpose of the program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a variety of options to high school students.

The PSEOP was originally enacted in 1989 by legislation for 11th and 12th grade students and expanded in 1997 to include 9th and 10th grade students. In 1999 additional legislation added the requirement that students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average in high school in the subject they wish to take at the postsecondary institution. Public and nonpublic high school students may enroll in nonsectarian college level courses and receive college credit and/or credit toward graduation from high school.

A public or nonpublic student participating in the program may choose the following two options:

Option A allows the public or nonpublic high school student to elect to receive only college credit. In this case, the cost of the program is funded entirely by the student and /or student's parent.

Option B allows the public or nonpublic high school student to receive both high school and college credit. For public high school students, the college will be paid directly out of the public school's state foundation funds. If the student is enrolled in a nonpublic high school, the cost is subsidized by a specific sum of money set aside by the Ohio General Assembly in each biennium and awarded on a first come first served basis. Public or nonpublic high school students electing this option will not be required to pay for tuition, books, materials and fees.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

If you are a 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student enrolled in an Ohio public or nonpublic high school, the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Program provides an opportunity to take college courses for college or high school graduation credit. If you are a 9th grader, you may enroll for up to twelve quarters, eight semesters, or the equivalent of four academic years. If you are a 10th grader, you may enroll for up to nine quarters, six semesters, or the equivalent of three academic years. If you are an 11th grader, you may enroll for up to six quarters, four semesters, or the equivalent of two academic years. If you are a 12th grader, you may enroll for up to three quarters, two semesters or the equivalent of one academic year. If you are in the middle of a year, your eligibility will be prorated.

Students must have a 3.0 grade point average in high school in the subject they wish to take at the post secondary institution.

HOW DO I APPLY?

If you are looking at the opportunity to participate in this program, check with your high school guidance counselor. Public and nonpublic high schools must provide counseling to students and parents to ensure that they are aware of the possible risks and consequences of participating in the program; that funding is limited and may prevent some students who wish to participate from doing so; and the effect of program participation on the student's ability to complete the public or nonpublic school's graduation requirements. Students and parents must sign a form (provided by the public or nonpublic school) indicating that appropriate counseling was provided and all responsibilities for participation are understood.

NON-PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SHOULD NOTE:

For nonpublic students the cost of the program is covered by a specified amount as determined by the Ohio Legislature. Once accepted by an Ohio college or university, the nonpublic student must submit a preliminary application form (Form SF-PS-140NPP) with a copy of the college letter of acceptance, prior to enrollment to the Ohio Department of Education, Office of School Finance. The application form will not be processed without a letter of acceptance from the college. Applications are processed in order of receipt. Financial support is available on a first come first serve basis. If funds are available, the student will be notified within three weeks after the receipt of the preliminary application form. If funds are not available the nonpublic student, nonpublic high school and college will be notified within one week after the receipt of the preliminary application form.

WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT TIMELINES FOR PARTICIPATION?

March 1 All public and nonpublic high school administrators must notify students in grades eight through eleven and their parents of the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Program.

March 30 All students must notify high school administrators of their intent to participate in the program. Failure to do so will make them ineligible to participate without permission of their school administrator.

April 1 Chief administrators of nonpublic high schools must notify the Ohio Department of Education if the nonpublic schools wish to participate in the following year.

At The Beginning of Each School Year or Prior to the First Term of Enrollment (nonpublic students only). For each nonpublic high school student who wishes to participate in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options B Program, the nonpublic high school principal or administrator is required to send to the area office a completed Form SF-PS-140NPP and a copy of a letter of acceptance from the college in which the student wishes to enroll.

Within One Week of Receipt of Application (nonpublic students only). If financial support is not available, each area office will notify the nonpublic high school applicant, the applicant's nonpublic high school and the college accepting the applicant's participation in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Option B Program, during the year for which the application was made.

Within Three Weeks of Receipt of Application (nonpublic students only). Each area office will notify each nonpublic high school applicant within three weeks of the receipt of the application that the student may participate.

No Time Frame. An eligible student enrolled in a public or nonpublic high school may apply and enroll in a college anytime during the student's ninth through twelfth grade school year.

April 1. The Area Office sends Form SF-PS-140 A to the student's public or nonpublic high school principal.

April 30. The nonpublic high school principal returns the completed SF_PS-140A to the Area Office.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION?

If you or your child is interested in participating in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program, talk to your high school guidance counselor.

Additional information about the program can be obtained from your high school guidance counselor or you local Department of Education Area Coordinator's Office that can be located on the ODE web site:

http://www.ode.state.oh.us/school_finance/finance_and_mgmt_svcs/fiscal_contacts.asp

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OPTIONS PROGRAM

For

Ohio High School Students

Winter 2003

