

EARLY ENTRY AND DUAL CREDIT

with Dickinson State University

at Dickinson High



Have you heard about the opportunities for Dickinson High School students to earn college credit?

Dickinson State University and Dickinson High School, working as partners, have created low-cost pathways for learners to earn college credit before graduating high school. The Dickinson High School partnership and tuition agreement helps facilitate DHS career academies and DSU's dual mission. Recognized in 2021 with the Governor's Award for System Transformation, this partnership affords DHS students the option to pursue dual credit, early entry, and/or traditional high school courses on the DSU campus. DHS students who have a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher qualify for tuition assistance that reduces the cost to approximately \$86 per credit (2021-2023 rate). This program is supported by Dickinson Public Schools, Dickinson State University, and the DSU Heritage Foundation.

WHY TAKE EARLY ENTRY/DUAL CREDIT?

There are many reasons to pursue early entry and dual credit courses as a high school student. Below are just a few of the positive reasons to jump-start your college academic career while in high school:

■ ***It's Cheaper!***

Students who take early entry and dual credit courses often receive a reduced rate of tuition. Taking college courses while still in high school reduces student debt upon graduating with a 2- or 4-year degree.

■ ***You can try out careers.***

Many students start college not knowing what they want to do when they graduate. This reality often results in those students changing their majors 2 to 3 times before graduating. Being able to try courses and potential career pathways reduces your likelihood of changing majors and increases your chance of graduating on time and with less student debt!

■ ***You can experience college first hand.***

Transitioning from high school into college is intimidating. By taking courses in high school, students can utilize their current support systems and experience what a college courses require. This experience sets students up for success and a much easier transition to higher education.

■ ***You are more likely to graduate!***

Studies have found that students who complete college courses before graduating high school are significantly more likely to graduate from college.

EARLY ENTRY

Early entry classes are classes you take at DSU or online for college credit and are taught by DSU faculty. You might be able to also earn high school credit, but that is up to your high school, so check with your guidance counselor.

INTERESTED? *Here's what to do:*

- Talk to your school counselor about the transferability of your credits.
- Create an admissions account. Fill out the application for admission on your admissions account. Use the code "DSUEarly" to apply for free!
- Fill out and email the Early Entry Form. A parent or guardian must sign the form to give you permission to enroll in the course and to accept financial responsibility.
- To get enrolled in early entry classes, you must attend a New Student Registration session. Please register at dickinsonstate.edu/admissions/new-student-orientation.

This process must be completed prior to the first day of classes. Your admissions recruiter and professional academic advisor are available to help you with the process. If you have any questions throughout the process, please call or text (701) 354-2928 or (701) 401-8792.



IMMUNIZATIONS

If you are a new student taking classes on the DSU campus, the North Dakota University System requires that you provide documentation of immunity* for the following:

- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR): Evidence of two doses of measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine no less than 28 days apart from a licensed provider or authorized representative of a state or local health department; (b) proof of a positive serologic test for measles, mumps, and rubella; or (c) proof of date of birth prior to 1957.
- Meningitis (MCV4): Evidence of at least one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine at age 16 or older.

**Any individual who chooses to apply for an exemption from the immunization requirements should notify the Office of Admissions. Please note, those who have submitted a waiver may be required to stay off campus, including exclusion from campus activities, in the event of an outbreak of a communicable disease until the danger is over.*

TEXTBOOKS

You and/or your parents or guardians are responsible for getting your textbook(s). You can either buy them at the Follette Bookstore in our Student Center or order them online through the DSU Bookstore. You can also obtain the booklist at least two weeks prior to courses if you wish to purchase your books from another source or rent them.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I access my early entry course(s)?

You can access them by logging into the DSU Blackboard system. You will receive access to Blackboard at New Student Registration. Your courses will not appear until the first day of school.

HOW MANY EARLY ENTRY COURSES MAY I TAKE?

Talk to your high school guidance counselor or teacher about class availability and course limits.

MAY I USE DSU FACILITIES WHILE ENROLLED AS AN EARLY ENTRY STUDENT?

Yes! While you are taking college courses through DSU, you enjoy the same privileges as all our students. You may use the computer labs, the library, and attend all DSU events free of charge with your DSU ID.

WHAT COURSES CAN I TAKE?

Your school counselor will provide guidance regarding the courses that you will be eligible to take. Some classes require pre-requisite courses or placement tests to qualify.

For more information, please contact DSU Admissions by calling or texting **(701) 354-4332**.

FINANCIAL AID

You can apply for financial aid through the Bank of North Dakota (BND). BND allows you to enroll in two college courses per school year for free if you:

- Are a current sophomore, junior, or senior attending a North Dakota high school;
- Have received authorization from your high school to take the dual credit course;
- Qualify for free or reduced-price lunch; and
- Turn in the financial aid application to BND during the course enrollment process.

Do you meet all four of these?

If you do, go ahead and fill out the Dual Credit Assistance Application. If you have extenuating circumstances that you feel may qualify you for this program, but do not meet the criteria above, you are encouraged to apply and submit a letter of appeal.



MORE INFORMATION:
dickinsonstate.edu/earlyentry