

Q&A for College Credit Plus

Welcome back to school! We know that “back to school” means different things this year. Some colleagues are working from home, while some are in the office. Some students are learning online, while others are in the buildings. Whatever academic year 2020-2021 looks like, we are all working together to serve students and help them with their educational options.

College Credit Plus is all about communication and collaboration. Our secondary schools and colleges are working hard to forge positive and productive partnerships. These are ongoing relationships that need constant work. As we move forward with the academic year, we are continually monitoring the COVID-19 crisis and how it impacts the students and our institutions. Please visit our website for additional information: www.ohiohighered.org/ccp. **August 2020**

1

Reporting of Students after 15th Day

QUESTION: Since secondary schools are staggering or phasing in their start dates for students, College Credit Plus enrollment is being impacted by delays such as the finalization of student rosters at the high schools and misalignment of the “start date” of courses at the high schools with the start date at the college. What flexibility is available related to aligning start dates of courses and reporting student enrollment?

RESPONSE: The calendar of college courses is set by the college according to the college’s policies and procedures. Colleges are permitted to have different “start dates” for college courses at high schools. While having multiple start dates can be challenging, it is a possible solution to accommodate the various starting dates. Colleges should work carefully with each secondary school to ensure that adequate contact hours are achieved between the “start” and “end” dates at the school.

For reporting enrollment, the standard procedure is that colleges must upload College Credit Plus student enrollment files no later than two weeks after the 15th day of a regularly scheduled term or the date that equates to 20% of an irregularly scheduled term. This 15th day is otherwise known as the “census” date. **During fall semester 2020, colleges have permission to delay the uploading of student enrollment files up to four weeks after the 15th day.** This accommodation is being made in an effort to provide as much flexibility as possible to ensure that student participation in College Credit Plus is not negatively impacted.

Keep in mind that any delay to uploading enrollment reports will postpone the 45-day review window of the secondary school. Major delays to uploading will possibly impact the January 2021 payment for summer and fall enrollment. *Ohio Revised Code 3365.05*

2

Intent to Participate

QUESTION: With COVID-19 disruptions in the spring, many public school students did not complete an Intent to Participate form by the deadline of May 1. Is it possible for a student to participate now, even if the student missed the deadline?

RESPONSE: As stated in the March 27, 2020 Flexibility/Guidance document, the deadline for Intent forms was extended to May 1 to assist during this crisis. The guidance also recommended that school administrators **should carefully consider any appeals for participating in College Credit Plus if the student has missed the deadline due to extenuating circumstances, such as COVID-19 disruptions**, as required by statute.

This recommendation is still **strongly encouraged to allow students to participate to every extent possible**, as this pandemic has caused many families to reconsider their educational options for students.

As a reminder, nonpublic/private school and homeschooled families must have submitted their Intent forms by May 1 electronically through the College Credit Plus funding application. Due to the nature of the funding system, there are no extensions or appeals for these students. *Ohio Revised Code 3365.03*

3

Information Session

QUESTION: How should secondary schools handle Information Sessions when there are concerns about large group gatherings?

RESPONSE: Remote or virtual Information Sessions are recommended as schools share information in preparing for the 2021-2022 year. Sessions should be recorded and posted on the school's website, so that parents and students can view them at any time. Colleges and universities within a 30-mile radius of the school should be invited to participate in the remote Information Session.

If the school decides to hold in-person Information Sessions, leaders should follow any requirements or guidance regarding mass gatherings. To the extent possible, consider holding more than one Information Session in order to have smaller groups.

For the 2020-2021 Information Sessions, which are held for the planning of the 2021-2022 school year, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) and Ohio Department of Education (ODE) will provide a standard slide presentation that can be utilized by the secondary schools. A standard video presentation that can be shared by the secondary schools will also be available. These will be posted to www.ohiohighered.org/ccp in the month of September. *Ohio Revised Code 3365.04*

4

Student Eligibility

QUESTION: Will the flexibility/guidance for Student Eligibility, a high school GPA of 3.0, remain the same for spring semester 2021?

RESPONSE: At this time, a final decision has not been made yet for spring 2021 student eligibility determination. We are actively evaluating all available options and monitoring administration of exams. *Ohio Revised Code 3365.03*

5

College Course at the High School

QUESTION: What are the requirements of holding a college class at a high school during COVID-19?

RESPONSE: Partnering colleges and secondary schools must communicate regularly and effectively regarding any changes for college courses. A secondary school can determine how to handle building concerns related to COVID-19 but cannot impose barriers to students participating in College Credit Plus.

Teachers who have been approved by a college to teach a college course will serve as an adjunct for that college during that time period at the secondary school. High school policies or contracts related to high school courses do not apply to the college courses offered at the secondary school.

Teacher observations must be completed on an annual basis. To the extent possible, observations can be completed remotely. However, if an in-person observation must be held, the college should communicate with the secondary school administration and/or teacher to make scheduled arrangements for the visit. *Ohio Revised Code 3365.07*

6

Secondary School Student Enrollment

QUESTION: Is a public student considered “homeschooled” if he/she decides to participate in the public school’s online options? Will the College Credit Plus state funding be different for those students?

RESPONSE: If a student enrolled in a public school is participating in that secondary school’s option for remote learning, then that student is still considered an enrolled student of the secondary school. As long as the public secondary school is receiving state foundation funding for that enrollment, then the secondary school is still financially responsible for that student’s education.

A student who has withdrawn from a secondary school and has received exemption from compulsory attendance from the secondary school’s superintendent is considered homeschooled. There may be instances when a homeschooled student enrolls in a course at the public school and is at the discretion of the local school in consultation with college partners. Funding for homeschooled students is awarded via an application process. All funds for 2020-2021 have already been allocated to students and families with complete applications. *Ohio Revised Code 3365.07*

7

College Credit Plus

QUESTION: What’s next? What happens if...? What about next year?

RESPONSE: During this unprecedented time, there are so many unknowns. Our staff members are eager to hear your questions and concerns. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your College Credit Plus team. As we monitor the situation throughout this fall, we will keep you updated on more Q&A items. We appreciate your hard work serving students and helping them with their educational choices. Stay safe and healthy! *Ohio Revised Code 3365*

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