

Sacred Heart Academy: Dual Enrollment FAQs

What is dual enrollment?

Students who are enrolled full-time in high school may simultaneously take college courses to earn college credit.

When can students start dual enrolling?

Sacred Heart Academy students are allowed to dual enroll starting in 10th grade with the exception of students who are looking to take a foreign language course that we do not offer. Students in grade 9 who wish to begin taking classes may do so with parent approval, but must complete these courses outside of the normal school day. Exceptions to this would need to be approved by the Academic Advisor. MMCC will allow 9th graders to dual enroll, while CMU will only make rare exceptions to allow for 9th grade students to enroll there.

Where can students dual enroll?

Most SHA students dual enroll through CMU or MMCC. However, students are eligible to take courses anywhere in Michigan as long as they meet their admission requirements.

Can students take college classes outside of the regular school day?

Yes, students in grades 10-12 can have classes built into their normal school schedule (schedule permitting) while students in grades 9-12 may take courses outside of regular school hours pending their acceptance by the college or university.

Can students take college courses during the summer?

It is possible for students to complete college courses during the summer months. However, the state of Michigan will not provide any funding for summer courses. Therefore, the student would be responsible for the entire cost of the course regardless of which course is chosen.

How do students register for courses?

This varies with each institution, but students would need to notify the Academic Advisor as to which course(s) they would like to take and at which college. Students must complete the paperwork provided by their Advisor (or complete an online application for CMU) and the Advisor will send this to the institution. Once the institution has processed the paperwork, the student will be enrolled in the requested course if space is available and prerequisites were met.

Which courses can students take?

Students must meet the prerequisites established by the post-secondary institution. In some instances, ACT or SAT scores can fulfill a prerequisite, while in other cases students may need to take the Accuplacer online assessment to determine course placement. In order for a SHA student to receive reimbursement funds from the state of Michigan, the course must be one SHA does not offer and it must be academic in nature. It must apply toward satisfying degree requirements and it cannot be a hobby craft or recreational course. It cannot be a physical education or theology course. If the student wants to take a course we do offer and receive funding, they will not be able to count the course for high school credit. Any course that is used to fulfill a graduation requirement that we do offer is ineligible for state funding. A student can also receive funding if they have exceeded SHA's curriculum in a certain subject area (Ex. Completed Calculus prior to senior year and need to take Calculus I at the college level).

Can students take online courses?

Yes, however, the same guidelines as above apply and some colleges do not accept online transfer credits.

Do college courses taught on SHA's campus transfer?

Most schools in Michigan will accept college credits that are taught on a high school campus. The Academic Advisor can guide the students who have questions about this.

How much do dual enrollment courses cost prior to any state reimbursement funds?

CMU 2015-16: approximately \$1,185.00 for a 3 credit class

MMCC 2015-16: approximately \$513.00 for a 3 credit class

How does the state reimburse students?

This varies according to the institution. For MMCC, the college bills the state first and any remaining balance is then charged to the student's MMCC account. This usually takes place toward the end of the first month of the semester. Students can access this bill at any time on MidWeb. CMU requires that students pay the full amount first and then bills the state. The funding received from the state is then credited to the student's CMU account.

How much will the state reimburse students?

The amount of funding that the state will provide depends on the per pupil funding rate established for public school students in Michigan each year. It also depends on the number of high school and college classes the students are taking.

How many credits will the state reimburse?

10 courses total

Who is responsible for the cost of textbooks and course materials?

The student is responsible for paying for and obtaining textbooks and other course materials.

What happens if a student does not pass a dual enrollment course?

The student is responsible for paying the entire cost of the course to the college or university.

Can a student withdraw from a dual enrollment course?

Yes. However, depending on when the student withdraws from the course, there may be some additional tuition/fees associated that the student is responsible for paying. A “W” will also appear on the student’s transcript at that college or university.

Can a dual enrollment class count for both high school and college credit?

Most colleges in Michigan will allow for students to count a course for both high school and college credit (as long as it is a course we do not offer). If a student is unsure, they can ask the Academic Advisor or contact the admissions office of their prospective college for clarification.

How much high school credit can a SHA student earn from a college class?

A one semester college class would earn the student 0.5 high school credits.

Are dual enrollment credits weighed more heavily on the SHA high school transcript?

No, students receive the letter grade granted by the post-secondary institution and this is what is listed on the transcript and factored into the students’ cumulative grade point average. If the college gives grades in percentages or GPA points, then the students will receive the equivalent letter grade that is listed for SHA’s grading scale.

Is every class transferable?

No. To help students decide which dual enrollment courses to take, it is important that they have an idea of which college(s) they are looking to transfer their credits to upon graduation. Every college has online transfer equivalencies listed; however, the most accurate way to determine transferability is to contact the college’s admissions office or specific academic department.

Are SHA students eligible to complete the Michigan Transfer Agreement?

Yes, although this would likely require some summer course work.