

## Early College

Early College provides students with an opportunity to earn a high school diploma as well as an Associate's Degree. Students can earn up to 60 college credits in the early college program.

The early college program requires that students take a course from the high school in a "13<sup>th</sup> year" after their senior year while they finish their college courses.

The early college program is a partnership among Muskegon Community College, The Ottawa Area Intermediate School District, and other local school districts.

- **Qualifications:** Selection is based on an application process. Students must apply in the winter of the 10<sup>th</sup> grade year.

- **Credit:** Students take both high school and college courses concurrently. College credits may be transferrable.

- **Course Costs:** The program is free. There may be some transportation costs..

- **Course Location:** College courses will be offered at various locations of Muskegon Community College.

- **Transportation:** Students should expect to provide their own transportation.

## CLEP Testing

The College Level Examination Program provides an opportunity for students to earn college credit outside of the school day. Free test preparation is available through Modern States Alliance. Exams are available in 34 subject areas. Some classes at AHS prepare students to take a CLEP examination.

- **Qualifications:** Anyone can participate. At AHS, students in Spanish 5 and College Algebra participate as a class.

- **Credit:** Students earn college credit only.

- **Course Costs:** There is a cost to take a CLEP exam, but vouchers are available when a student completes the Modern States Alliance preparation program.

- **Course Location:** At AHS or independently.

- **Transportation:** Students should expect to provide their own transportation to any exams.



## Earning College Credit in High School

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## Careerline Tech Center

Careerline Tech Center (CTC) provides a variety of programs for student exploration, as well as the potential for earning college credit. CTC programs range from 1–2 years and can be taken during a student's junior and/or senior year. Students apply in the winter of their sophomore or junior year in order to maximize their CTC options.

Because these programs are aligned with both high school and college courses, CTC offers students a seamless transition from high school to a career, technical education program, and/or college.

- **Qualifications:** All students are eligible to apply during the winter of their sophomore and/or junior year for the following year.
- **Credit:** All courses count as high school credit. Most offer the option of earning college credit as well, either through articulation, direct credit, or both.
- **Course Costs:** There is a fee required for those wishing to earn direct credit for college. Additional coursework may be required. College articulation credit is free, but usually non-transferable between colleges.
- **Course Location:** Split time between Allendale High and Careerline Tech Center.
- **Transportation:** Provided by the district or provided by student.

## Advanced Placement (AP)

Advanced Placement (AP) courses allow students the opportunity to take college level courses at their high school. These courses are taught by high school teachers at AHS or can be taken online.

The course offerings and requirements for these classes may differ from year-to-year, so please check with your counselor. We encourage ALL interested students to challenge themselves with AP Courses!

- **Qualifications:** Allendale HS may require students to complete a lower level course with a minimum grade and/or a minimum score on a standardized test in that subject area to qualify for AP courses.
- **Credit:** Courses count as high school credit. To earn college credit for an AP course, students need to earn a minimum score of 3 (or 4) out of 5 on an AP examination. The number and type of college credits granted varies from college to college and can be found on their websites.
- **Course Costs:** Taking these classes is free; however, there is a fee for taking the AP exam at the end of the course. Students who qualify for free and reduced lunch may apply for a fee reduction. Financial assistance is offered in cases where necessary.
- **Course Location:** Allendale High School or online.

## Articulation

Articulation is an agreement between the high school and a college. The college grants credit for pre-approved courses that are successfully completed at the high school. This credit is listed on the student's college transcript along with title of the college's equivalent course. Articulation credits do not normally transfer from one college to another.

Allendale High School has articulation agreements with Davenport University and is working to establish more agreements with other local colleges.

- **Qualifications:** Students must earn a B (3.0) or better in high school articulated courses. The high school teacher and/or counselor signs a form verifying that the student has mastered all requirements for that course.
- **Credit:** Courses count for both high school and college credit. Articulated credit does not normally transfer from one college to another.
- **Course Costs:** There is no cost for articulated credits.
- **Course Location:** Allendale High School.

## Dual Enrollment

This option allows students to take up to 10 college courses at a discounted rate, while they are still in high school. Students are not allowed to take courses currently offered at the high school, unless they first complete the high school's equivalent course. Student cannot dual enroll in physical education, hobby, recreation, or religion courses.

- **Qualifications:** To be eligible to take a dual enrollment course, students must have a minimum GPA and a qualifying score on the ACT, Plan, PSAT, Explore tests, or on the Michigan Merit Exam (MME).
- **Course Costs:** The district will pay for the portion of tuition and fees that is equal to the appropriate percentage of the state foundation allowance for the student. Cost will vary depending on the college the student attends. More expensive colleges will cost the student more out-of-pocket money.
- **Course Location:** College campus or online.
- **Transportation:** Provided by students.