Two Types of Dual Credit in Minnesota

The Minnesota Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) Act provides for two distinct types of dual-credit opportunities for high school students.

1. College in the Schools (CIS)

- Students take college courses at their high school (often referred to as Concurrent Enrollment).
- Free to students
- Schools contract directly with post-secondary institutions
- Courses taught by high school instructors who have been selected and prepared by University faculty
- Credit transfers to most other post-secondary institutions

2. Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

- Students take college courses on the college campus or online.
- Free to students
- Percentage of schools’ per-pupil state formula pays post-secondary institutions
- Classes taught by University faculty
- Credit transfers to most other post-secondary institutions

The PSEO Act allows advanced high school juniors and seniors to enroll in college courses for dual college and high school credit. The law mandates that post-secondary institutions allow selected high school students to enroll in their on-campus courses, as space allows. The law also allows schools and districts to contract with post-secondary institutions to provide college courses on site at high schools. See Minnesota Statute 124d.09 for the complete PSEO Act.
Pre-College Programs 2018-19 Highlights

- **NACEP Accreditation**
  College in the Schools received reaccreditation from the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnership (NACEP), valid through the 2025–26 academic year.

- **Statewide Leadership**
  Jan Erickson and Scott Coenen were elected to serve on the Minnesota Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (MnCEP) Board of Directors. Jan will serve as president in 2019–20.

- **Completed Review of Instructor Qualifications**
  College in the Schools and partnering U of M departments completed their initial review of CIS instructor qualifications to meet the needs of the Higher Learning Commission.

- **PSEO Next Steps Module**
  PSEO high school seniors now complete our PSEO Next Steps Canvas module to provide them with information on applying to U of M and other colleges, exploring majors/careers, and outlining the next steps if they decide to attend the U of M.

- **CIS Student Enrollment System and Database Replacement**
  College in the Schools selected and began working with a vendor to customize a web-based tool to improve student registration and support partnership processes. Efficiencies are already being seen in 2019–20.

- **CIS: An Orientation to Student Success**
  CIS received a microgrant to fund production of a new CIS orientation video. This video helps better orient all of our students to college-level skills and success.

Meet Your Pre-College Programs Team
Scott Coenen, Director, Pre-College Programs
Emily Hanson, Program Director, CIS

Kaitlyn Carlson, Student Services Systems Coordinator, CIS
Ashley Cruz, Office Manager and Events Coordinator, Pre-College Programs
Stephanie Davison, Communications and Events Coordinator, CIS
Jan M. Erickson, Associate Director, CIS
Anja Hovde, Academic Advisor, PSEO
Andrew Kopelman, Academic Advisor, PSEO

Jennifer Koontz, Director of Student Services, CIS
Koleen Knudson, Administrative Services Coordinator, CIS
Molly Olson, Operations Manager, Pre-College Programs
Bonnie Samletzka, Enrollment Services Coordinator, CIS
Coral Thacker, Enrollment Services Operations Support, CIS
College in the Schools at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities is a nationally accredited dual-credit program serving high school students, instructors, and schools by:

- Strengthening and educating our communities throughout the state.
- Expanding access to college rigor for students from diverse backgrounds.
- Supporting excellence in teaching.

Program by the Numbers
In the 2018-19 academic year, College in the Schools served:

- **9,829 participating students**
- Students earned 57,281 credits
- 27% students of color
  (11% not reported; 63% white)*
- 3.215 = average U of M GPA in CIS courses
- 141 high school partners
- 440 CIS instructors
- 583 hours of professional development offered

*Due to rounding, percentages do not add up to 100%

CIS partners with five colleges
- College of Biological Sciences
- College of Education and Human Development
- College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resources
- College of Liberal Arts
- College of Science and Engineering

43 Courses
- 20 courses in World and Classical Languages
- 8 courses in Social Sciences
- 6 courses in Sciences
- 4 courses in English and Communication Studies
- 3 courses in Mathematics
- 2 courses in Education
Scholarly Community for CIS Instructors

College in the Schools energizes instructors by giving them opportunities to network with teaching professionals from around the state, enhancing their pedagogical approach.

“Meeting with our CIS mentor and the other CIS teachers is the greatest professional development that I participate in... this is one of my only opportunities to collaborate with others teaching the same courses I am teaching.”

Instructors actively participate in discipline specific professional development workshops throughout the year led by award-winning distinguished faculty.

“I feel more challenged and stimulated in my work. I am always pushing myself to learn more and be a better teacher because of my affiliation with the U of M.”

Academic Advancement for Students

Students earn valuable high school credit that transfers to most colleges across the nation.

87% of students surveyed were successful in transferring some or all of the U of M credits earned*

Courses give students more confidence in their college and career trajectory.

80% of students surveyed agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “I was more confident about my ability to succeed in college.”*

Success in early rigorous coursework builds momentum toward college graduation.

CIS students took on average 6 credits in 2018-19 while in the program

Outreach for the U of M

Excerpt from U of M Board of Regents Policy Mission Statement on Outreach and Public Service

“To extend, apply, and exchange knowledge between the University and society by applying scholarly expertise to community problems, by helping organizations and individuals respond to their changing environments, and by making the knowledge and resources created and preserved at the University accessible to the citizens of the state, the nation, and the world.”

College in the Schools shares:

- knowledge from the University with 141 high school partners, connecting Minnesota communities throughout the state.
- partnerships with 23 departments across five colleges at the U of M, providing Minnesota schools with current pedagogy from a top research university.

*Statistics taken from the 2018-19 Annual Student Survey. For complete survey results, visit the CIS website at ccaps.umn.edu/college-in-the-schools/accreditation
Post-Secondary Enrollment Options

Program Overview

Overview

- Both part- and full-time students who enhance their high school experience by being immersed into a college environment
- Driven students who commute to campus or take classes online
- 49% of PSEO students remain at the U of M after high school graduation

PSEO Admissions

PSEO admission is highly competitive. Our students come from a variety of educational backgrounds in the public, private, or home school sectors. Applications are accepted February–April. Admissions application review spans April–May for the upcoming academic year, which includes a holistic review of over 1,000 applications.

Prospective Students

Information sessions prepare families for the PSEO admission process.

15 high schools were visited in AY 2018–19

600+ prospective PSEO students and families attended one of two on-campus information sessions

Prospective Students

For the 2018–19 academic year admissions cycle:

- 1,162 completed applications
- 615 (53%) admitted students

Of the admits:

- 3.93 average unweighted high school GPA
- 94% average class rank
- 20% had PSEO credits from another institution
- 3% home school
- 4% private
- 93% public
- 124 high schools represented

480 (78%) of admits were enrolled during the academic year

31% of admits were from the following schools:

Blaine
Eden Prairie
Edina
Homeschool
Mounds View
Park Center
Saint Anthony Village
South
Southwest
Thomas Jefferson
Washburn
Wayzata

PSEO Student Support includes:

- Summer orientation covering essential topics like commuting to campus and class registration
- Assigned full-time academic advisor
- Access to U of M resources
Enrolled Students

- **674** total enrolled students
  (480 new admits + 194 continuing students)
- **41%** students of color
  (Asian 26%; Black 6%; Hispanic 2%; two or more races 7%
  (not included in other counts); 4% did not report ethnicity)
- **31%** juniors
- **69%** seniors
- **146** high schools represented
- **4%** homeschool students
- **51%** of students took greater than 11 credits (full-time)
- **49%** of students took fewer than 12 credits (part-time)
- **12,749** credits taken
  (3,685 courses)
- **10** credits average per semester
- **3.59** average U of M GPA in PSEO courses

**Most popular courses:**

- ECON 1101 · Principles of Microeconomics
- ENGL 1001W · Introduction to Literature
- MATH 1151 · Precalculus II
- MATH 1271 · Calculus I
- MATH 1272 · Calculus II
- PHAR 1002 · Medical Terminology
- PHYS 1301W · Introductory Physics for Science and Engineering I
- POL 1001 · American Democracy in a Changing World
- PSY 1001 · Introduction to Psychology
- WRIT 1301 · University Writing

Between three academic advisors over two semesters,
- **9,009** student email communications and
- **750** student appointments were logged.

Fall 2019 PSEO Students Admitted as Freshman

The PSEO office tracks the number of PSEO students that continue at the U of M Twin Cities for their undergraduate degree.

Of the **484** PSEO 2019 high school graduates:

- **452 (93%)** applied for freshman admission
- **429 (95%)** of those who applied were admitted
- **236 (49%)** of those who were admitted were enrolled by the 10th day of the fall term

**PSEO students consistently report a positive experience.**
**Here’s some feedback from recent students:**

"Becoming familiar with navigating a college environment was vastly beneficial. Understanding the schedule, coursework, and independent responsibility of a college student while still living at home, has made me feel confident about continuing my education at college this coming fall."

"Having to balance my PSEO coursework with my extracurricular activities forced me to become better at time management and develop my study skills. My PSEO advisor and professors helped me develop a better understanding of what was expected of me as a student at the U of M."

"PSEO provided the perfect gateway into college so that nothing came as too much of a shock."

"PSEO has taught much, much more about myself, and what I want to do with my life, than I had ever anticipated. I made lifelong friends, became acquainted with professors, and earned college credits in appropriately challenging courses."

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College in the Schools

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options

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This material is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Stephanie Davison, College in the Schools, University of Minnesota, 107 Armory, 15 Church St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455, 612-625-1855

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