Early and Middle College High Schools

Middle College High Schools are designed to meet the needs of students who may do better in a non-traditional high school setting or are interested in being challenged. These programs provide students with both a high school diploma and up to 60 college credits, which are transferable to most state colleges and universities.

Middle College High School programs may be career focused and usually are located on a college campus. These programs are created through a community collaboration between a intermediate or local school district and a community college.

Enrollment in these schools can begin as early as ninth grade with college classes beginning as early as tenth grade. Early/Middle College High Schools have several locations in Michigan.

For a list of Early/Middle College High Schools in Michigan, visit www.michigan.gov/highschool.

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

The International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma program is offered to students aged 16 to 19 who attend an IB-designated school. IB programs offer students a demanding two-year curriculum measured by international assessments and widely accepted as college credit by colleges and universities.

- **Qualifications:** All students in an IB school qualify.
- **Course Costs:** While course costs are generally covered by the school district, the costs associated with required assessments may or may not be covered.
- **Course Location:** High School.

For a list of IB schools in Michigan, visit http://www.ibo.org.

Earning College Credit in High School

You don’t have to be a genius to act like one!

The choice is up to you!
The choices you make right now will have a dramatic impact on your future. As a Michigan student, you may have an opportunity to experience college while you’re in high school. In fact, by choosing this option you could earn high school credit, college credit, or both.

Finding out about early college credit opportunities is not rocket science. But taking college courses and earning REAL college credits in high school is pure genius.

Regardless of where you are in high school, these classes could be right for you. They are for all students who want to move their future into the fast lane towards a lifetime of success. In fact, just as world class athletes continue to break records, studies show that the more you’re challenged the more you learn and the farther you go.

Yes! All students are eligible for all early college credit opportunities. However, some courses may have prerequisites. Because early college credit opportunities differ from district to district, check with your high school guidance counselor to see which options your school offers.

Career Technical Education (CTE)
Career Technical Education programs provide students with a great way to explore a variety of careers and potentially earn college credit while in high school. Students usually begin a two-year program in their junior year; however the length of the program can vary. Most CTE students split their time between high school and either a career in a technical education center or a community college.

Because these programs are aligned to both high school and college courses, CTE offers students a seamless transition between high school, career technical education programs, and college.

- **Qualifications:** All students are eligible to apply.
- **Credit:** Courses can count for high school credit, college credit, or both, depending on the program.
- **Course Costs:** Most or all costs are covered by district.
- **Course Location:** Split time between high school, career center, or community college.
- **Transportation:** May be provided by the district.

Advanced Placement (AP)
Advanced Placement (AP) courses provide students with the opportunity to take college level courses right at high school that are taught by high school teachers.

The course offerings and requirements for these programs may differ from district to district, so check with your counselor.

- **Qualifications:** Schools may require you to complete a lower level course in the same subject.
- **Credit:** Courses can count as high school credit and college credit. To earn college credit in an AP course, you will need to earn a minimum score of 3 (out of 5) on an AP college credit test.
- **Course Costs:** Costs for these programs may differ from district to district. AP tuition costs are generally covered by districts. However, if you wish to take the test for college credit there usually is a cost, except for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.
- **Course Location:** High School.

Direct College Credit
Direct College Credit courses provide students with the opportunity to take college level courses at high school and are generally taught by college faculty.

- **Qualifications:** Most high schools may require you to apply for, and test into, college level courses.
- **Credit:** Courses can count for high school credit and college credit.
- **Course Costs:** Direct College Credit courses are really college courses offered at the high school. Therefore, you probably will need to pay either a full or reduced credit fee.
- **Course Location:** High School.

Dual Enrollment Courses
This option allows juniors and seniors in high school to take classes in high school and one or more college level classes at a college campus or online. These are generally courses not offered at your high school or that can not fit into your schedule.