
Early College Program FAQ

General Information

1. What is the Early College Program?

The Early College Program consists of academic and career preparation opportunities for high school students to earn college and high school credit simultaneously by enrolling in college courses at any of the local institutions with which the School District of Manatee County has an articulation agreement.

2. With which local institutions does the School District of Manatee County have an articulation agreement and what Early College options are offered?

| Institution | Program |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| University of South Florida (USF) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dual Enrollment• Early Admission |
| State College of Florida (SCF) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dual Enrollment• Early Admission• Accelerated Dual Enrollment (ADE)• Career Dual Enrollment• Career Early Admission |
| Manatee Technical College (MTC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part-time Career Dual Enrollment programs• Full-time Career Dual Enrollment programs |

See the MTC, USF and/or SCF articulation agreement(s) for program details and eligibility requirements. Contact MTC for more information on their programs and eligibility requirements.

3. Where can students take early college courses?

Any early college courses taken through SCF can only be taken on the SCF campus or through a SCF online course.

Students can take certain USF courses on the high school campus. Check with your School Counselor to find out which courses are offered at your school.

Students can also take USF courses on the USF campus or through a USF online course.

4. Can a student enroll in multiple colleges at the same time?

- Students who wish to be full-time (12-15 credit hours), must meet the Early Admission criteria and may only enroll in one school.
- If a student does not meet the criteria for early admission, he or she may co-enroll in up to 11 hours in a combination of 2 of the college options.
- A part-time student at MTC may take up to 6 hours at one of the colleges (USF or SCF).
- A full-time MTC student may not co-enroll with another college.

5. Can students in early college programs continue to take high school courses?

Students enrolled in a *dual enrollment* (part-time dual enrollment) option are co-enrolled with their zoned high school and the college.

An *early admission* (full-time dual enrollment) student may take an elective course on the high school campus if the course is required to participate in an extra-curricular activity.

6. Are there dual enrollment programs only offered at specific high schools?

Yes. Southeast High School offers a Bloomberg Finance dual enrollment program.

7. Can a course be taken for grade forgiveness if a grade of “D” or “F” is earned?

Yes, a student can retake a course for grade forgiveness.

For USF, courses can be taken for grade forgiveness during the summer term only. The course is taken at the student’s expense (tuition and books).

For SCF, the course is taken through College Enrichment. The course is taken at the student’s expense (tuition and books) and cannot be taken simultaneously with other dual enrollment courses.

Admissions Information

8. Can any student participate in an early college option?

Any high school student who meets the qualifying criteria for his or her program of choice may enroll in an early college program. Qualifying criteria includes prior course history, GPA and test scores. See the USF and/or SCF articulation agreement(s) for program details and eligibility requirements.

9. Does a student have to meet the minimum score for all three sections of the assessment (reading, writing and math) to qualify for Early admission at USF and/or SCF?

USF and SCF have different qualifying criteria. See the information below for each institution.

USF

SAT: overall 1300, with at least 580 in Critical Reading and 580 in Mathematics

ACT: composite score of 29 with no less than a score of 29 English

NOTE: USF does not accept PERT scores for early admission

SCF

SAT: Eng-24, Reading-24, and/or Math-27

ACT: Eng-17, Reading-19, and/or Math-20

PERT: Eng-103, Reading-106, and/or Math-123

**Please note math scores above meet the minimum college-level math requirement—higher scores are required for upper level math courses.*

10. Does a student have to meet the minimum score for all three sections of the assessment (reading, writing and math) to qualify for dual enrollment at USF and/or SCF?

No. A student can qualify for dual enrollment based on just math or Eng./reading test scores, but this will limit the options for courses.

11. What are the application deadlines?

While the college websites may have different deadlines listed, students **must** submit all required documents by the following dates:

For Fall semester: May 15th

For Spring semester: December 1st

Please check with your school counselor for the USF Early Admissions application deadline as it may change from year-to-year.

Contact Information

12. Who do I contact with questions?

If a student or parent has questions about any of the early college programs, the application process, enrollment procedures, etc. he or she should first check the high school and/or the college website(s). If answers cannot be found there, contact the student's school counselor. If there is still no resolution, email questions to dualenrollmenthelp@manateeschools.net.

A student or parent should never contact the college unless instructed to do so.

13. Who should advise the student regarding the correct college courses he or she should take?

The high school counselor will advise the student as to which college course(s) will meet high school graduation requirements.

If a student needs advisement regarding the college course pathway that best meets his or her future plans, a college adviser should be contacted. Advisement information can be found on the college websites.