

## **PULASKI HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH OPTIONS PROGRAM**

The Youth Options program allows all public high school juniors and seniors who meet certain requirements to take postsecondary courses at a Wisconsin technical college or institution of higher education. An institution of higher education (IHE) includes the UW System institutions, tribally controlled colleges and private, nonprofit institutions.

The program opens the door to greater learning opportunities for students who are considering a technical career, students wishing to begin college early, or students who want to prepare to enter the workforce immediately after high school graduation.

The student does not have to pay for a postsecondary course if the school board determines the course may receive high school credit and the course is not comparable to a course offered in the school district. If approved by the Principal, the student will receive both high school and postsecondary credit for a successfully completed course. The high school will grant a diploma to a student who has successfully completed high school graduation standards, regardless of whether the requirements were met at the high school or a postsecondary institution.

### **Eligibility For Participation**

To be eligible to participate in the Youth Options program, a student must:

- I. Meet with their school counselor to discuss what IHE or TC courses they want to enroll in.
- II. Have completed the 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
- III. In order to attend a technical college, be in good academic standing with a 2.0 GPA, record of passing all courses in the semester preceding Youth Options enrollment, and no record of disciplinary problems.
- IV. In order to attend an IHE, meet the IHE admission requirements.
- V. Complete DPI form PI-8700 indicating their intention to enroll in the postsecondary class(es) no later than March 1 for coursework to be taken in the fall semester and no later than October 1 for coursework to be taken in the spring semester.
- VI. Apply to the college or technical college in the school semester prior to the one in which s/he plans to attend the postsecondary course.
- VII. Notify the school counselor when admitted to the college.
- VIII. Notify the school counselor when registered to attend a postsecondary course.

### **Determining High School Credit- Comparability**

The high school principal or designee shall determine whether a postsecondary course is eligible for high school credit, how much high school credit may be awarded, and whether the course is comparable to a course offered in the school district. Generally, a 1-2 credit post secondary course will be awarded .5 PHS credit and a 3-5 credit post secondary course will be awarded 1.0 PHS credit.

## **Payment Of Tuition & Fees**

The school board must pay an IHE or TC for any course that is taken for high school credit that is not comparable to a course offered in the school district.

The payment to a private IHE will be as determined by state statute.

The student must pay for any postsecondary course taken at an IHE or TC that is comparable to a course offered at the school district. The student must pay for a postsecondary course taken at an IHE or technical college for postsecondary credit only.

The school district will pay for up to a total of 18 postsecondary credits per student over the 2 year eligibility period through the Youth Options program.

If a student receives a failing grade or fails to complete (drops) a course for which the school district has made payment through the Youth Options program, the school board will require reimbursement for all costs related to the course. Reimbursement will be required from the student if s/he is an adult or from the student's parent or guardian.

Students who fail to provide reimbursement for a dropped or failed course as described above are not eligible for future opportunities in the Youth Options program.

The school board may refuse to permit a student with a disability who received special education services through an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to attend a technical college if the cost would impose an undue financial burden on the school district.

## **Transportation**

Parents or students are responsible for the transportation between the school and the college.

Transportation assistance is available from the DPI for families eligible for free/reduced lunch under the federal school lunch program. Transportation costs may only be reimbursed if the student is taking a postsecondary course for which a comparable course is not offered at the school district. Claims for transportation reimbursement are available from the DPI and must be submitted to the DPI no later than 30 days after the end of the college semester to which the claim pertains.

## **COURSE OPTIONS PROGRAM**

Course Options provides a means for Wisconsin students to take courses offered by other Wisconsin school districts, but also includes the opportunity for students to enroll in courses offered by charter schools, various institutions of higher education, and approved nonprofit organizations at no cost to the student. Course Options paperwork must be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to the start of the requested course. Students should see their school counselor if interested in this program.