

Educational Opportunities for High School Students

St. Johns County high schools offer various options for academic acceleration. These options include both challenging academic programs recognized worldwide and advanced courses for which college credit is awarded upon successful completion of coursework and examinations.

As students develop their customized learning path (CLP) with their parents and guidance counselors, they are encouraged to consider the following opportunities for acceleration.

Dual Enrollment and Early Admission

Dual enrollment allows eligible high school students to enroll in postsecondary courses. They earn credit toward high school graduation and at the same time earn credit toward a college degree or technical certificate. All 28 public community colleges and some of the state universities in Florida participate in dual enrollment. Students are permitted to enroll in dual enrollment courses on a part-time basis during school hours, after school or during the summer term.

Early admission is similar to dual-enrollment, except that students enroll in college/university course full-time. They earn credits simultaneously toward a college degree and a high school diploma.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

The College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) Program is a nationwide program consisting of more than 30 college level courses and exams offered at participating high schools. Subjects range from art to statistics. Students who earn a qualifying grade of 3 or above on an AP exam can earn college credit or advanced placement or both, depending on the college or university.

Florida Virtual School Courses

Florida Virtual School offers high-quality, online high school curriculum, including advanced placement (AP) courses. Florida Virtual School can be a resource for students with limited access to AP offerings in their traditional schools. For information, visit <http://www.flvs.net>

MISSION STATEMENT

The St. Johns County School District will inspire in all students a passion for lifelong learning, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.

International Baccalaureate (IB) Program

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program is a rigorous pre-university course of study leading to internationally standardized tests. The program's comprehensive two-year curriculum allows its graduates to fulfill requirements of many different nations' education systems. Student completing IB courses and exams are eligible for college credit. The award of credit is based on scores achieved on IB exams. Students can earn up to 30 postsecondary semester credits by participating in this program at the high school level. For information, visit www.ibo.org.

Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Program

The Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) program is an international curriculum and examination program modeled on the British pre-college curriculum and "A-Level" exams. Florida's public community colleges and universities provide college credit for successfully passed exams. For information, visit www.cie.org.uk and click on "Qualifications and Awards," then "AICE."

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Students with strong content background in a subject area can earn credit through an examination program administered by the college they attend. One such program is the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP). Candidates include students who have completed an AP course, but who did not take or earn a qualifying score on the AP exam. Other students who have taken several high school courses in one particular subject are may wish to take a CLEP exam. For more information on CLEP testing sites and dates, contact the admissions or registrar's office at the postsecondary institution in your area.

All programs listed require Honor status.

SJCSD Criteria for Honors Placement

Norm Referenced Test - Stanine of 7, 8, or 9 on appropriate assessment

Grades - A "B" or better in the previous honors class or an "A" in the previous standard class

Recommendation - By present teacher and /or department chair

FCAT - Level 4 or 5 in appropriate area and not less than a level 3 in any area

- On Mathematics FCAT for placement in honors

mathematics and science classes (must have at least a Level 3 on Reading FCAT)

- On Reading FCAT for placement in honors English, social science, or world languages (must have at least a Level 3 on Mathematics FCAT)

In the case of extenuating circumstances, petition may be made on a case-by-case basis to the principal (or designee) for review of criteria to ensure proper course placement.

Acceleration Programs and Advanced Coursework

Studies show that students who complete a solid academic program in high school, including advanced courses, are more likely to be successful in college. Students in all three graduation programs are encouraged to take advantage of advanced course offerings and acceleration programs such as dual enrollment, early admission, the Advanced Placement Program, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, the Advanced International Certificate of Education Program, and the Florida Virtual School. These programs are available to all qualified students, no matter which graduation option they choose. For additional information, please contact your child's school counselor.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Acceleration Mechanisms:

Educational Opportunities for High School Students

- Dual Enrollment Courses
- Advanced Placement Courses
- Florida Virtual School Courses
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Program Courses
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Program Courses

