

EARLY ENTRY

Fact Sheet

NDSU

OFFICE OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING
DISTANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Office of Teaching and Learning at North Dakota State University (NDSU) offers early-entry classes and pathways guides for high-school students. To ensure all potential early-entry students receive accurate information about the program, we developed this fact sheet to assist administrators, instructors, and staff in speaking about the program.

Here is a list of facts for you to reference when speaking about the Early-Entry Program at NDSU.

What is Early Entry & Dual Credit?

EARLY ENTRY: Students in early entry earn college credit for the 100 & 200-level classes they take. They do not need to have a high-school diploma or administrator approval to apply for this program.

DUAL CREDIT: Students in dual credit earn both college and high-school credit upon approval of their school administrator. Students who want to earn dual credit will work closely with their school counselor to determine appropriate 100 & 200-level classes. All early-entry classes can be approved for dual credit.

* This program is NOT the same as early admission.

Who is Eligible?

Current public, private or homeschool students who are enrolled in grades 10, 11, and 12. A GPA of 3.0 or higher is recommended. Students from any state or country are eligible.

What Do These Classes Cost?

For domestic students, both early-entry and dual-credit classes have a discounted tuition rate that is set by the North Dakota state legislature. The 2023-24 & 2024-25 academic year tuition is set at \$153.96 per credit including tuition and fees. International students will pay the North Dakota in-state tuition rate.

Because early-entry students do not pay full student fees, they have to pay separately to use the wellness center, get student tickets to sporting events, or check-out materials from the campus library.

Is There Tuition Assistance Available?

Early-entry and dual-credit classes are not eligible for use on federal financial aid, as a result there are families who cannot afford the tuition for these classes. To help break through this barrier, the Office of Teaching and Learning offers an upfront scholarship available upon enrollment in a class and is renewable for a full academic year (while funds are available).

Children of NDSU employees may use their tuition discount on these courses.

Why Do High-School Students Take These Courses?

Many advanced and gifted high-school students choose to take these courses to continue learning and challenging themselves in a subject area of interest. This is known as academic acceleration. Learn why acceleration is important at www.accelerationinstitute.org/educators.aspx.

There are many other reasons students choose to take early-entry classes but some main reasons include to maintain good study habits during the summer or their last semester of school, to save money on tuition, to get a head start on their degree program, and to get to know NDSU instructors and systems.

What Are Early-Entry Pathways Guides?

Early-entry pathways guides are a curated list of online classes that apply toward general education requirements and specific degree programs. These pathways guides are useful for students who want to ensure the classes they take will apply to their general education requirements or to their chosen program of study.

How Do Students Apply?

Interested students use NDSU's FREE application for admission form. In that form they need to ensure they select the "early-entry" option.

For more information or assistance, contact:

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www.ndsu.edu/dce/k12_students/early_entry/