

## Frequently Asked Questions

- Q.** Does the Youth Options Program apply to courses offered during the evenings or on weekends?
- A.** Yes. The student may take a postsecondary course during or after regular school hours as long as the course is offered during the high school's regular academic year, i.e., not during the summer session or J-term.
- Q.** How many postsecondary YOP courses can the student take?
- A.** The student is limited to 18 postsecondary credits (4-1/2 high school credits) in total during their junior and senior years.
- Q.** Can the student attend a postsecondary institution in lieu of the high school?
- A.** Yes. If the postsecondary institutions offer all the courses the student needs in order to meet the high school graduation requirements.
- Q.** How many postsecondary semester credits equal one high school credit?
- A.** Four postsecondary semester credits equal one high school credit.
- Q.** Are all postsecondary Youth Option courses ranked as high school honors courses?
- A.** Most postsecondary courses are ranked as honors courses with the exception of physical education courses and many technical college courses.
- Q.** Can the student take an Adult High School course, a continuing education non-credit course, or a non-credit course through the Youth Option Program?
- A.** No. Only credited postsecondary courses that are non-comparable to high school courses qualify for this program.

## Transportation

The parent/guardian or student is responsible for transportation between the high school and the postsecondary institution. Transportation assistance is available from DPI for the student who is eligible for free/reduced-price meals under the federal school lunch program. The specific criteria are listed on the reverse side of the Program Plan & Report Form (PT-8700A).

Transportation costs may only be reimbursed if the student is taking a postsecondary course for high school credit. The student is asked to keep a transportation log of the dates and mileage between the high school and the postsecondary institution.

The Transportation Reimbursement Claim Form (PI-8701) is available from the student's high school guidance office, from DPI, or from the web address listed below. The reimbursement form must be submitted to DPI no later than 30 days after the completion of the postsecondary institution's semester to which the claim pertains.

The school district is not responsible for transportation, nor any problems incurred between the high school and the postsecondary institution.

## For More Information

For more information, contact the student's high school counselor; the local college, technical college, or university YOP admissions representative.

### Wisconsin DPI

Kevin Miller • [kevin.miller@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:kevin.miller@dpi.wi.gov)  
608-267-3161 or 800-441-4563  
[dpi.wi.gov/youthoptions/index.html](http://dpi.wi.gov/youthoptions/index.html)

### Gateway Technical College

Jane Finkenbine  
262-767-5404 • [www.gtc.edu](http://www.gtc.edu)  
[finkenbinej@gtc.edu](mailto:finkenbinej@gtc.edu)

### Carthage College

Ben Gorres  
262-552-5518 • [www.carthage.edu](http://www.carthage.edu)  
[bgorres@carthage.edu](mailto:bgorres@carthage.edu)

### University of Wisconsin-Parkside

Courtney Payne  
262-595-2318 • [www.uwp.edu](http://www.uwp.edu)  
[paynec@uwp.edu](mailto:paynec@uwp.edu)

### Kenosha Unified School District

Office of Career and Technical Education  
262-359-6304

[www.kusd.edu/departments/career-and-technical-education/youth-options](http://www.kusd.edu/departments/career-and-technical-education/youth-options)



**Kenosha Unified  
School District**

The Kenosha Unified School District No. 1 is an Equal Opportunity Educator/Employer with established policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability or handicap, sexual orientation or employment in the District. The Superintendent of Schools (262-359-6320) addresses questions regarding student discrimination, and the Executive Director of Human Resources (262-359-6333) answers questions concerning staff discrimination. Revised: August 2014.

# Youth Options Program

for  
High School  
Juniors and Seniors



## Youth Options Program

The Youth Options Program (YOP) allows Wisconsin public high school juniors and seniors who meet certain requirements to take postsecondary courses at a Wisconsin Technical College System school, a University of Wisconsin System school, tribally controlled colleges, private, nonprofit institutions, or other accredited institutions of higher education.

This program provides learning opportunities for students who are considering a technical career, wish to begin college early, and/or want to prepare to enter the workforce immediately after high school graduation.

The student does not pay for books and tuition if the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) Board of Education (Board) determines that the course may receive high school credit and that the course is not comparable to a course offered within the school district.

If the course is approved, the student will receive both postsecondary and high school credits for a successfully completed course. A four-credit postsecondary course is equivalent to one high school credit. The public high school grants a diploma to a student who has successfully completed the high school graduation requirements regardless of where the course was held.

## Forms Students Need

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Youth Options Program Plan & Report Form (PT-8700A), is used to notify the Board of the student's intent to participate in the YOP.

This application form may be obtained from the student's high school counselor or the KUSD Website: [www.kusd.edu/departments/career-and-technical-education/youth-options](http://www.kusd.edu/departments/career-and-technical-education/youth-options). The student returns the completed application form to his/her high school counselor. The counselor send the application to the Office of Career and Technical Education.

After reviewing and approving the form, the Office of Career and Technical Education sends it to the postsecondary institution. Upon receiving the form, the postsecondary institution contacts the parent/guardian or student regarding the application, registration, and orientation procedures.



## Student Eligibility and Parental Responsibilities

Juniors and seniors enrolled in and attending Wisconsin public high schools may be eligible for this program. To qualify, the student must:

- Complete the 10th grade.
- Be in good academic standing and have an acceptable disciplinary record to attend a technical college.
- Apply to the postsecondary institution in the school semester prior to the one in which the student plans to take the postsecondary course.
- Notify the School Board through the high school counselor of the intent to enroll in an institution of higher education or a technical college under the YOP, i.e. return the completed Program Plan and Report Form (PT-8700A) to the high school counselor prior to the application deadlines.
- Return all YOP textbooks to home school upon completion of the course.

The student is not eligible for this program if the student is at risk per state definition. If the student receives a failing grade or drops a course for which the School Board has made payment, the Board shall request reimbursement for all costs related to the course. Failure to provide the requested reimbursement makes the student ineligible for the YOP.

The student who is a senior shall be eligible for participation in this program for no more than two consecutive semesters after attaining senior status.

The parent/guardian is responsible for the student's satisfactory attendance and compliance with the compulsory school attendance law s.118.15(1)(a), Stats.

## Students with Disabilities

The student with a disability is encouraged to participate in the YOP. The Board, however, may refuse to permit a student with a disability to attend a technical college if the cost would impose an undue financial burden on the District as stated in Wisconsin Statute Section 118.55(7r).

## Payment of Tuition and Fees

The Board shall pay an institution of higher education or technical college for any YOP course that is taken for high school credit and is not comparable to a course offered in the District.

All YOP textbooks are the property of the District. The District requires that the student return all textbooks upon completion of the course or purchase them for a minimal fee.

The student shall pay for the following:



- Any postsecondary course taken at an institution of higher education or a technical college that is comparable to a course offered in the District.
- Any postsecondary course that is taken beyond the 18 postsecondary credit (4-1/2 high school credit) maximum.
- Incidental college fees (such as a parking permit).
- Equipment, tools, and supplies that will become the property of the student unless the Board agrees to loan such equipment to the student.
- A postsecondary course that is not approved by the School Board or designee for high school credit.

## Credit/Comparability

The Board or designee shall determine the eligibility of a postsecondary course for high school credit, the amount of high school credit to be awarded, and the comparability of the postsecondary course to the District's high school course. Such decision shall be made consistent with state law requirements.

## Appeals

Any student who wishes to appeal the denial of a Youth Options course should contact the Office of Career and Technical Education at 262-359-6304. If any student wishes to further appeal a decision, they may contact Kevin Miller at the Department of Public Instruction within 30 days.

# Important Deadlines

The student must complete the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Youth Options Program Plan & Report form (PT-8700A) and return it to the high school counselor by:

October 1st for spring semester; March 1st for fall semester.