

HANDBOOK

EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS



About Early College Programs at Coastal

Qualifying high school students can participate in college courses before their high school graduation.

This opportunity allows students to earn high school and college credit at the same time.

NOTE: Participating schools may have different requirements for students.

Participation requirements:

Dual Enrollment Program

- 1. Be a student at a participating school or district
- 2. Be an 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student
- 3. Meet unweighted GPA requirements:
 - a. 2.5 or higher for academic courses
 - b. 2.0 or higher for technical courses
- 4. Complete all admission requirements
 - a. Submit an online application as a dual enrollment student
 - b. Complete a dual approval form with high school counselor
 - c. Submit an unofficial high school transcript
 - d. Submit ACT Scores if required

Accelerated Program

- 1. Completed tenth grade
- 2. Minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.0
- 3. Complete all admission requirements
 - e. Submit an online application as a dual enrollment student
 - f. Complete an Accelerated Recommendation form with a high school contact
 - g. Submit an unofficial high school transcript
 - h. Submit ACT Scores if required

As a Coastal Alabama student, you have access to all that the college has to offer:

- Advising and counseling
- Tutoring services through Success Coaching
- Student activities, organizations, and athletic events
- Campus amenities

Tuition

Coastal Alabama's standard tuition and fee rate can be found on our website at https://www.coastalalabama.edu/admissions-aid/financial-aid/tuition/

Tuition costs are subject to change annually.

Scholarship funding for tuition, fees, and books are available each term for the Dual Enrollment program.

What will be covered each term is determined by annual funding from the Alabama Legislature.

NOTE: Scholarship funding will not cover lab kits for online science courses.

Academic Courses

Core Content Areas

Dual enrollment course equivalencies for core content areas are determined by individual educational institutions and the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE). The table below is a general equivalency and is <u>subject to individual school requirements</u>. In some cases, a student may have to take two dual enrollment courses. For example, to earn credit for 11th grade English, a high school student may need to complete English Composition I (ENG 101) and English Composition II (ENG 102). Academic courses may be taken seated on a Coastal campus, online, or on high school campuses during the school day (where available).

High School Course	College Course Title	College Course	College Credit Hours	High School Credits	Grade Level Equivalency	
US History I	US History I	HIS 201	3	1	10 th	
US History II	US History II	HIS 202	3	1	11 th	
English 11 or 12	English Composition I	ENG 101	3	.5 / 1	11 th or 12 th	
English 11 or 12	English Composition II	ENG 102	3	.5 / 1	11 th or 12 th	
Science	Principles of Biology I	BIO 103	4	1	11 th or 12 th	
Science	Principles Biology II	BIO 104	4	1	11 th or 12 th	
Science	Physical Science	PHS 111	4	1	11 th or 12 th	
Foreign Language	Introductory Spanish I*	SPA 101	4	1	11 th or 12 th	
Foreign Language	Introductory French I*	FRN 101	4	1	11 th or 12 th	
Math	Intermediate College Algebra	MTH 100	3	.5 / 1	11 th or 12 th	
Math	Finite Mathematics	MTH 110	3	.5 / 1	11 th or 12 th	
Math	Precalculus Algebra	MTH 112	3	.5 / 1	11 th or 12 th	
Math	Precalculus Trigonometry	MTH 113	3	.5 / 1	11 th or 12 th	

Math	Calculus I	MTH 125	4	1	12 th
Math	Calculus II	MTH 126	4	1	12 th
Math	Elementary Statistics	MTH 265	3	1	12 th
Science	College Chemistry I	CHEM 111	4	1	12 th
Science	College Chemistry II	CHEM 112	4	1	12 th
Science	General Physics with Cal	PHY 213	4	1	12 th
Government	American National Government	POL 211	3	.5	12 th
Economics	Principles of Microeconomics	ECO 232	3	.5	12 th
English 12	World Literature I	ENG 271	3	.5 / 1	12 th
English 12	World Literature II	ENG 272	3	.5 / 1	12 th

^{*}Foreign Language courses are not available online.

Electives

Elective courses are also determined by individual educational institutions and the ALSDE. The table below shows examples of general electives and is **subject to individual school requirements**. Additional electives are available. See the college catalog for more information.

College Course Title	College Course	College Credit Hours	High School Credits
Fundamentals of Public Speaking	SPH 107	3	1
Art Appreciation	ART 100	3	1
Music Appreciation	MUS 101	3	1
General Psychology	PSY 200	3	1
Human Growth and Development	PSY 210	3	1
Introduction to Philosophy	PHL 106	3	1
Introduction to Sociology	SOC 200	3	1
History of World Religions	REL 100	3	1

Placement Testing

Students wishing to take a Math or English course may take the ACCUPLACER in lieu of ACT / high school course requirements. This test is available both in-person and remote. There is no charge the first-time students take the ACCUPLACER test. However, there is a \$25 retest fee if a student wishes to challenge their test. Students must schedule a retest date any time after a short waiting period following their original test. However, students are limited to take the test only twice during their tenure at Coastal Alabama. All placement test results are valid for five years from the original or retest date.

For more information, visit our placement testing page: https://www.coastalalabama.edu/admissions-aid/placement-testing/

Online Academic Courses

Online academic courses require students have a high standard of personal accountability and motivation. In addition to having access to a computer at home, students will need to obtain the following items:

- Government issued photo ID (or Coastal student ID)
- Working web camera and microphone
- Stable internet connection
- Browser requirements exist for some course content and required resources

Computer Access

Online programs will require students to have their own computer or laptop.

Proctored exams and quizzes must be taken in an empty room without distractions and background noise. Due to these environmental testing requirements, students should plan to take proctored exams and quizzes at home.

Assignments and Lectures

Students will access online coursework and learning resources (videos, presentations, reading materials) through their "Canvas" tile in the Coyote Hub. To learn more about Canvas, please review your **Early College Student Guide**, available on the Forms and Resources page of the Early college website.

https://www.coastalalabama.edu/academics/early-college-programs/college-early-program-forms

Technical Programs

Online Technical Programs

Dual enrollment in high-wage, high-demand technical programs are funded by the state of Alabama. We have included a list of online technical programs below. Descriptions for each program begin on Page 8.

Not all students may participate in online programs, please see your high school counselor for district policies on approved technical programs.

Online Technical Program	Credit Hours		
Administrative Office / Medical Office Technology	24		
Administrative Legal Office Specialist	24		
Child Development	9		
Computer Software Specialist	18		
Engineering Graphics and Design	6		
Paralegal (3 certifications available)	9 (for each cert.)		

Computer Access

Online programs will require students to have their own computer or laptop. Programs that require advanced computer software, such as Computer Application Specialist or Engineering Graphics and Design, may not work with Chrome Books. We recommend either a PC or MacBook to complete assignments for those programs.

Proctored exams and quizzes must be taken in an empty room without distractions and background noise. Due to these environmental testing requirements, students should plan to take proctored exams and quizzes at home.

Assignments and Lectures

Students will access online coursework and learning resources (videos, presentations, reading materials) through their "Canvas" tile in the Coyote Hub. To learn more about Canvas, please review your **Early College Student Guide**, available on the Forms and Resources page of the Early college website.

https://www.coastalalabama.edu/academics/early-college-programs/college-early-program-forms

In-Person Technical Programs by Location

All seated technical programs are offered fall and spring semesters. Certain programs offer courses after school and in the summer. Course offered in the evening and in the summer are eligible for grant funding. Please see program availability below.

		Availability			
Location	Program(s)	During School	After School	Summer Semester	
	Machine Tool Technology		School	Semester	
Atmore	HVAC	√	√	√	
	Welding	√	√	√	
Bay Minette	Applied and Computer Science Programs	√	✓	√	
	Emergency Medical Technician		✓	√	
Fairhope	Advanced Emergency Medical Technician		✓	√	
ганноре	3D Animation and Virtual Production	✓	✓		
	Graphic Design	✓	✓		
Fairhope	Industrial Maintenance/Millwright Technology	✓	√	√	
Academy	Welding	✓	✓		
Foley	Marine Industry Technology	✓		✓	
Technical Center	Building Maintenance Technology	√		✓	
Gulf Shores	Culinary Arts / Hospitality and Tourism	√	√	√	
Monroeville	Welding	√	✓	✓	
	Industrial Maintenance/Millwright Technology	√	✓	√	
Thomasville	Welding	✓	√	√	
	Machine Tool Technology	✓	√	√	
	Pipefitting	√	√	√	
Gilbertown	Industrial Maintenance	√	√	√	

Technical Certificate Program Descriptions

The wage information comes from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, May 2019 survey.

These are career programs designed for students to go directly into the labor market upon completion. Although some of the courses in these programs will transfer to four-year institutions, these programs are not designed to be transfer programs of study; therefore, are not subject to the terms and conditions of STARS. Specific course information can be found in the <u>college catalog</u>, which can be found on the website under *Admissions and Aid*.

Administrative Legal Office Specialist

Total Credit Hours: 24 Credit Hours

Available fully online or Bay Minette / Brewton / Thomasville Campuses Median Income for Legal Office Assistants in Mobile, Alabama: \$35,720

Administrative Medical Office Technology

Total Credit Hours: 24 Credit Hours

Available fully online or Bay Minette / Brewton / Thomasville Campuses Median Income for Administrative Assistants in Mobile, Alabama: \$35,720

Administrative Office Technology

Total Credit Hours: 24 Credit Hours

Available fully online or Bay Minette / Thomasville Campuses

Median Income for Administrative Assistants in Mobile, Alabama: \$35,720

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

Total Credit Hours: 9 Credit Hours

Available at the Fairhope Campus, must have completed Emergency Medical Tech.

Median Income for Paramedics in Mobile, Alabama: \$33,500

Programs and coursework in Nursing and Allied Health have specific requirements for students. See an advisor for specific requirements for these courses.

Basic Automotive Technology

Total Credit Hours: 12 Credit Hours

Available for Baldwin County or Escambia County Public Schools only

Median Income for Automotive Service Technicians in Mobile, Alabama: \$39,410

Basic Industrial Maintenance Technology

Total Credit Hours: 18 Credit Hours

Available at the Fairhope Academy, Gilbertown, and Thomasville Campuses

Median Income for Millwrights in Mobile, Alabama: \$54,260

Building Construction Technology

Total Credit Hours: 24 Credit Hours

Available for Baldwin County, Escambia County and Washington County public school students only

Median Income for Construction Laborers in Mobile, Alabama: \$31,500

Building Maintenance Technology

Total Credit Hours: 27 Credit Hours

Available at the Foley Technical Center (and Monroe County Tech Center for Monroe County students)

Median Income for Maintenance and Repair Workers in Mobile, Alabama: \$39,080

Child Development

Total Credit Hours: 9 Credit Hours

Available fully online – In person courses available for Baldwin County and Washington County public school students only

Median Income for Childcare Workers in Mobile, Alabama: \$18,230

Computer Software Specialist

Total Credit Hours: 18 Credit Hours

Available online or on the Thomasville Campus

Median Income for Computer User Support Specialists in Mobile, Alabama: \$43,550

Emergency Medical Technician

Total Credit Hours: 10 Credit Hours

Available on the Atmore, Bay Minette, Brewton, Brookley Field, Fairhope and Monroeville Campuses. All students must attend at least one course session in Fairhope.

Median Income for Paramedics in Mobile, Alabama: \$33,500

Programs and coursework in Nursing and Allied Health have specific requirements for students. See an advisor for specific requirements for these courses.

HVAC – Basic Technology

Total Credit Hours: 15 Credit Hours

Available on the Atmore Campus (and Baldwin Preparatory Academy for Baldwin County Students)

Median Income for Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers in Mobile,

Alabama: *\$42,760*

HVAC – Advanced Technology

Total Credit Hours: 12 Credit Hours

Available on the Atmore Campus (and Baldwin Preparatory Academy for Baldwin County Students). Must have completed HVAC Basic Technology

Median Income for Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers in Mobile,

Alabama: \$42,760

Industrial Maintenance/Millwright Technology

Total Credit Hours: 27 Credit Hours

Available at the Gilbertown and Thomasville Campuses, and the Fairhope Academy

Median Income for Millwrights in Mobile, Alabama: \$54,260

Machine Tool Technology

Total Credit Hours: 27 Credit Hours

Available at the Atmore and Thomasville Campuses

Median Income for Machinist in Mobile, Alabama: \$53,020

Marine Industry Technology

Total Credit Hours: 27 Credit Hours

Available at the Foley Technical Center

Median Income for Motorboat Mechanics and Service Technicians in Mobile, Alabama: \$48,320

Paralegal

Advanced Substantive Law and Legan Analysis certifications require the completion of Basic Substantive Law.

Available fully online or on the Bay Minette Campus

Median income for Paralegals in Alabama: \$52,309

<u>Paralegal: Basic Substantive Law</u> Total Credit Hours: *9 Credit Hours*

Paralegal: Advanced Substantive Law

Total Credit Hours: 9 Credit Hours

Paralegal: Legal Analysis

Total Credit Hours: 9 Credit Hours

Pipefitting

Total Credit Hours: 27 Credit Hours

Available at the Thomasville Campus (and Washington County Career Center for Washington County students only)

Median Income for Pipelayers in Mobile, Alabama: \$49,520

Welding

Median Income for Welders in Mobile, Alabama: \$51,090

Available at the Fairhope Academy and the Atmore, Thomasville, and Monroeville Campuses.

Also available for students at the following high schools/technical centers:

Baldwin Preparatory Academy Clarke County High School Escambia Career Readiness Center Jackson High School

Welding - Basic Plate Welding (STC-WD1)

Total Credit Hours: 15 Credit Hours

Welding - Basic Plate Welding - GMAW/FCAW/SMAW (STC-WD2)

Total Credit Hours: 12 Credit Hours

Welding - Pipe Welding - SMAW Carbon Pipe (STC-WD3)

Total Credit Hours: 9 Credit Hours

Welding - Basic Plate Welding (STC-WD6)

Total Credit Hours: 27 Credit Hours

Credits earned in STC-WD1 and STC-WD2 combined

Welding - Pipe Welding - (STC-WD7)

Total Credit Hours: 27 Credit Hours

Graduation

Completion of a Short-Term Certificate, Full Certificate, or Degree

Upon completion of a certificate or degree, students must **complete an online application for graduation**.

There are **three options** for students:

- Participate in commencement ceremony (Monroeville or Bay Minette campuses). There is a \$25 Graduation fee, and students *must* purchase a cap and gown from the Coastal Bookstore. Cap/Gown sets are \$50.
- 2. Receive an official certificate without participating in commencement. \$25 Graduation fee required.
- 3. Have certificate officially transcripted. There is no fee for this option.

Students who complete a certificate will receive an unofficial certificate and cord for their high school graduation / awards ceremony.

The application for graduation can be found in the Student Access to **OneACCS** tile in the **Coyote Hub**.

Graduation fees, if applicable, are charged to the students' OneACCS account. Students pay online through the Coastal Bookstore for their cap and gown if they choose to participate in a commencement ceremony.

Graduating High School Seniors

Seniors who wish to continue with Coastal Alabama after graduation must submit a new application as a First Time College Student.

To receive an official transcript from Coastal Alabama, graduating high school seniors can request through **the Student Access to OneACCS** tile in the Coyote Hub or from the <u>Registrar's office</u>.

College Credits and Transcripts

College credits are transcripted for all dual enrollment students. A student may receive an official transcript through the registrar's office or OneACCS. Students may view/print an unofficial copy of their transcript through OneACCS.

Textbooks and Coastal Books+



For books and course resources, Coastal Alabama uses Coastal Books+ to ensure students have access to all their course materials on or before the first day of class. This is a service offered through our Bookstore and Barnes and Noble.

For more info and to opt-out, please visit the Coastal Books+ Page

You must have your Coastal log in credentials to access the Books+ portal.

Once you are registered for classes, the bookstore will start preparing your course materials.

- About a month before classes start, you will receive an email IN YOUR COASTAL EMAIL
 instructing you to select your delivery method (in-store pickup or shipped directly to you).
- An email notification will be sent when your order is ready for pickup or when it ships.
- Any digital materials will be delivered for your course(s) within Canvas.

PLEASE NOTE: Not all students are in the Books+ program, if you are not enrolled the Office of Early College will provide your course materials (except for lab kits for online science courses).

NOTE: Online Science Lab Kits can be ordered separately from the Barnes and Noble Bookstore's "Find Course Materials" Page.

Student Accommodations / ADA Services

Coastal Alabama provides services to students with physical, psychological, or learning disabilities. Students in need of accommodations due to a disability should first complete an admissions application and submit all required admission documents. Once a student has been assigned a Coastal student email address and password, the student can then submit an online application for accommodations. **High school IEP / 504 plans are not honored by any postsecondary institution.**

To begin the application process for accommodations, see the Coastal Alabama website: https://www.coastalalabama.edu/student-services/ada-online-services

From the home page, click on Student Services, then select ADA Online Services under the Student Development column. If you have any questions about the application process or ADA accommodations, please contact the ADA Specialist.

Federal Policy - FERPA

The College annually informs students of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. This Act, which the institution fully complies with, was designed to protect the privacy of education records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their education records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal and formal hearings.

Regardless of the student's age, College faculty and staff are not permitted to share personal account information, enrollment history, academic records, course schedules, etc. Parents may receive general information about college policies and procedures from Office of Early College staff and are encouraged to reach out with any questions.

Withdrawal Policy

Students must have permission from their counselor before they withdraw from a college class taken through dual enrollment as it will affect their high school grade.

The last day to withdraw for all dual enrollment classes can be found on the online college calendar.

To withdraw, students must complete the <u>Dual Enrollment Withdrawal Form</u> online through the Registrar's Office by the last day to withdraw for the term. Please email your Early College Advisor or the Director if you need help finding the online withdrawal form.

Students who withdraw from one or more courses must serve a term of ineligibility from the program they are participating in. See Continuing Eligibility Policy below.

Continuing Eligibility Policy

High school students who would like to participate in an Early College program for multiple semesters must earn a C or higher in each current course to continue enrollment into the following semester.

Withdrawals and low grades will affect dual enrollment student Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status when applying for aid as a regular college student. Please see your Early College Advisor or the Director for more information.

Students who fail to meet the minimum grade requirements at the college level or withdraw from a course **become ineligible for the program for a minimum of one term**. The term of ineligibility may be waived only for extenuating circumstances and may not be served during the summer. Students must go through the full application process to re-enroll in the program.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I start an admissions application?

- 1. Visit www.coastalalabama.edu
- 2. Select Apply
- 3. Select Dual Enrollment
- 4. Select Complete online application
- 5. For your application type, select *Dual Enrollment* or *Accelerated* Student.
- 6. Select *Continue* and complete all required fields of the application

Within 3-5 business days, you will receive an email with your student number (A#) and Coastal Alabama email address. Shortly after that they will receive their Claim Code to set up their Alabama.edu account. Students are encouraged to set up their account right away as to not miss out on important announcements. See the Early College Student Guide for more information.

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What email should I use to complete my application?

We encourage you to use a personal email account, not your school provided email. Some school district networks will block communications from the college. Gmail, Yahoo, etc. are preferred.

Where do I turn in my paperwork?

You will need to submit your dual enrollment paperwork to your high school counselor.

When should I turn in my paperwork?

Because students cannot submit their own dual enrollment approval form to the college but must submit their paperwork to their high school counselor, students must contact their high school counselor to determine when their paperwork is due and must meet the submission deadlines set by their high school. High school counselors must submit paperwork to the College by the following dates:

	Priority Deadline	Final Deadline
Fall Courses	April 15	August 1
Spring Courses	October 15	December 1
Summer Courses	March 15	May 1

How will I know when I have been accepted?

Once you complete your online application, you will receive an electronic letter notifying you of conditional acceptance. Within 3-5 business days, you will receive an official acceptance letter **that will include your student number (A#) and Coastal student email**. These will arrive to the personal email you listed on your admissions application.

After your high school counselor has sent your paperwork to the dual enrollment staff, the dual enrollment staff will process your paperwork at the end of the month that it was received. Once your paperwork has been processed, you will be registered for your classes. Students can view their course registration through OneACCS.

Why do I see a balance on my account? I thought Dual Enrollment was free.

Scholarship funding is applied to student accounts after the attendance verification period for the term has been completed. This may take a few weeks, and dual enrollment students will never be dropped for non-payment.

What happens if I must withdraw, or I get a bad grade?

The continuing eligibility policy is outlined previously, but it is also important to note that whatever the outcome, a student will have a bad grade or a "W" on their college transcript. This can affect students in their future college interactions.

For example, failure to make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) or maintain a certain GPA in college courses can affect a student's financial aid status. Students and parents should review financial aid policies in the college catalog or on the website under Admissions and Aid – Financial Aid Overview – Policies.

Financial Aid Policies

Will the courses I am taking transfer?

Please refer to the <u>Alabama Transfers website</u> for information regarding the Alabama state law that guarantees transferability of all academic credits for two-year college students. Generally, academic courses taken at Coastal and transferred to an accredited college within Alabama are accepted and awarded credit.

To have college credits transferred to another college, students must request that an official college transcript be sent through their OneACCS account. Students may view/print their unofficial transcript on OneACCS at any time.

Where can I find more information?

All information and resources can be found on the Early College page of the College website: Early College Programs

Early College Staff Responsibilities

Career Coach/Early College Advisor

Coastal Alabama Community College's career coaches are here to help students through Early College admissions and registration. They can advise students on career and college exploration, policy in higher education, and employment trends.

We recommend students contact their career coach for help with...

- College calendar, policies, and procedures
- Completion of the dual approval form and program agreement
- Course expectations and recommendations (major and career specific)
- Evaluation of transfer credit
- Student resources
- The online application for admission
- Tuition, fees, and books
- Understanding of programs and degrees

Director of Early College Enrollment

The Director is responsible for the overall management of the Early College office and its programs. Additionally, the Director manages agreements between the College and local educational agencies, such as a county public school system.

We recommend students contact the Director for help with...

- Scholarship Information
- Partial or complete withdrawal
- College policies and procedures
- School / District policies and procedures

High School Counselor

The high school counselor is an important resource in the dual enrollment process, as they can help students determine what dual enrollment courses may be best for them and their current graduation plan. Students will need to submit their dual enrollment paperwork directly to their high school counselor, and then after a review of your paperwork and transcript, their high school counselor will submit their dual enrollment paperwork to the career coach.

We recommend students contact their **high school counselor** for help with...

- Determining if a student is eligible for dual enrollment
- Determining what courses students can take in the upcoming school year
- Understanding how to manage dual enrollment and other activities (co-op, etc.)
- Completing a dual approval form
- Submitting dual approval form

Contact Information

Coastal Alabama Community College Staff							
Title	Contact	Phone Number	Email				
Career Coach	Daisy Grant	251-580-2120	margaret.grant@coastalalabama.edu				
Career Coach	Giselle Mansi	251-580-2213	giselle.mansi@coastalalabama.edu				
Career Coach	YoLundra Mitchell	251-809-1511	yolundra.mitchell@coastalalabama.edu				
Career Coach	Leslie Hornady	251-575-8241	leslie.hornady@coastalalabama.edu				
Career Coach	Benita Pritchett	334-637-3143	benita.pritchett@coastalalabama.edu				
Director of Early College Enrollment	Sarah Watkins	251-580-4916	sarah.watkins@coastalalabama.edu				
Office of Early College	Varies		earlycollege@coastalalabama.edu				

Helpful Links:

Bookstore:

https://coastalalabama.bncollege.com/?storeId=76236&catalogId=10001&langId=-1

Placement Testing Page:

https://www.coastalalabama.edu/admissions-aid/placement-testing/

Glossary

Academic Year: Twelve months running from August to July. For example, the 2021-

2022 academic year refers to the time between August 2021 to July

2022.

Admit, Conditional: High school students that meet all Coastal Alabama Community

College's dual enrollment admission requirements are considered "conditionally" admitted, meaning that students accepted to the college under the stipulation that they can only registered for courses

permitted by their high school.

Admit, Unconditional: Any student that meets all the standard admission requirements.

Dual enrollment students cannot be unconditionally accepted as they

are missing an official, final high school transcript.

Accommodations: Supports and services provided at no cost to eligible students with

disabilities to have equal access and opportunity to benefit from

classes, programs, and activities. Examples of reasonable

accommodations include special classroom seating, note-taking

assistance, and extended time for tests.

Associate of Applied

Science:

A technical associate degree (approximately 60 credit hours) used to prepare students to enter the workforce upon completion; once considered terminal degrees, many 4-year universities are now

offered transfer programs to prepare individuals in technical fields for

leadership positions.

Associate of Arts: An academic associate degree (approximately 60 credit hours) meant

to prepare students to transfer to a 4-year college or university to complete a Bachelor of Arts in liberal arts or humanities related

majors.

Associate of Science: An academic associate degree (approximately 60 credit hours) meant

to prepare students to transfer to a 4-year college or university to

complete a Bachelor of Science in STEM related majors.

Certificate: Any program between 30 and 60 credit hours. Short-term certificates

offer a foundational understanding of the work in the field, can generally be completed in less than one year, and allow you to work in a job that requires advanced knowledge no matter if you choose

not to finish course work for a full degree.

Certificate, Short-Term (STC):

Any program between 9 and 29 credit hours (or between three and 10 classes). Short-term certificates offer a foundational understanding of the work in the field, can generally be completed in less than one year, and allow you to work in a job that requires advanced knowledge no matter if you choose not to finish course work for a full degree.

Courses, Academic:

Theory-based courses that is considered broad and versatile. In the community college education system, academic courses are sometimes referred to as general education coursework as the courses are preparing you for major-specific coursework at 4-year institutions. Technical programs may require minimal academic courses.

Courses, Technical:

Skill-based courses that include physical practice, hands-on experience, and application tests. Coursework is highly specific and versatile.

Credit Hour:

Credit hours refer are the approximate number of hours you spend in a classroom every week. This applies only to credit hours for classroom lectures.

Laboratory, fieldwork, and internship credit hours are calculated differently. A minimum of 45 hours per semester constitutes one credit hour.

Drop:

To unenroll from a course before class schedules are final. This results in the course being removed from the student's transcript and prevents the course from impacting future financial aid and college admission eligibility. The final drop dates in typically within the first 2-3 days of class for full semester courses.

Dual Enrollment:

Dual enrollment allows high school students to take college classes while they are still enrolled in high school. These classes count for both high school and college credit. High school students who complete dual enrollment classes generally take fewer classes in college and save money on total college costs.

Register:

To sign up for a course with a specific instructor, time, meeting dates, campus, and instructional method. For dual enrollment students, this process is completed by the career coach.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Federal regulations require all students receiving federal financial aid must make satisfactory academic progress (SAP) toward completion of a degree or certificate. Students receiving an Alabama Student Assistance grant must also make satisfactory academic progress toward completion of a degree or certificate.

Withdrawals and low grades will affect dual enrollment student SAP status when applying for aid. For more information on SAP, visit our Financial Aid site under *Admissions and Aid*.

Financial Aid Policies

Semester: Eighteen weeks of academic instruction. For the summer semester (9

 $-\,10$ weeks), courses are taught within a fewer number of weeks, but the instruction time is equivalent to the instruction time in the fall or spring semesters (18 weeks). This is accomplished by longer meeting

times and/or more frequency meeting times for classes.

Half of a semester. This equates to 9 weeks for fall or spring terms and 4-5 weeks for summer terms. The instruction time is equivalent to the instruction time in semesters (18 weeks). This is accomplished by much longer meeting times and/or more frequency (perhaps daily) meeting

times for classes.

Relationship of Semesters and Terms:

	Fall Semester	Fall Term 1	Fall Term 2	Spring Semester	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Semester	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
August									
September									
October									
November									
December									
January									
February									
March									
_April									
May									
June									
July									
August									

Term:

Unweighted GPA: Unweighted GPA is measured on a scale of 0 to 4.0. It does not take the

difficulty of a student's coursework into account. An unweighted GPA represents an A as a 4.0 whether it was earned in an honors class, AP

class, or lower-level class.

Withdrawal, Course: To remove oneself from a course after the add/drop period has ended.

Withdrawing from a course changes a course grade to a "W".

Withdrawing from a course does not affect GPA but does negative impact course completion rate, a success indicator used to determine

federal financial eligibility.

Withdrawal, Complete: To remove oneself from all registered courses after the add/drop

period has ended.