

YOUTH OPTIONS PROGRAM

District high school students who are in the 11th or 12th grade and meet other eligibility requirements may participate in the Youth Options Program and enroll in one or more nonsectarian courses at an institution of higher education (e.g., a university of Wisconsin system institution, a private college or other university participating in the program) or a technical college.

Youth Options is a separate program and should not be confused with other programs which provide high school students an opportunity to earn college credit, such as the "Course Options" program, College Board's Advanced Placement program, International Baccalaureate programs, UW-Extension courses, or special service contracts with colleges and universities. It is also not to be confused with other circumstances where high school students attend courses at technical colleges to meet high school graduation requirements through contracts or other special arrangements.

The District shall pay the costs associated with students' enrollment in a technical college or higher education course under the Youth Options Program if the course is taken for high school credit and the course is not comparable to a course offered in the District. The District shall pay only such fees and tuition, materials and equipment costs as are required by law. When the District is required to purchase a textbook or similar resource for a student's course, the student shall be required to return the textbook/resource to the District upon completion of the course. The student is responsible for lost or damaged textbooks/resources.

The District shall pay for no more than the equivalent of 18 post-secondary semester credits per student through the Youth Options Program. However, this limitation on total paid credits through the Youth Options Program does not prohibit a student from (1) taking other courses through a post-secondary institution where the District has authorized the coursework under a separate program or separate source of authority, or (2) taking other high school courses offered by the District that may result in eligibility for post-secondary credit(s).

The District shall only pay for courses that are successfully completed. If a student receives a failing grade in a course or fails to complete the course, the student's parent/guardian or the student, if an adult, is responsible for reimbursing the District for payment of the tuition and fees paid by the District. If this reimbursement is not made, the student on whose behalf the payment was made is ineligible for any further participation in the Youth Options Program.

Any student who seeks to take a course through the Youth Options Program must pay for the entire cost of the course if it is either (1) comparable to a course that is offered in the District, or (2) taken for post-secondary credit only.

The High School Principal shall administer the Youth Options Program in the District. In doing so, he/she shall determine whether a course taken through the Youth Options Program is comparable to a course offered at the District; whether it satisfies graduation requirements; and what, if any, high school credits will be awarded to the student. The Superintendent shall have the authority to determine whether the costs for any special services to be provided to a student with a disability while attending a technical college under the Youth Options Program constitute an undue financial burden on the District and, if so, to deny the student permission to attend the technical college under the program.