



SJR State Early College Program at Middleburg High School and Orange Park High School Information Sessions

Tuesday, January 14, 2025 – 6:00 PM



The Early College Program

We're delighted to present and acquaint you with the Early College Program through St. Johns River State College

This program begins in the **9th grade**. During 9th, 10th & 11th grade, students will take a defined list of college credits in combination with their high school classes. Students will also have the option to take college credits online or at SJR State during the summer sessions. During the 12th grade, students will be enrolled full-time at SJR State. Students in this pathway will take a defined list of courses to facilitate completion of their Associate in Arts degree.

Comparing Dual Enrollment with Alternative Accelerated Programs

- College credit for Dual Enrollment is awarded based on the student's class grade rather than on a standardized exit test.
- If you pass a Dual Enrollment class, you earn the college credit.

Qualifications and Criteria for Enrollment in the Early College Program

- Participation in any Dual Enrollment program in Florida requires a minimum of 3.0 un-weighted high school GPA.
- Current 8th grade students may apply
- Must currently be enrolled in Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II or higher
- No level 1 or Level 2 on FSA for Math and ELA
- 8th grade 1st Quarter Report Card no D or F
- High school cumulative unweighted GPA 3.0 or higher

Exploring Academic Pathways: Dual Enrollment Opportunities at SJR State

To be sure you know all options, The **Early College Program** in Clay County creates an opportunity for a cohort of eligible students to enroll in college level classes and earn their Associate in Arts degree, all while still enrolled in high school. Students in this pathway will take a defined list of courses.

Traditional Dual Enrollment is a program that allows eligible high school students to simultaneously earn college credit while earning credit toward a high school diploma. Students enrolled in traditional dual enrollment will select their own courses.

Early Admissions is a type of dual enrollment for students in 11th and 12th grade who enroll full-time at SJR State, taking a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester. The student will only take classes at the SJR State campus and takes no classes at the high school site.

The Early College Program

- 9th grade courses will be offered as one face-to-face high school site class in the fall, and the second spring course will be either a SJR State online elective course or another high school site face-to-face course (depending upon instructor availability).
- 10th grade courses, students will take two classes in the fall and two in the spring.
- 11th grade courses will be offered either at the high school site, at the SJR State campus, **or** online, depending upon instructor availability.
- 12th grade courses will all be taken on the SJR State campus (or online) students will not be permitted to take courses at the high school campus.
- Students are encouraged to continue to participate in extracurricular activities at the high school, but they may not be taking additional coursework at the high school site as well as a full load of college courses. Students may also wish to enroll in summer courses, which are optional.



Academic Foundations: GPA and Initial Testing Essentials

All participants in the Early College high school/dual enrollment program are required to maintain a minimum unweighted high school GPA of 3.0.

In all dual enrollment courses, students must attain grades of A, B, or C (excluding D's, F's, or W's) to ensure ongoing program eligibility. Additionally, a College GPA of 2.0 must be sustained.

As part of the application process, students will undergo a college readiness test assessing proficiency in reading, writing, and math. While this original score won't determine course placement, students need a college-ready test score before the 11th grade to continue in the program."

Nuts & Bolts: *Test Scores*

College Ready Test Scores	
ENC 1101 Composition I	Pre-ACT: 22-35 Reading & 18-35 Writing ACT: 19 Reading & 17 English PSAT: 24-38 Reading & 25-38 Writing SAT: 24 PERT: 106 Reading & 103 Writing
MAT 1033 Intermediate Algebra (elective credit, does not count as a math credit)	Pre-ACT: 22-35 ACT: 19 Math PSAT: 24-36 SAT: 24 PERT: 114 Math
MAC 1105 College Algebra	Completion of MAT 1033 OR Pre-ACT: 22-35 ACT: 21 Math PSAT: 26.5-38 SAT: 25 PERT: 123 Math

Navigating the Academic Landscape: Early College Course Framework

- College courses taught at the high school site are exactly like the college courses taught on SJR State's campuses—they are just being taught somewhere else. The student's SJR State **college** transcript will not show any indication that the course was taken at a high school site rather than on a college campus.
- College courses taught at the high school site will use the same textbook, course outline, and learning outcomes as if the courses were being taught on SJR State's campus. The faculty have the same credentials and are evaluated by SJR State staff to ensure the course outcomes are being met. High School site instructors also have a college mentor to ensure consistency.

Elevating Student Success: Comprehensive Support Services and Advising in Early College

- Students enrolled in Dual Enrollment and the Early College Program are eligible to access SJR State's library and Academic Support Center throughout high school.
- Early College Program students will be scheduled to meet with SJR State Dual Enrollment Advisors and Academic Advisors.
- Fostering Student Development: Unveiling Support Services Tailored to Each Grade Level in Early College
- All transportation to and from SJR State's Campus is the responsibility of the student/family.



Navigating Differences: Disability Services in the Transition from High School to Early College

- Reach out to the Academic Advising Office to disclose your disability and provide necessary documentation.
- Accommodations don't automatically transfer from high school; schedule a meeting with the Orange Park disabilities coordinator, Dr. Patrick Arnwine, to arrange services. (904) 276-6855
- The admission application doesn't inquire about disabilities, so self-identification is crucial. Contact the disability coordinator at your nearest SJR State campus to schedule an appointment.

Extracurricular Activities

- Encouraging active participation in high school sports, clubs, and extracurricular activities throughout the Early College Program, including senior year at SJR State college site.
- Early College Program students are welcome to join student activities at SJR State, with opportunities such as membership in the Phi Theta Kappa International Leadership Honorary.

Celebrating Dual Success: Graduation at the Intersection

- Upon completing the Associate in Arts degree requirements in your senior year, you'll have the unique opportunity to partake in two graduation ceremonies. This allows you to receive both your high school diploma and Associate in Arts degree. For both ceremonies, you may wear a stole—specifically designed for Early College Program graduates.



Calendar Contrasts: High School vs. College and Navigating Instructor Communication

- The college calendar is sometimes not the same as the high school calendar. If you are taking a class on our campus or online, you will be expected to attend class regardless of your high school being closed.
- It is the student's responsibility to contact the professor if you are having difficulty in the course or to notify the instructor of an absence. Students must communicate with their instructors; many instructors will not respond to parents. You must use your SJR State Vikings email.

Navigating the Real College Experience

- These are college courses with lasting impacts on your GPA and transcripts.
- Your college career begins now; safeguard it with stellar grades and responsible actions.
- Social and emotional maturity are crucial for handling college-level coursework and thriving in a collegiate classroom environment.
- Many career academy pathways and elective courses seamlessly integrate with both high school and dual enrollment/collegiate high school programs.
- However, simultaneous participation in all programs may not always be feasible.

Dual Enrollment Financial Benefits: A Win-Win Scenario

- Dual enrollment students and parents are statutorily exempt from all tuition, textbook, and fees.
- No tuition charges for courses at the high school or during the summer.
- SJR State's in-state tuition: \$108/credit hour.
- School District pays a discounted tuition rate of \$71.98/credit for dual enrollment at SJR State's campus & online.
- Dual enrollment students and parents pay nothing.
- The Clay County School District receives full FTE for all dual enrollment students, even when students are enrolled full time at SJR State's campus and taking no courses at the high school. Tuition for 33 credits during senior year will be \$2,375, well below the \$7K+ FTE the student will generate for the District.



This is a true financial partnership between the College and the District that benefits students and the community.

Significant Savings for Students

2023-2024 SJR State In-State Tuition \$108/credit hour

\$108/Credit Hour X 60 Credits = **\$6,480**

Approximate Textbook cost for 60 credits = **\$2,840**

Total Tuition & Textbook Savings Per Student: \$9,320



Traditional Dual Enrollment Admissions Process

- During the spring of 10th grade or before (depending on the policy of the high school), eligible students may apply for Dual Enrollment or Early Admissions through their high school counselor. Application deadlines will be posted each term. Please check with the high school for their specific deadline. Students can then choose to become Early Admissions students in the 11th grade.
- For more information about dual enrollment and early admissions at SJR State, go to <https://www.sjrstate.edu/dual.html>

Nuts & Bolts: *Test Scores*

ALL DE Programs

- Students must be engaged in college preparatory curriculum throughout high school and showing signs of increased college readiness in order to continue to participate each year.
- Students must have college ready test scores in math, reading, and writing in order to take college-level math and English courses. This must happen prior to the 11th grade in order for the student to be on track to graduate from high school with the AA Degree. Students who do not receive a college ready test score before the deadline set by the high school, may be removed from the collegiate high school program.
- Students should be utilizing the EdReady program given to them in the 9th grade in order to have a better chance of achieving a college ready test score prior to the 11th grade.

Dual Enrollment Success Data

SJR State Dual Enrollment Student Course Success Rate 2022-2023	
Classes at the High School Site	98.56% Success
Classes at SJR State's Campus	92.85% Success
Online SJR State Classes	85.36% Success
All SJR State Locations	96.83% Success

Success is defined as achieving a grade of A, B, or C divided by total number of students enrolled in course.

Source: Internal SJR State data

Why is the Early College Program Special?

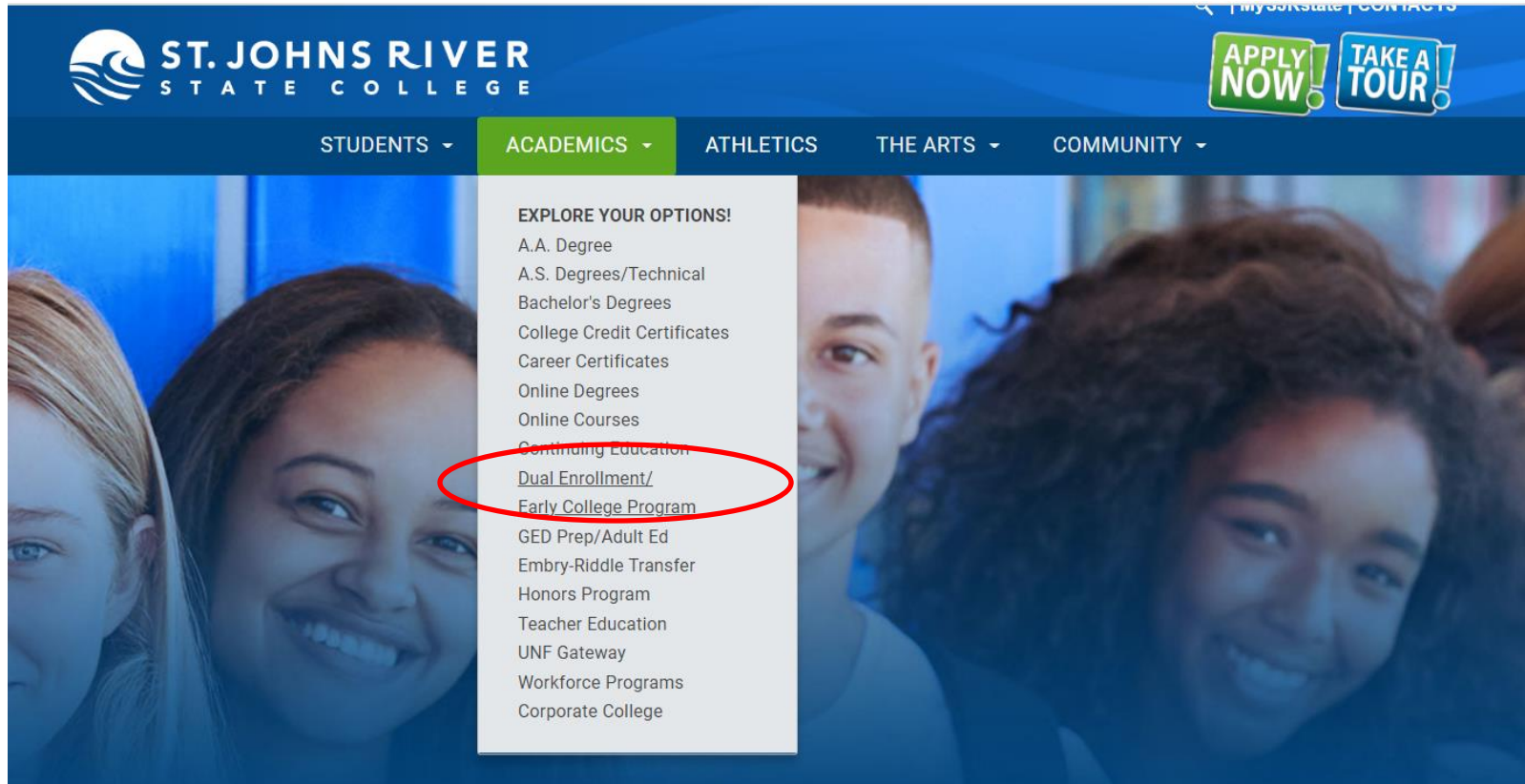
- Students in the **Early College Program** are given a defined pathway of college courses that align with their high school courses and will enable them to earn their AA Degree at high school graduation.
- **Dual Enrollment** and **Early Admissions** students are able to register for college courses, but the pathway is not defined for them.
- The **Early College Program** sets an obtainable goal of completing all 60 credits for the AA degree prior to high school graduation.
- Obtaining the AA through **Dual Enrollment** is possible but challenging.

Early College Program - Admissions Process

- All eligible 8th grade students must apply to be in the Early College Program lottery through the Clay County Application System prior to **January 21 by 5:00 pm.** Sixty students will be accepted per high school. If the number of eligible students who apply exceeds the number of seats allocated for the program, a lottery will be applied for the final selection.
- **The Early College Application system is open December 6, 2024 – January 21, 2025.**
- Acceptance emails will be sent out on February 11, 2025.
- The deadline to accept a seat in the program is February 25, 2025.



www.sjrstate.edu



How Do I Apply for the Early College Program?

Early College Program ↓

(previously known as the Collegiate High School)

This program allows admitted students to complete 60 credits of dual enrollment coursework, culminating in earning both a standard high school diploma as well as an Associate of Arts (AA) Degree upon the completion of four years of high school. SJR State offers this program in Clay County at Middleburg High School and Orange Park High School, in Putnam County at Interlachen High School and Palatka High School, and in St. Johns County at Pedro Menendez High School and Toco Creek High School. This program is limited acceptance and students must meet specific criteria in order to be eligible to participate. Students commit to this program for the four years they are high school students. For more information, please refer to your county link below:

[Putnam County](#) | [Clay County](#) | [St. Johns County](#)

Questions?

Call the SJR State Dual Enrollment Office at 386-312-4136 or dualenrollment@sjrstate.edu

Questions & For More Information

St. Johns River State College

Office of Dual Enrollment

(386) 312-4136

dualenrollment@sjrstate.edu

Middleburg High School

Daniel Ross, School Counselor

(904) 336-8102

daniel.ross@myoneclay.net

Orange Park High School

Melissa McCrosky, School Counselor

(904) 336-8592

Melissa.mccrosky@myoneclay.net



Dual Enrollment, Early College Web Page

