



SJRState Early College Program Orientation Session



What is the Early College Program?

The SJRState Early College Program 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.



How Will I Get to the AA Degree?

9th, 10th & 11th grades: students will take a defined list of 30 college credits in combination with their high school classes.

12th grade: students will be enrolled full-time on the Palatka Campus (or closest campus) or online at St. Johns River State College, taking a total of 30 credits. During the 12th grade students are not permitted to attend any classes at the high school.

Students may attend during the summer, with a maximum of 2 courses, approved by Mrs. Hough and Mrs. Gill.



Nuts & Bolts

- All students must have and maintain a minimum of a 3.0 un-weighted high school GPA.
- Students must also maintain a 2.0 SJRState College GPA and earn an A, B, or C (No D's, F's, or W's) in all Dual Enrollment courses for continued program eligibility.
- Students are given the opportunity to petition the Dual Enrollment Office one time during their Dual Enrollment career. This may be for a high school GPA lower than a 3.0, a college GPA lower than a 2.0 or if the student receives a D, F, or a W. An approved petition often comes with stipulations such as a reduced course load, no online classes, or a GPA time requirement (these are just some examples).



Nuts & Bolts

- **Students must have college ready test scores in math, reading, and writing prior to the 11th grade in order to be on track to graduate from high school with the AA Degree.**
- If a student is already college ready, they do not have to retest; however, please note that test scores are only good for two years.
- Students can use the PERT, ACT, PreACT, SAT, or PSAT for course eligibility. Please consult SJRState Dual Enrollment website for the specific test score requirements.

Nuts & Bolts

- 9th, 10th, and 11th grade courses will be offered at the high school or online through SJRState.
- In the 9th grade, Early College Program students will receive information regarding the EdReady test preparation.
- Early College Program students are eligible to access SJRState's Library and Academic Support Center throughout grades 9-12.
- In 11th grade, Early College students will be scheduled to meet with their SJRState Dual Enrollment Advisors and an Academic Advisors to plan their 12th grade schedule.



Nuts & Bolts

- Students are encouraged to continue to participate in extracurricular activities at the high school, but they may not take additional coursework at the high school in their 12th grade year along with their full load of college courses.
- Transportation to any courses that are taken at the SJRState campus are the responsibility of the student/family. This includes courses during the summer or during the academic school year.



Nuts & Bolts

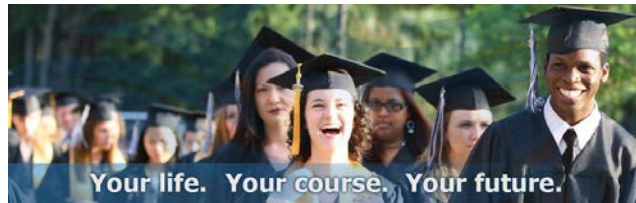
- College courses taught at the high school site are exactly like the college courses taught on SJRState campuses—they are just being taught somewhere else. The student's SJRState **college** transcript will not show any indication that the course was taken at a high school site rather than on a college 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 the SJRState campus. The faculty have the same credentials and are evaluated by SJRState staff to ensure the course outcomes are being met.

Things to Remember

- Once you are in 12th grade and taking all your classes on the SJRState campus, you will truly be just like any other college student.
- The college calendar is often not the same as the high school calendar. In the 12th grade, if the college is open and you are taking a class on our campus (or online), you will be expected to attend that class.
- 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. Initial communication must always begin between the student and the instructor.

Things to Remember

- These are “real” college courses — students’ college GPA and transcripts never go away.
- Students must have the social and emotional maturity to handle college level coursework and a college classroom.
- Students need to be ready to declare their major when they are a junior in high school to ensure they are taking the appropriate elective courses in the 12th grade.



Accommodations

- Students with disabilities are welcome at SJRState and are encouraged to contact the Academic Advising Office.
- The College does not identify students with disabilities on the admission application. Therefore, it is necessary to self-identify. Contact the disability coordinator at the nearest SJRState campus to schedule an appointment.

Disabilities Office, SJRState Palatka Campus
386-312-4035
Advising@sjrstate.edu

What if I am Having Trouble?

- There are many helpful support services available for students including:
 - Tutor.com
 - EdReady- a tool that helps build academic skills through diagnostic testing and study pathways.
 - Academic Support Centers- a physical tutoring lab located in the Library at St. Johns River State College's, 2nd floor of the Palatka Campus.

Always reach out to your instructor first!

For more information regarding academic support services, please visit: <https://learningresources.sjrstate.edu/Home>

Graduation

- Once students successfully earn all credits required to for the Associate of Arts degree, they can walk at two graduations: their high school graduation and St. Johns River State College's graduation.
- Students will have the option to purchase an Early College Program Graduate stole for additional recognition at their high school graduation as well as SJRState graduation.
- Students must fill out the SJRState graduation application, even if they do not intend on walking in the College's graduation, in order to confer their AA degree



Transferring

- Dual Enrollment credit will transfer to any university in the Florida State Universities System (SUS) due to the Florida Common Course Numbering System and the statewide articulation agreement.
- If students do not, upon high school graduation, attend the same college or university where they earned the dual enrollment credit, the application of transfer credit to general education, prerequisite, and degree programs may vary at the receiving institution. For example, Florida private schools look at the individual course to decide if and how the credit will transfer.
- For out of state schools and private schools you will need to check with the individual schools to inquire whether dual enrollment credit will be accepted to transfer.
- Know what the prerequisites for your major are.
<https://www.floridashines.org/>

Next Steps

Students must have completed the following steps to COMPLETE their admission to SJRState and the Early College Program:

1. Submit a completed application for the Fall 2023 term online to St. Johns River State College (link provided in acceptance email). Students must submit a completed application and the signature page from the online application to Nickie Gill at the Putnam County School District. **Due by May 15th, 2024**
2. Complete and submit scores for a college placement test (SAT, ACT, PERT, PSAT, or PreACT). Students in need of test scores can register for the PERT with SJRState. **Due by June 15th, 2024.**

If a student has not completed the above by July 30th, they will be removed and replaced by a student on the waiting list

Reminders

1. Pay attention to deadlines and calendars
2. Communicate with your professor(s)
3. Check your SJRState Email
4. Start thinking about your future goals
5. Contact us if you need help

Questions & For More Information

St. Johns River State College

Dual Enrollment Office

(386) 312-4136

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reneruffalo@sjrstate.edu

dualenrollment@sjrstate.edu

Putnam County School District

(386) 329-0536

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