

St. Petersburg College & Pinellas County Schools'
Early College Program
2024-2025 Student Performance Contract

The Early College Program (ECP) is a full-time college program that places students on the college campus with conditions that are nearly identical to a traditional college student. Below is a comprehensive list of points each ECP student and their parent(s)/guardian(s) should understand prior to the start of the experience.

1. Course work taken by ECP students is college-level and will have the same depth, breadth, rigor, and pace for all students regardless of age or grade placement. These courses are subject to the same standards, policies, and responsibilities as other college students unless otherwise restricted by federal, state, or local requirements. Curriculum content, evaluation, and selection of appropriate instructional materials are the prerogative of the college instructor and will not differ for dual enrolled ECP students.
2. St. Petersburg College (SPC) is an open campus where ECP and all dual enrolled students are attending classes with non-high school aged students. As such, it is certain that ECP students will encounter students of various ages and backgrounds while on the SPC campus. Additionally, should an ECP student choose to leave campus for any reason, SPC's officers, trustees, employees, and agents are released from all liability, claims of demands for any damage, loss, or injury to the student, his/her property, or the parent's property in connection with the student's actions.
3. ECP students must abide by all SPC policies and procedures and the Pinellas County School Board *Student Code of Conduct*.
 - a. A major infraction that would result in an out-of-school suspension for a traditional high school student will result in removal from the Early College Program and a return to the high school setting.
 - b. A violation of the SPC Board of Trustees Rules and College Procedures may result in removal from the Early College Program and return to the high school setting.
 - c. Students who are disruptive to the learning environment will be removed from the Early College Program.
4. The PCS ECP Counselor or Program Coordinator are the first point of contact for parents who wish to discuss academic progress in a college course or request information about school or classroom activities. Parents do not have direct access to their student's college instructors or academic records.
5. ECP students must attend every class in their schedule, including the high school Seminar class that provides dedicated time for college and career planning as well as proper orientation to the SPC campus and resources. After two unexcused absences, the student may be required to return to their assigned high school. In addition, students must electronically submit a time calendar each term to the PCS ECP Counselor.
6. ECP student schedules must meet the following requirements each fall and spring term:
 - a. Five College classes must total at least 15 credit hours and must be selected to meet the requirements of the Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree. These classes must be taken at the home college campus unless otherwise approved by their ECP Coordinator. Exceptions will only be made when a class is not available on the home campus.
 - b. Each term, the schedule will include a "Seminar" that is a high school course taught by the PCS ECP Counselor.
 - c. Students not actively participating in a class after the 70% point in the term will automatically receive a grade of "WF" on both transcripts, which has the same impact on the GPA as a final grade of "F".
 - d. Students cannot take more than two fully online classes in Spring and Fall Terms.
7. ECP students understand that during the summer term;
 - a. Students may not take more than two courses; only students with 3.0 college GPA may request an online course with limit of one online; for courses that require a corequisite such as lab, only one part may be taken online.
 - b. Students are not permitted to take 4- or 6-week courses.
8. ECP students are not eligible to enroll in Winter Session classes.
9. Students may not be enrolled in any additional high school courses including through Pinellas Virtual School or Florida Virtual School.
10. ECP students must maintain strong academic standing in order to continue with the program. Students may be removed from the program and be required to return to high school under any of the following circumstances:

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- a. The student's college GPA falls below 2.0.
 - b. The student's unweighted high school GPA falls below 3.0.
 - c. The student falls off track for an on-time graduation.
 - d. The student does not earn qualifying scores for assessments required for graduation by the end of their junior year.
 - e. The student's Bright Futures eligibility is jeopardized.
 - f. The student's Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree cannot be completed.
11. Completion of high school graduation requirements does not guarantee completion of the A.A. degree. Students must earn their high school diploma and meet requirements identified in the SPC Catalog at the time of initial admission in order to earn the A.A. degree.
12. As in the high school setting, students must return their books at the end of each term. Students are financially responsible for the replacement of lost or damaged textbooks.
13. Participation and/or recognition at high schools is impacted by participation in ECP as outlined below:
- a. ECP students are not eligible to qualify for the valedictorian or salutatorian honors within their assigned high school.
 - b. ECP students may not opt out of the program during a semester. If an ECP student wishes to return to high school, the parent must notify the ECP Coordinator to determine the date the student will return to the high school setting.
 - c. Students who leave ECP (voluntarily or due to academic or behavior concerns) during their junior year return to their zoned high school. Students who leave ECP at the end of the junior year or in the middle of their senior year have the option to return to their assigned high school if there is a seat available for a "traditional" student. Upon acceptance no student is permitted to return to Osceola Fundamental HS or Richard O. Jacobson HS due to the fact that all seats are application program seats.
 - d. ECP students must successfully complete courses required for high school graduation by the end of fall term of the senior year. ECP students who have not met their high school graduation requirements by the end of the fall term of their senior year will be returned to their zoned school.
 - e. ECP students remain assigned to the high school they attended upon acceptance into ECP and may participate in athletics and other extra-curricular activities at their assigned high school. ECP students are not permitted to request reassignment to another high school. Extra-curricular activities are defined as those that occur before or after the school day and do not require participation in a course that supports the activity. If an ECP student violates the *Student Code of Conduct*, participation in future high school activities will be restricted and, depending on the severity of the offense, the student may be removed from the Early College Program.

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PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION BY THE END OF THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM ORIENTATION MEETING

I hereby agree to and accept all terms listed in the Early College Program's Student Performance Contract.

PRINT STUDENT NAME & SPC ID

STUDENT SIGNATURE

PRINT PARENT NAME

PARENT SIGNATURE

TODAY'S DATE

PCS-ECP PROGRAM COUNSELOR SIGNATURE