

Degree Start FAQ – Partners

- What is Degree Start?
 - Degree Start is a pilot program for rising junior and senior high school student majoring in a liberal arts field.
- How do I know if my student qualifies for Degree Start?
 - Students interested in Degree Start should test at the college ready level. Check the prerequisite list below to determine eligibility for college readiness.
- Where is Degree Start located?
 - Classes will be in-person, on the Centennial Campus from 9-11:40 a.m., Monday - Friday. Students will be in traditional sections with adult students. Degree Start classes will have different start and end dates than district calendars.
- How do my students get to campus?
 - Degree Start students will be using their district’s Career Start transportation to get to campus. Check with your district to determine how to get on that transportation list.
- How much does Degree Start cost?
 - Tuition is covered by the school district, however textbook cost, general fees, and course fees may not be covered. These classes will follow the Concurrent Enrollment cooperative agreement. Check with your district liaison to determine the final cost of attendance for the student.
- What classes are in the Degree Start program?
 - Classes for Degree Start have been predetermined and cannot be exchanged or opted out of. At the end of the year student have the opportunity to earn 19 college credits. The predetermined classes for this first pilot year include:

Year One			Year Two		
GEY1111	Physical Geology with Lab	4 CREDITS	HIS2110	African American History	3 CREDITS
ENG1021	English Composition I	3 CREDITS	MAT1240	Mathematics for the Liberal Arts	4 CREDITS
PHI1011	Introduction to Philosophy	3 CREDITS	ART1110	Art Appreciation	3 CREDITS
ENG1022	English Composition II	3 CREDITS	COM1250	Interpersonal Communication	3 CREDITS
SOC1001	Introduction to Sociology	3 CREDITS	ANT1001	Cultural Anthropology	3 CREDITS
ENV1010	Natural Disasters	3 CREDITS	Elective		3 CREDITS

- Will these classes transfer to other colleges?
 - Yes, all of the Degree Start courses are on the Guaranteed Transfer list for AA transfer degrees. Check with the institution your student is interested in transferring to, to determine exact transferability.
- What high school credits will be earned through Degree Start?
 - Determining what specific credit is earned through Degree Start varies from high school to high school. Check with your counselor to determine the exact high school credit that will be granted.
- What do students complete before signing up for Degree Start?

Have questions? Contact us at 719-502-3111 or HSP@pikespeak.edu



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- Talk with your student to determine if this is the best fit for them. All classes in the Degree Start program are integrated into traditional PPGC courses with adult learners.
- Students will need to complete the PPSC application to receive a student ID number (S#).
- Email student's unofficial high school transcript, test scores, or score reports as part of your eligibility list to HSP@pikespeak.edu.
- What is an eligibility list?
 - A list of juniors and seniors determined to be college level ready by their high school or district and are liberal arts majors.
- Why do I need to provide an eligibility list?
 - An eligibility list is needed to enter your students into the lottery. The High School Programs team will cross reference the list received by partners against the applications to confirm students are eligible for the Degree Start lottery. Please send this list to HSP@pikespeak.edu. If a student applies who is not on the eligibility list, they will be automatically waitlisted.
- How do my students sign up for Degree Start?
 - Students will need to fill out an application for the program. An application link will be sent to partners and will be available on the Degree Start website.
 - There are 12 spots available and after the number of open spots are filled a waitlist will be established.
- How will the lottery work?
 - All student applications submitted prior to deadline for each semester will be entered into the lottery. The High School Programs team will pull 12 names from the list of applicants and assign them an open spot. Once spots are full, a waitlist will be established and maintained until the first day of the new semester. After the start of the semester, the application will close, and the waitlist will be archived.
 - First priority will be given to students in a rural school district followed by students applying from a school district that does not offer Campus Pathways courses.
- How will my students and their families be notified about placement into Degree Start?
 - The High School Programs team will notify students and their families about placement via email, based on the lottery drawing and eligibility list received from counselors and districts. Students who have been selected will need to fill out their enrollment packet with the High School Programs office, to finalize their spot.
- When will I receive my student's schedule for Degree Start?
 - The High School Programs team will send a finalized course schedule in prior to the start of the semester.
- How do I check on my student's academic standing in Degree Start?
 - Students participating in Degree Start will be responsible for monitoring their grades and attendance independently. An early alert may be filed once the instructor determines the student is at risk for not successfully completing the course and may need additional academic or community resources to overcome any issue standing in the way of the student's success. The High School Programs team will share alerts with high school counselors.

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- Why are classes only at the Centennial Campus?
 - As a pilot program, the High School Programs team will assess student success, internal and external partner feedback, and general interest about Degree Start before expanding the program's offerings and availability.
- Should my student need to miss class, what steps should they follow?
 - Students should email their instructor(s) to make the appropriate arrangements regarding their absence.
- Will my district need to sign an MOU agreement to participate in Degree Start?
 - No, as a pilot program Degree Start will follow the Concurrent Enrollment MOU agreement already in place with your district.
- How will I receive final grades?
 - Grades will be entered by instructors within 3 business days after the class has concluded and are available to students through their student portal. Grades will be sent to districts by the High School Programs team as they become available.
- If my student fails a class in their first semester, can they continue in the following semester?
 - Yes, the student can continue in the program if they fail a class. The High School Programs team will conduct prerequisite evaluations prior to registering Degree Start students for their following semester courses.

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