



Dual Enrollment FAQ

Qualifying for Dual Enrollment and/or Early Admission status

General provisions of a new dual enrollment related law, SB 7059 are outlined here:

<http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6471/hb7059tapa.pdf>

1. What is the difference between a traditional, dual enrolled, and early admissions student.

- a. Traditional students (9th and 10th) are enrolled fulltime in high school classes here in the building at FSWC - Lee.
- b. Dual enrollment students have at least one class in high school and one class at Florida SouthWestern State College. Typical scenarios are sophomore students who have qualified for a single class during the second semester of their sophomore year or junior students who are still taking a math class at FSWC - Lee.
- c. Early Admission students are students who are taking all courses at Florida SouthWestern State College and have no course work at FSWC - Lee.

2. What is the "12 hour rule?"

- a. For the initial semester of dual enrollment, students with a passing reading score but either a non-passing math or writing score may take up to 12 credit hours except courses in the disciplines they have not passed (math, science or writing intensive).
 - i. This exception requires that students will need to continue earning required graduation credits during that semester of dual enrollment AND pursue a qualifying PERT, ACT, or SAT score. This exception is only valid for one semester and for students who have been previously enrolled at FSWC.
 - ii. Students wishing to join FSWC as an early admissions student will need all three scores passed to be eligible for enrollment.

3. What are the requirements for becoming a dual enrolled or early admissions student?

- a. Students must have the qualifying unweighted GPA and passing PERT, ACT, or SAT score.
 - i. Sophomores can only qualify if courses are exhausted at FSWC.

- ii. Junior students must have a 3.0 GPA at the end of the sophomore year to dual enroll or become an Early Admission student during their junior year.
- iii. Qualifying scores can be found on the college's testing services website.

4. What is the PERT and when will my student take it?

- a. The PERT is the State College system's placement and entry exam for all students. More information is available on the college's testing services website.
- b. FSWC - Lee Guidance personnel will help schedule students for PERT testing. In general, students test in mid-February to qualify for the Fall term. This allows time for retesting and scheduling purposes.
- c. Students may only take the PERT three times during high school, so only students with a qualifying GPA will be encouraged to test.
- d. There are "testing windows" that students are only allowed one time to test in. If a student does not pass a section, remediation and waiting for the testing window will need to happen to gain approval from the Guidance Office.
- e. In addition to GPA, diagnostic data in reading and math will be used to determine eligibility and strategy for taking the PERT for the first and/or second time.

5. What if I don't pass the PERT after my two tries?

- a. A passing score on any one section counts and qualifies students for that section. Students may re-test in any sections that they don't pass on the first try.
- b. SAT and ACT scores may be used in lieu of PERT scores as documented on the college's testing services website.
- c. Students may be subject to the "12 hour rule".....see point 2 above.

6. Can students take course at other institutions of higher education?

- a. FSWC - Lee does not maintain any articulation agreements with institutions other than Florida SouthWestern State College and dual enrollment opportunities are limited to Fall and Spring semesters at Florida SouthWestern State College.

Strategy of picking classes and the enrollment process

1. How do I enroll in college classes?

- a. All college enrollment process happen with a Drop/Add form available from Guidance Personnel. All forms must be signed by a high school representative in order to be processed by Florida SouthWestern State College Personnel.
- b. There will be opportunities for the students to meet with Registration Advisers from Florida SouthWestern State College on the FSWC campus during the 2nd semester of their Sophomore year.

- c. The college operates on a different schedule than the K-12 system and an annual enrollment calendar is on the college's academic services website.
- d. Those students that will be dual enrollment students will be starting with the traditional Lee Public schools calendar and then their college class will start when the college starts.

2. What classes should I take?

- a. The first priority will always be meeting high school graduation requirements which can be found at: www.fldoe.org/bii/studentpro/pdf/Grad1213.pdf. Info about the EOC, FCAT and other state requirements is available at: <http://www.fldoe.org/students/doc/standarddiploma.doc>
- b. The second priority will be to maintain eligibility for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship which can be found at:
 - i. <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/>
- c. There is room for electives selected by the student after these requirements are met. As a GUIDE, the college's AA requirements are available to help select classes. More information can be found on the college's academic services website.
- d. Florida statute allows students to remain dual enrolled up to and including their last semester of high school admissions. FSWC - Lee will help manage course selections in such a way that at least one high school graduation course is saved for the second semester of the senior year.
 - i. Probable candidates for this class would be:
 - 1. Economics
 - 2. American History
- e. Along with selecting courses, a careful consideration on amount of credits per semester will be necessary. While students may take between 12-18 credit hours, the preferred number is around 15. It is up to the discretion of the Mrs. Sterk, based on past academic performance, level of difficulty, and courses needed for high school graduation, in the amount of credits allowed to the student.

3. What if I want to change a class?

- a. Drop/Add forms are available from Ms. Sterk and all Florida SouthWestern State College deadlines and rules apply.
- b. Students may not withdraw from a course once the add/drop date has passed.
- c. It is the student's responsibility to turn completed forms into the Registration office on the college campus.
- d. Confirmation can be obtained by accessing a student's schedule through the Florida SouthWestern State College Portal.
- e. You can use your portal account to look for sections to add (the advanced search function is helpful) but the actual drop/ add process requires a paper form signed by FSWC - Lee personnel.

4. **What is the “portal?”**
 - a. All Florida SouthWestern State College students have an electronic account called the portal and specific instructions about accessing will be provided to students when they initially dual enroll.
 - b. Log in, password maintenance, and other related issues can be resolved through the college’s homepage.

5. **How do I get my books?**
 - a. Each semester, FSWC - Lee will provide you with all required college text books. Typical process will involve obtaining a voucher from FSWC - Lee and physically picking up the books the campus bookstore.
 - b. Students have access to either online or hardcopy books if available.

6. **How do I get 4 years of high school classes done in 2 years?**
 - a. The college classes that the students are taking in college will fulfill the requirements for their high school credits. Students earn credits for both high school graduation and college with the same enrollment.

7. **Do I have to keep my grades up to stay in college classes?**
 - a. Yes, you must maintain a 3.0 GPA to be dual enrolled or continue as an Early Admissions student.
 - b. Students may also fall under probationary status at the college if the student is not successful in their courses and can be dismissed.

8. **What is FERPA and how does it affect me?**
 - a. FERPA is a statute based requirement that only allows college personnel (including faculty) to discuss academic matter (including grades and attendance) directly with their student.
 - b. Parents of dual enrolled students should not expect updates, accommodations, or to be interacting with college faculty.
 - c. In extreme situations, FSWC - Lee personnel can offer suggestions, general advice, and or decide if another intervention is necessary.

9. **Can my dual enrolled or early Admission student still ride the bus, participate in Free and Reduce Lunch, and other high school activities?**
 - a. Yes, all normal high school operations like this are still available to students enrolled at the college.
 - b. FERPA does not apply to these types of issues.
 - c. Lunch is provided here at FSWC - Lee during our normal service hours.

10. **What activities at the college can my student participate in?**

- a. As an Early Admission student, FSWC students may use all the activities at the college such as intermurals, student government, clubs, and volunteering.
- b. Early Admission students also have access to all the facilities, such as the cafeteria, library, Writing Lab, and Math Center.
- c. FSWC does have several clubs such as Key Club and National Honor's Society that students can participate in.
- d. FSWC recommends students participate in on-campus activities as a way to stay involved with their peers and to build their college portfolio.

Planning for College or Career

During the freshman and sophomore years at FSWC there are activities and curriculum lessons designed to spark conversation regarding the student's college or career path.

Mrs. Sterk provides students and their parents a program called Family Connection and a Canvas College & Career Readiness course that provides career exploration through interest inventories, career matching, resume building, ACT test prep, and many other activities. The College and Career program also does trips to visit Florida SouthWestern State College, other colleges, and major state college fairs.

One of the most important components when planning for College or Career is to keep your grades up. Complete your homework and turn it in on a timely basis, participate in class and communicate with your teacher when issues arise. Whether the student will continue on to College or Career training this will be important in both instances.

1. Will my student receive their AA when they graduate FSWC?

- a. 60 Credit Hours are required for the AA program at Florida SouthWestern State College. That would require that the student take 15 credit hours each semester. That equates to 5 classes each semester, 5 classes are considered a heavy load and you should discuss this with your student to make sure they are ready for that work load.
- b. 12 credit hours is considered full time at the college level, if a student were to only take 12 credit hours each semester they would have 48 credit hours at the end of two years and would need 12 more credit hours to receive their AA degree.
- c. There is no minimum number of accumulated credit hours that is required. It is our intent to help students take as many as possible and remain successful.

2. Will my credits at Florida SouthWestern State College transfer to other universities?

- a. When you apply to other universities they will let you know what credits they will accept. Florida SouthWestern State College is an accredited school and credits will transfer, it is up to the university to accept or decline credits.
- b. The FLDOE has issued an official statement about transferring credits:

- i. <http://info.fl DOE.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6472/hb7059tapb.pdf>

3. **What is the FAFSA?**

- a. FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This form is required to determine eligibility for federal student aid and is located at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- b. This may be required to be submitted with your college application.
- c. Dual enrollment and Early Admission students do not need to fill out the FAFSA until applying to college.

4. **When should I start applying to colleges?**

- a. That will depend on the college or university that your student is interested in, most colleges and universities have early enrollment. You and your student should start looking at schools summer of sophomore year and beginning of junior year. Students begin applying at the beginning of their senior year, and may have an answer as early as mid-December.
- b. We will send transcripts to a college or program students are applying to through a program called Family Connection.
- c. A Canvas College & Career Readiness course has been created to inform students on upcoming college events, deadlines, and other important information.

5. **When should I start taking the ACT and/or SAT?**

- a. To keep your options open in the world of competitive college admissions, you will need to develop a strategy for taking these types of tests. FSWC - Lee does not have any rules or requirements but offers the following generic advice:
 - i. During 10th grade, FSWC will have the opportunity to take the PSAT to determine strengths and weaknesses on these standardized exams.
 - ii. If a student is needing a concordant score to achieve Dual Enrollment or Early Admission status, students may begin taking these tests as early as the end of 10th grade year.
 - iii. The Guidance Office suggests taking both the ACT and SAT mid-Junior year, around January-April to receive a baseline. If further testing is needed to obtain a higher score, the summer before Sr. year can help you achieve the goal needed for the college admissions process. Many colleges will combine your best sub test scores in a process called “super-scoring” to help you have the most admissions options.
 - iv. Students typically begin applying to colleges October and November during your final year of high school and most admission decisions are complete by or around spring break.
 - v. You may continue to test beyond these time frames up to and including the early summer after you graduate to try to earn Bright Futures qualifying scores.

- vi. Multiple attempts at these types of tests can be stressful, expensive, and often times do not produce significantly different results.
 - 1. Students who receive free or reduced lunch may receive a test fee waiver from the front office. Each testing service has a limit on availability.
- vii. A free ACT test prep is available for all students through their Family Connection.