

**St. Petersburg College & Pinellas County Schools'**  
**Early College Program**  
**Principles of Participation**  
**2009 - 2010**

As an element of the admissions process, each parent and student of the Early College Program must sign an agreement committing their adherence to the following principles of participation:

1. I understand that as an Early College Program (ECP) student, the course work taken on the college level will have the same depth, breadth, rigor and pace for all students regardless of age or grade placement.
2. I understand that Early College Program students in college level courses are subject to the same standards, policies, and responsibilities as other college students unless otherwise restricted by federal, state or local requirements.
3. I understand that curriculum content, evaluation, and selection of appropriate instructional materials are the prerogative of the college instructor and will not differ for dual enrolled Early College Program students from that presented for traditional college students.
4. I understand that St. Petersburg College (SPC) is an open campus and that I will be attending classes with non-high school aged students and that I may encounter students of various ages and backgrounds while on the SPC campus.
5. I understand that the Early College Program teacher(s) or the Coordinator of the Early College Program 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. I understand that my parents do not have direct access to my college instructors or to my academic records.
6. I understand that high academic standards are expected of all students. Students entering the 11<sup>th</sup> grade must have met all required scores on the College Placement Test or provide qualifying test scores on the SAT/ACT. Students entering the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade must have an un-weighted high school GPA of at least 3.0 and maintain a 2.0 GPA in all college course work.
7. I understand that if my college GPA falls below a 2.0, and/or my high school graduation requirements and/or my Bright Futures eligibility are jeopardized, and/or the Associate in Arts Degree can not be completed, I may be removed from the program. Continued eligibility in the program will be based upon a review of academic standing at the conclusion of each academic term. Any student who is withdrawn from the Early College Program, or chooses to leave voluntarily, must immediately contact their assigned high school to maintain continuous full time enrollment in high school.
8. If a student wishes to withdraw from a course due to extenuating circumstances prior to the 60% point in the term, the ECP and PCS program staff will determine if the circumstances of the withdraw warrant a grade of "W" and will determine the most appropriate course of action. If a student would withdraw from a course prior to the 60% point, they would need to enroll in another course to maintain a full schedule. Students not actively participating in class after the 60% 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".
9. I agree to abide by all SPC policies and procedures including, but not limited to the Pinellas County School Board *Code of Student Conduct*.
10. Early College Program students may participate in athletics and other extra-curricular activities of their high school but must abide by the Student Code of Conduct. "Extra-curricular" activities shall be defined as those activities that occur before or after the school day and do not require participation in a course that supports the activity. If an Early College student violates the Student Code of Conduct, participation in future high school activities may be restricted.

11. I understand that if I violate any items in either the SPC or Pinellas County School Board Codes of Student Conduct, I may be required to leave the Early College Program and return to my assigned high school.
12. I understand that completion of high school graduation requirements does not guarantee completion of an AA degree. To receive an AA degree, I understand that I must meet all program requirements identified in the SPC Catalog at the time of my initial admission.
13. I understand that by signing the procurement form for textbooks, I am responsible for the return of the textbooks at the conclusion of each term. I understand that lost or damaged textbooks are the financial responsibility of the student.
14. I agree to attend school regularly and I understand that I must be enrolled in a minimum total of six (6) courses per semester as outlined in the agreement between St. Petersburg College and Pinellas County Schools.
15. I understand that I can not meet the high school World History or Physical Education/Health graduation requirement (the Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE) course in PCS) through college coursework, and that I must either complete this requirement prior to attending Early College or take and pass the World History or the Physical Education/Health requirement class through Florida Virtual School or other acceptable means as prescribed by Pinellas County Schools in order to qualify for a high school diploma.
16. Because the St. Petersburg College campuses are open campus environments, should I choose to leave campus for any reason, I fully understand that SPC, its officers, trustees, employees and agents are released from all liability, claims of demands for any damage, loss, or injury to me, my property, or parent's property in connection with my actions.
17. I understand and agree to attend and fully participate in the mandatory Early College seminars as required in the SLS 1711, Peer Classroom Tutoring and Proctoring course scheduled during each semester.
18. I understand that once I choose to enter the Early College Program, I am no longer eligible to qualify for the valedictorian or salutatorian honors within my assigned high school nor may I request being excused from the last semester of high school if all graduation requirements have been completed.