Maine students have access to many early college opportunities through Maine’s public universities and community colleges. It is important to select courses carefully. Early College Pathways can help students earn credits with a purpose, and be better prepared for possible majors and careers.

What if I’m not sure where to start?

General education courses are a great way to explore Early College classes. These courses provide the background and skills needed for college, regardless of the major you choose. Many of the general education courses listed below will satisfy degree requirements when you attend college.

- College Composition/College Writing
- History • Psychology • Sociology
- Public Speaking • Biology
- Chemistry • Quantitative Reasoning
- Statistics • College Algebra
- Precalculus • Calculus

Visit your school counselor or the websites below to learn more about Early College opportunities statewide:

Early College at Maine’s Community Colleges: oncourse.me.edu

Early College at Maine’s Public Universities: academics.maine.edu/early-college

For a complete guide of Maine’s postsecondary options visit: https://www.famemaine.com/education/topics/choosing-a-college/maine-college-search/

Aspirations Program Eligibility
The Aspirations Program is funded by the Maine Legislature and authorized under Title 20-A, Chapter 208-A. The program is administered by the Maine Department of Education. Maine’s public high school students and qualifying home-schooled students may be considered eligible to participate if they meet the following criteria:
- receive approval from the student’s high school
- meet course prerequisites
- receive final approval from the community college or university

Early College students may earn up to a total of 12 tuition-free credits per academic year at Maine’s public universities and community colleges.

Transferability
- Only the receiving college can confirm whether a course will transfer.
- While most credits will transfer as electives, college programs may limit the number of electives students can use.
- College programs have specific course requirements. Courses outside those requirements may not transfer.

The University of Maine System is an EEO/AA employer, and does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information or veteran’s status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Director of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5754, 207.581.1226, TTY 711 (Maine Relay System).

The Maine Community College System is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please contact the MCCS Office of Human Resources at 207.289.4000. The complete notice of non-discrimination is available at mccs.me.edu/non-discrimination.
I am interested in how things work and solving problems.

Possible Majors at MCCS:
- Architectural Drafting & Design
- HVAC Technology
- Automotive Technology

Possible Majors at UMS:
- Surveying Technology
- Environmental Science
- Biology

Possible Careers
2-Year Degree:
- Electrician
- Welder
- Plumber
- Automotive Technician

4-Year Degree:
- Civil Engineer
- Biomedical Engineer
- Marine Biologist
- Chemist

I want to help keep people safe and protected.

Possible Majors at MCCS:
- Criminal Justice
- Emergency Medical Services
- Paramedicine
- Fire Science

Possible Majors at UMS:
- Criminal Justice
- Political Science
- Public Policy/Administration
- Justice Studies

Possible Careers
2-Year Degree:
- Game Warden
- Police Officer
- Firefighter
- EMT
- Detective

4-Year Degree:
- Federal Police Officer
- Border Patrol Agent
- Government

I would like to run or own a business. I like to organize and analyze information.

Possible Majors at MCCS:
- Accounting
- Business
- Marketing
- Hospitality & Tourism

Possible Majors at UMS:
- Accounting
- Finance
- Business Administration
- Marketing

Possible Careers
2-Year Degree:
- Bookkeeper
- Sales Manager
- Hotel Manager
- Small Business Owner

4-Year Degree:
- Financial Analyst
- Advertising
- Account Executive
- Project Manager

I am interested in the health of people or animals.

Possible Majors at MCCS:
- Medical Terminology
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Intro to Biomedical Science

Possible Majors at UMS:
- Athletic Training
- Nursing
- Rehabilitation Science
- Biology/Pre-Med

Possible Careers
2-Year Degree:
- Early Childhood Educator
- Day Care Owner
- Educational Technician

4-Year Degree:
- Teacher (Music, Art, Elementary, Science, History, Math)
- Special Education

I would like to work with students.

Possible Majors at MCCS:
- Intro to Childhood Education
- Early Childhood Education

Possible Majors at UMS:
- Education
- Career & Tech Education
- Early Childhood Education
- Special Education

Possible Careers
2-Year Degree:
- Early Childhood Educator
- Day Care Owner
- Educational Technician

4-Year Degree:
- Teacher (Music, Art, Elementary, Science, History, Math, Special Education)

I like to use technology to design, create, and solve problems.

Possible Majors at MCCS:
- Computer Science
- IT
- Network Security
- Graphic Design

Possible Majors at UMS:
- Computer Science
- IT
- Information Systems Security

Possible Careers
2-Year Degree:
- Network & System Admin
- Database Administrator
- IT Technician

4-Year Degree:
- Programmer
- Systems Analyst
- IT Security
- Web Designer
- GIS/Mapping

These are only a few examples of the many career exploration pathways offered by Maine’s Public Colleges and Universities.

Talk to your school counselor or visit oncourse.me.edu and academics.maine.edu/early-college to learn more about Early College Opportunities statewide.