

3-Year Early Graduate Questions and Answers

Is there a minimum GPA requirement to be doing this program?

There is no minimum GPA requirement for this program.

Will it affect any college application?

This is a new initiative in the state of North Carolina so there is limited information available at this time on how colleges will review admission applications of students graduating early.

If my child is accepted but later changes his mind can he withdraw from the program?

Students that commit to this program can seek to return to the traditional graduation track before they register for their 3rd year. Changing back will not be allowed after the start of the 3rd year.

Is it compulsory to have AP CSP credit ?

It does not have to be the AP Computer Science credit, but all students will be required to have a high school computer science credit beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. NCDPI has provided a list of courses that will meet this requirement. Here are the courses we offer at PCHS that meet the requirement.

- AP Computer Science Principles
- AP Computer Science A
- Adobe Visual Design I
- Adobe Visual Design II
- Adobe Video Design I
- Adobe Video Design II
- Technology, Engineering, and Design
- Engineering Design

What are the benefits of taking part in the 3 year graduation program?

This is a new program, so we do not have an answer to this question yet.

Will this be applicable only in NC state ?

This is a North Carolina initiative and may be implemented by other school districts across the state.

What happens if the student moves to another school within NC ? Can they continue the 3 year graduation in all schools ?

Not all districts in North Carolina will have a 3-year graduate option. You will need to contact the district prior to enrolling to see what options may be available.

What does it mean two 2 foreign language requirements for colleges?

Colleges still recommend students take 2 foreign languages in sequence (Spanish I & II), although it is no longer an enrollment requirement.

Are students that are accepted into the program guaranteed the classes they request?

Enrollment into this program does not guarantee class request. Students in this program will not gain preferred status over 4-year graduation student at Panther Creek.

Will colleges treat 3 year graduates as 4 year graduates?

This program is new to North Carolina and WCPSS, specifically. We do not know how colleges and universities will respond to 3-year graduates.

If the student has an IEP are they eligible for this program?

Students with IEPs are eligible to apply for this program.

What type of student would benefit from this 3-year graduation program?

A student that is self motivated and committed to completing the required course work in 3-years.

Do 9th graders need to apply by May 4th this year?

Rising 9th Grade students will apply with their current middle school however current 9th graders will apply at their current high school.

Has this application to be done while in Year 9 alone or can be applied in Year 10 or 11, if the student manages to meet the requirements ?

Students have to apply this year to be considered for this program. Following this initial application (Spring 2024), students will only be accepted into this program as rising 9th graders.

Is this only applicable for colleges in NC? Can my kid apply for other colleges in other states or countries?

The Opportunity Scholarships are only for North Carolina institutions. They cannot be used for out-of-state universities.

Will my son still be able to walk down the aisle to receive his diploma in 2026?

Students will graduate at the end of what would be their 3rd year of high school. They must graduate once they have completed their 22 credits.

Current 10th graders- can they change their classes requested for 11th grade to accommodate the requirement for this?

We will work with any current 9th and 10th grade students to make sure they get the courses required for completion of a 3-year graduate.

Will the foreign languages be considered an elective?

Yes

Will there be specific guidance counseling/ career counseling for these students?

Students will work with their alpha assigned counselor to make sure they stay on course for completion of the program.

also wanted to know about sports? Would all sports stop?

Students in this program can participate in sports, but after the 3rd year, students are considered graduates and cannot continue to participate in school sponsored activities, including athletics.

How is the evaluation of Weighted and unweighted GPA will be done for the 3 year grad program.

Weights will remain the same, but students will miss a year of potential courses including electives and/or AP courses.

Can I do Math 3 and Math 4, English 3 and English 4 in 11th grade?

No, we will work to follow the proposed schedule format we shared during the presentation. Counselors will work with students individually to make the best choices for them.

How will the scholarship be affected by a 3Y program vs a 4Y program?

We do not know the impact on scholarships. 3-year graduates are not eligible for Senior Scholarship opportunities.

To apply for colleges would I be using a regular college application or is there a different one for 3 year graduates?

You would apply to college as a typical high school graduate.

Does it mean to have a more workload in learning?

Yes, there will be a more rigorous workload. Students will have to earn all 22 of their requirements within 3 years.

Is there a limit to the number of kids eligible for requesting 3 year graduation?
There is no limit to the number of students who can be admitted into the 3-year graduate program.

Does more workload in the 3rd year means they will need to forgo the upcoming summer to accommodate for rigor programs?

Each student will need to determine how much they can take and balance their workload. This is a new program and we do not know how this will impact students or their summer plans.

Will the legislation change and revert back to a 4Y program? What will be the implications if my kid is in the middle of doing a 3Y program?

We do not know if the legislation will change, but students on the program will be honored until graduation.

Will the kids be allowed to take additional summer classes in community college if they opt for 3 yr graduation?

Yes, but make sure you work with your counselor before signing up for summer courses.

Can the students take AP classes/ college credit outside PCHS? Or at another outside entity?

Students can sign up for any courses they would like, but there is never a guarantee that students will get every course they sign up to take. If students are looking at courses outside of PCHS, they will continue to work through Student Services to make sure they sign up correctly and can get the proper credit.

Will some of these courses be virtual learning?

NO, there will be no virtual learning.

In this program is it possible to also do dual enrollment?

PCHS courses take priority over any dual-enrollment selections. You cannot ask for both courses at the same time.