

# AHEAD PROGRAM

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The AHEAD Program is designed to add structure to the currently existing informal method of enrolling high school students at UAF. High school students who want to receive academic advising, official admission into UAF with degree-seeking status (an advantage in the registration process), and dual high school and university credit will want to enroll at UAF through the AHEAD Program. Participation is voluntary, and some students may still want to proceed independently in the Dual Enrollment Program or pursue TECH PREP opportunities.

## Goals and Objectives

- Admit qualified high school students into UAF as concurrently enrolled students (simultaneously enrolled for credit in high school and university courses).
- Provide eligible high school students official UAF admittance (with degree-seeking, freshmen status), thereby enabling students to take advantage of early orientation and registration programs.
- Foster planned, cooperative advising among the high school student, parents, high school counselor and/or teacher, and the UAF AHEAD coordinator.
- Provide local high school students with unique opportunities for enriched scholastic and talent development.

## General Program Description

High school students with exceptional general scholastic and/or specific talent abilities will be introduced to the AHEAD Program during their freshman year of high school. Examples of subjects that may be used for concurrent enrollment include mathematics, computer science, English, art, music, and theatre; however, this is not an exhaustive list.

While planning for entrance into the program is encouraged during the freshman year of high school, nothing precludes identification of participants in their sophomore or junior year. However, the earlier the participation in the AHEAD Program, the better the opportunity for planning an integrated high school and university curriculum which best meets the needs of the participants.

The AHEAD Program will occur in the following three phases:

- *Information and Planning:* Information about this program will be provided to all interested students and their parents. Early identification of possible participants in the program will facilitate planning and enhance the integration of the high school and university curricula to best meet the needs of each individual enrollee. High school students should strive to complete as many high school requirements as possible through the end of their junior year. This will leave the senior year more open for the inclusion of university-level courses.

Courses to be taken for dual credit should be carefully planned and pre-approved during this phase. Students must complete outside credit forms prior to the start of each semester in order

to receive high school credit for UAF classes. The counselors in each high school will expedite requests for dual credit, and the registrar in each high school will be responsible for getting the appropriate paperwork to the UAF AHEAD coordinator. An admitted and enrolled student who has successfully completed a university course, automatically receives university credit for that course and establishes a UAF academic record. However, the degree to which a selected university course meets high school credit and graduation requirements is determined by the school district.

- *Admissions and Enrollment:* Admittance to UAF is based on an evaluation of GPA and coursework. A minimum high school grade point average of 2.50 is required. Students must take the ACT or SAT test prior to enrolling in UAF classes. In addition, applicants must have completed 75% of the high school academic core curriculum required for admission as freshmen at UAF or be able to demonstrate progress equivalent to 75% of the core.

Students wishing to enter the program will complete the AHEAD application, along with all of the necessary recommendations required on the form, and return it to the high school registrar. The registrar will then be responsible for forwarding the application to the AHEAD coordinator at UAF. Each application will be evaluated to include a review of the student's qualifications and his/her ability to succeed and benefit from participation in the program. The AHEAD coordinator will then call the student to schedule an interview. Paperwork should be processed with UAF application deadlines in mind (August 1 for fall registration, December 1 for spring registration, and March 1 for summer registration).

Tuition and fees for concurrently enrolled students are based on the current tuition and fee rates and are the responsibility of the students/parents. The FNSBSD will not pay tuition costs, but the registrar in each high school may be able to provide information about possible sources of funding.

- *Orientation and Advising:* Students accepted into the AHEAD Program will attend an orientation and early registration program held in late April for incoming freshmen for the following fall semester at UAF. Usually this will occur during the spring semester of the students' high school junior year. At this time, students will meet with the UAF academic advisor and finalize plans for courses for the year. Actual registration for the fall semester will be done at this time. Students will be eligible for priority (early) registration for the spring semester that will be held in November.

Contact your counselor if you are interested in the AHEAD Program.