

August 2016

Dear Prospective PACC Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's University in Winona, Minnesota!

As Director of Saint Mary's University's Program for Advanced College Credits (PACC), I am delighted that you are considering the PACC opportunity for your son or daughter. In an effort to provide you with as much information as possible prior to registration, I write this letter to address some of the most frequently-asked questions we receive each year.

Among the foremost of these, of course, is how and whether PACC credits will transfer to other colleges and universities. On our website, www.smumn.edu/pacc, you will find a list of institutions that responded to the 2014 Saint Mary's survey asking whether they accept dual credits. If the school you are interested in is not on the list, it does not necessarily mean that the institution will not accept dual enrollment credit; it is merely because that school did not return the 2014 survey form. Please check with that institution to inquire whether it does actually accept dual enrollment credits. If a school is listed as one that responded affirmatively to the 2014 survey, ***please check with that institution to determine how those credits will be used.***

Some schools accept credits for the course while others accept credit as electives. ***I strongly encourage you to contact the individual school to find out exactly how your child's credits will be applied.*** If your son or daughter chooses to attend Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, all credits and courses will be accepted.

Another frequently-asked question pertains to how the grade point average will transfer. The answer will vary with the institution. In most instances, PACC grades are not calculated into the GPA of a different college/university; however, there are a handful of schools that do incorporate those grades. ***Again, check with the schools your child is interested in attending to find out whether dual enrollment GPA will transfer.*** If the student decides to attend Saint Mary's, the grade point average will be calculated into part of his/her college GPA.

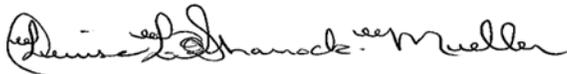
PACC differs from Advanced Placement in that AP issues credits based solely on one final test at the end of an entire year of coursework. If the day of the AP test is not a good testing day, there is much to be lost. PACC credit is issued based on a cumulative grade calculated at the end of the course and is reflective of work completed throughout the class, just as with a traditional college course. A transcript for Saint Mary's University of Minnesota will be issued to your student indicating the final letter grade and the number of credits earned.

In order to qualify for this prestigious program, your child must meet the following mandatory requirements:

- Have at least a 'B' grade point average
- Score at least at the 50th percentile on your school's standardized test
- Return the registration form and the tuition fee to your high school by the stated deadline
- Achieve enrollment at the discretion of the high school teacher/administrator

I encourage you to consult with your child's teacher as soon as possible for more details and a registration form to ensure a spot for your son/daughter in the PACC courses being offered during the 2016-2017 school year. You will also find additional helpful resources, including a printable brochure, on our website: www.smumn.edu/pacc

My very best wishes throughout the upcoming academic year,



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