

Strongsville City Schools Quick Guide to HS Credit Options:

Please see the [full SCS Program of Studies link](#) for complete information, course selections and additional options.

AP Courses:

Advanced Placement courses enable students to pursue college-level studies — with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both — while still in high school. Because of their academic rigor, these courses are assigned a weighted high school grade. All students enrolled in AP classes are encouraged to take the AP exam. Acceptable AP scores enable students to earn college credit by demonstrating competence in freshman college-level course work. Students and parents should be very sensitive to the demanding nature of AP courses. Reading expectations for these classes are extensive. In most cases, summer reading from an approved list is required. Students will be asked to be involved in college level activities, particularly in the areas of writing and test taking. Advanced Placement courses place a high degree of emphasis on the student's own self-motivation, study skills, and the ability to self-direct his or her own learning. **See SHS Guidance Page:**

<http://www.strongnet.org/Page/1026> or visit www.apcentral.collegeboard.com for extensive information about the AP Program.

Strongsville City Schools offers the following Advanced Placement Courses (current as of 2015-2016 school year):

Biology, Calculus - AB, Calculus - BC, Chemistry, Computer Science A, Economics - Macro, Economics - Micro, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, European History, French, German, Human Geography, Physics (Mechanics), Spanish, Statistics, U.S. Government & Politics, U.S. History

College Credit Plus:

Ohio's College Credit Plus allows qualified students in grades 7-12 to earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking college courses from community colleges or universities. Taking a college course from a public college or university College Credit Plus is free. That means there is no cost for tuition, books or fees. If a student chooses to attend a private college or university, there may be costs. To learn more about College Credit Plus, please visit the [College Credit Plus webpage](#) at Ohio Higher Education.

Steps to Participate:

- Talk with your school counselor. Discuss your interest in taking college courses and how it fits in with your overall academic plan and career goals.
- Prior to **March 1**, your district will provide information about the College Credit Plus program to all students in grades 7-12. An informational session will be held and all colleges and universities within a 30-mile radius will be invited to attend before **March 30**. By **April 1**, notify your school counselor if you intend to participate in College Credit Plus next year.
- You and your family should contact colleges for information, application forms, and criteria for acceptance into College Credit Plus. You must go through the procedures established by the colleges/universities to apply to College Credit Plus. You may have to take a college placement test to make sure you are college-ready.
- [FAQ document on College Credit Plus](#)

Currently, Strongsville High School has partnered with the following institutions of higher learning: Cleveland State University, Hiram College, Lake Erie College, Lakeland Community College, Lorain Community College, Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University

CREDIT FLEXIBILITY:

Credit Flexibility allows students to earn credit by demonstrating academic and skill level performance through a variety of educational options. Students may pursue alternative coursework or create a plan to demonstrate subject area competency instead of taking the course at the building. Approved credit awarded through these guidelines will be posted on a student's transcript and counted as required graduation credit in the related subject area or as an elective. A student must complete the Credit Flexibility Application and obtain approval **PRIOR** to beginning the coursework. Students wishing to earn credit through alternate pathways must complete a Credit Flexibility Application. A complete informational packet and application is available on the SHS Guidance website.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER:

A physical education waiver is an alternate way to complete physical education requirements. With a P.E. Waiver, students receive no credit and no grade; students are waived from taking two P.E. classes. A student may waive physical education classes by completing two full seasons of SHS athletics, cheerleading or marching band. Should a student become injured or not complete the season for **ANY** reason, he/she must find an alternate way to satisfy his/her P.E. requirement. A student interested in a P.E. Waiver must complete a Physical Education Waiver Application found on the SHS Guidance website.

GRADING AND CLASS RANK:

All courses will be graded using the following scales. Honors/AP classes use the weighted scale and all others use the unweighted scale:

UNWEIGHTED

A = 4 points

B = 3 points

C = 2 points

D = 1 point

F = 0 points

WEIGHTED

A = 5 points

B = 4 points

C = 3 points

D = 1 point

F = 0 points

**Class rank and GPA are based on the weighted semester grades in all subjects. SHS transcripts use weighted grades. Students should understand that some universities calculate all applicants GPA using unweighted grades. National Honor Society candidacy is determined using weighted grades. Honors diplomas are determined by using unweighted grades.*