

Sample Letter to Parents

CAMPUS LETTERHEAD

April 21, 2020

Dear Parent of _____

At ____ High School, our mission is to prepare graduates for the future. We want to inform you about an opportunity that will assist your student in becoming more prepared for college. College Preparatory classes in English Language Arts and Mathematics will be offered in the 2020-21 school year. Successful completion of the course(s) will allow your student to receive a Texas Success Initiative (TSI) exemption, which means college developmental education courses will not be required if a student enrolls in a Region 1 or Region 2 (Coastal Bend) higher education institution within 24 months from the day of graduation.

Student performance data indicate your student may not be ready to perform entry-level college coursework. While the College Preparatory courses are not mandatory, they are recommended as an option for a student to be considered “college-ready.” Both college preparatory courses are full-year courses, earn one credit each, and count as a fourth credit for ELA or Math.

Please indicate your decision by checking “Yes” or “No” below and returning this letter to the counseling office by _____.

College Preparatory English YES NO

College Preparatory Mathematics YES NO

For questions or additional details regarding these courses, please contact _____ (school counselor) at _____.

Sincerely,

Principal

COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSES (CPC)

Frequently Asked Questions

Are high schools required to offer CPC?

Under Section 28.014 of the Texas Education Code, each school district is required to provide CPC in English language arts and mathematics.

Are students required to enroll in college preparatory courses?

School districts are required to provide notice to each student who meets eligibility criteria for the course; however, students are not required to enroll in CPC.

What are the benefits to the student of enrolling in CPC?

Students who take CPC are better prepared for rigorous college classes. Additionally, students who successfully complete the class will be identified as college-ready and will not be required to provide other college readiness measures or required to take college development education (DE) classes, which are costly in time and money. Research shows that students who enter college needing DE are less likely to graduate from college than those who do not. Students who successfully complete the course will be TSI-exempt for 24 months from the date graduation with respect to the content area of the course. Enrollment must be in the student's first college-level course in the exempted content area in the student's first year of enrollment in an institution of higher education.

What are the benefits to the district of having the students complete CPC?

CPC are part of the accountability system. The College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) component impacts all domains in the A-F System. Graduates may demonstrate college, career, or military readiness by successfully completing and earning credit for a CPC as defined in TEC §28.014, in both ELA and mathematics.

Which students need to enroll in the course? What are the prerequisites?

The courses are designed for students in Grade 12 who have not met college readiness standards. To enroll in the CP English course, students must meet the passing standard on the English Reading and Writing I and II End of Course (EOC) exams. For CP Mathematics, students must demonstrate successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and one additional foundation mathematics credit and meet the passing standard on the Algebra I EOC.

What does a student do when the class is successfully completed?

The student will receive a certificate that indicates successful completion. The certificate and official copy of the final transcript need to be provided to the higher education institution. Successful completion of the course does not guarantee admission to a postsecondary institution.

Will students receive high school credit for CPC?

Yes. Students will receive 1.0 credit for the full-year course.

Transcript codes: CPC English Language Art – CP110100 CPC Mathematics – CP 111200

Will students receive college credit for CPC?

No. The CPC are not college courses, and students do not earn college credit.

May the CPC take the place of other courses?

Students may take the CP English course as a 4th year English course and may take CP Mathematics as a 4th year math course.

Which higher education institutions in our area will accept the courses?

The following will accept CPC: Coastal Bend College, Del Mar College, Texas A&M U.-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M U.-Kingsville, UT-Rio Grande Valley, South Texas College, Texas Southmost College, Texas State Technical College, Laredo Community College and Texas A&M-International.