

USE DUAL COLLEGE CREDIT TO GET AHEAD IN HIGH SCHOOL

Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) registration opens this Thursday, April 6, for new students taking summer classes, either online or at one of several TMCC campuses. If you are 15 or older, here's why you might want to consider these courses:

1. **Save time.** By arrangement with the school district, many of these courses offered for a month over the summer will give you an entire year of high school credit for English, math, science, social studies, etc.
2. **Take them online.** Save a lot of commuting time by doing weekly assignments from home.
3. **Get a head start on college credit.** If you attend UNR another NV public institution of higher education, most of these courses count towards your NV college degree and/or general distribution requirements.
4. **Replace a poor grade.** Don't like that C in freshman or sophomore English on your transcript? Replace it with college English 101 or 102. TMCC has a counterpart course for most courses taught in high school.
5. **Meet some great professors and get on UNR's radar.** Is UNR your first choice for college? This is a chance for some great professors to get to know you long before you're admitted. Find a class, then go to www.ratemyprofessors.com to find which sections are being taught by excellent professors, like Patricia Cullinan (English), Sharon Lowe (US History Since 1877), or Paul Davis (American Government).
6. **Two sessions to choose from.** There are two five-week summer sessions, one running from May 30 to June 30, then the second from July 10 to August 11.
7. **Don't forget Western Nevada College.** WNC in Carson City is even more supportive of high school students, with some terrific professors like Jeffrey Downs (Math 120) and Robert Whitcomb (Intro to Retailing, a business course for Occupational Ed or Elective credit). It's a smaller college with fewer offerings in the summer, but with many more courses to choose from in the fall with superior offerings in computer sciences/applied technology. WNC has one eight-week session, from June 12-Aug 5.

Cost? Plan on about \$100 per unit, with most college semester courses consisting of 3 units for one year of high school credit. You may use your Education Savings Account and 529 funds for these courses, but not Millennium Scholarship funds (you need to have graduated from high school to do that) and you won't be eligible for college loans.

The fine print: finishing a semester of college in five weeks is a lot of work; plan on four hours a day for most courses. The colleges are not flexible with missed deadlines, but the My Canvas app is great about reminding you of upcoming assignments. Consider taking a WNC course over eight weeks instead of TMCC in five weeks to spread the workload over a longer time.

And while nearly all these courses will be accepted at Nevada colleges, it's less certain they will be accepted by colleges in other states. If you have your eye set on the UC system, try taking online courses through Sierra College in Rocklin or any other California State community college; any course designated "UC" will be accepted by any UC campus. And best of all, course fees are only \$1 per unit for California residents.

For more detailed instructions on how to find a class, take a placement test, and enroll, please visit our website: www.ischools.us/dualcredit, or the college websites directly at www.tmcc.edu or www.wnc.edu. Registration for fall classes opens April 10 for WNC and April 27 for TMCC; classes fill up quickly, so register soon.

I-School in Incline Village offers college counseling, ACT/SAT preparation and ACCUPLACER testing in addition to accredited courses for grades 3-12 and credit for dual credit college courses in California, Nevada and elsewhere.