

MAST@FIU BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

Student Course Selection

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why didn't I get the course(s) I indicated on my course selection form?

Our task is to make sure that you meet all of the graduation requirements specified by Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the State of Florida, and MAST@FIU. Sometimes, we have to make changes in your educational program to ensure that you meet those requirements or if changes are made in the Student Progression Plan that require us to modify your program of study.

2. Why didn't I get the Advanced Placement (AP) course(s) I indicated on my course selection form?

The score you obtained on the PSAT did not qualify you to take the course based on the AP Potential Report published by the College Board. The statistical correlation demonstrated between PSAT scores and potential success (score of 3 or greater) on AP examinations has been researched and documented for many years. High school counselors have come to rely on the AP Potential Report in determining which AP courses students should enroll.

3. What is the AP Potential Report and how is it used to determine course eligibility in the Advanced Placement program?

The AP Potential Report was developed by the College Board to assist counselors with the placement of students in specific AP courses. The report correlates student PSAT scores to success on AP course examinations by identifying the specific PSAT cut scores that are associated with varying probabilities (or thresholds) of success on a given AP exam.

The probabilities of success listed on the report range from 10% to 90% and show the minimum scores associated with earning a 3 or higher or a 4 or higher for each probability level. The higher the probability level, the higher the PSAT score needed, and the more likely that the selected students will earn a 3 or higher or a 4 or higher. The report that high schools use most often is generated at the 60% percent probability level because a student who demonstrates this probability of success in a specific AP course will most likely receive a 3 or greater on the associated AP examination. It is not uncommon for students to qualify for only one or two AP courses based on this analysis. Visit www.collegeboard.com for more information.

4. Why did the criteria for enrollment in the AP program change?

Colleges and universities admissions officers review the AP course grades and AP examination scores of their applicants. Today, most colleges and universities require either a "4" or a "5" on an AP examination in order to award academic course credit in a specific discipline. Additionally, admissions officers correlate AP course grades to AP examination scores to evaluate the efficacy of the College Board curricula. In their review, they determine if the following relationship exists between AP scores and course grades: 5=A, 4=B, C=3, D=2 and F=1 or 0.

Standardized assessments, such as the PSAT, SAT, and ACT have been in place for many years. As a result, they are viewed as very good predictors of success in college. So much so, that colleges and universities use them extensively when they screen their applicants. Because of their proven reliability, it makes sense that we would use the same criteria in determining eligibility for the AP Program.

6. If I didn't get the Advanced Placement (AP) course(s) I indicated on my course selection form, is there a way for me to ask for an exception?

Yes. Exceptions may be granted for students depending on grade level, course grades, grade point average, standardized test scores, student interest, and motivation.

7. Why didn't I get the Dual Enrollment (DE) course(s) I indicated on my course selection form?

The criteria for enrollment in the DE program have changed since last year. The criteria now includes no high school grades lower than a "B" and a qualifying PERT, PSAT, SAT or ACT score depending on grade level population as shown below. Students who obtain a grade lower than C+ in any DE course previously taken are also excluded from enrollment in any DE courses.

Population	Required Assessment	Qualifying Scores
Rising 9 th Graders	PERT	Math 123 or higher, English: Reading 106 or higher, Writing 103 or higher
9 th Graders	PERT	Math 123 or higher, English: Reading 106 or higher, Writing 103 or higher
10 th Graders	PSAT	Score must meet the 60% expectancy level for specific course
11 th and 12 th Graders	SAT	500 for each section (Math, Reading & Writing), 1500 minimum composite score
11 th and 12 th Graders	ACT	Minimum composite score of 21 for all sections (English, Reading, & Math)

8. If I didn't receive the course(s) associated with the Dual Enrollment Program as I indicated on my course selection form, is there a way for me to ask for an exception?

Yes. Exceptions may be granted for students depending on grade level, high school and DE course grades, grade point average, standardized test scores, student interest, and motivation. No exceptions will be granted for students who received less than a C+ in a previously taken DE course or for those missing courses required for graduation or scholarship affiliation.

9. Why was I removed from the course(s) affiliated with the Executive Internship Program that I indicated on my course selection form?

In many instances, students were removed from the course(s) affiliated with the Executive Internship Program because they had to complete one or two courses in order to meet the graduation requirements specified by Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the State of Florida, and MAST@FIU.

10. If I didn't receive the courses associated with the Executive Internship Program as I indicated on my course selection form, is there a way for me to ask for an exception?

Yes. Exceptions may be granted for rising 11th and 12th grade students who are on track to graduate on time, have no unexcused absences, and no academic or conduct grades lower than a "B." Students must submit an application and receive district approval to participate in the program.