



## ASCENT



### WHAT IS ASCENT?

ASCENT stands for Accelerating Students through Concurrent Enrollment. It is a 5th year high school program that pays for one year of college the year right after high school. ASCENT students receive free tuition, fees and textbooks while also receiving wrap-around advising and support during the critical transition from high school to college. ASCENT gives you a head start in earning a certificate, associate's, or bachelor's degree...all while saving time and money.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE ASCENT PROGRAM?

- Attend college for one year (fall and spring semesters) for free!
- Receive wrap-around advising and support services in college
- Receive additional financial aid time after ASCENT year
- Save time and money on a college degree or certification credentials

### PARTICIPATING COLLEGES

You can choose to attend one of these eight participating technical-, community-, or 4 year-colleges in Colorado:

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|--|---|
| ● Arapahoe Community College (ACC)     | ● Red Rocks Community College (RRCC)      |
| ● Community College of Aurora (CCA)    | ● Emily Griffith Technical College (EGTC) |
| ● Community College of Denver (CCD)    | ● Pickens Technical College (PTC)         |
| ● Front Range Community College (FRCC) | ● MSU Denver                              |

### ASCENT ELIGIBILITY

Talk to your Counselor or Future Center Advisor about your eligibility for ASCENT. To be eligible, you must:

- Complete and pass 9 credit hours of college coursework by the end of your senior year (see below)
- Meet all DPS high school graduation requirements
- Be college-ready in English and Math for your desired career pathway (not req'd for EGTC and PTC)
- Be in the Class of 2024
- Be less than 21 years old as of 10/1/2024
- Graduate from a traditional, pathway or charter school in DPS (not an Early College or PTECH)
- Apply and be admitted to the college or university you will attend during your ASCENT year.

### WAYS TO EARN 9 POST-SECONDARY CREDITS FOR ASCENT ELIGIBILITY

- Pass a 100-level or higher Concurrent/Dual Enrollment course with C- or better and listed on your high school and college transcripts
- Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exams taken prior to senior year may count toward the 9 credits needed for eligibility with specific exam scores\*
- CLEP exam scores may count toward the 9 credits needed with specific exam scores\*

***\*exams must be transcribed on a college transcript no later than June 30th of a student's 12th grade year.***



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- [collegeandcareer.dpsk12.org/ascent](https://collegeandcareer.dpsk12.org/ascent)
- [thecommons.dpsk12.org](https://thecommons.dpsk12.org) (search "ASCENT")

## INTERESTED IN ASCENT?

You can fill out this form to receive ASCENT application reminders.



## HOW CAN YOU APPLY FOR ASCENT?

You should work with their Counselor and/or Future Center Advisor to complete the [ASCENT Application](#) by March 1st.

## ASCENT TIMELINE

-November 1, 2023: Application opens

-March 1, 2024: Application deadline

-April/May 2024:

- Official offer to join ASCENT emailed to applicants who have met ASCENT eligibility requirements
- Students attend a mandatory informational meeting prior to accepting a slot in ASCENT
- No later than June 1, students provide the ASCENT team with their HS diploma and an unofficial college transcript. Original diplomas are returned upon completion or exit of the program

-June 1, 2024: Deadline for all eligible students to accept an ASCENT slot for the 2023-24 school year

## IMPORTANT:

ASCENT may or may not be the best financial option for you! Be sure you apply for ALL financial aid and scholarships during their senior year, including the FAFSA/CASFA and DSF. See your Counselor or Future Center Advisor for help!

## CONTACTS

- [Kelly Gilmore](#), Program Manager
- [Anayeli Perez Cruz](#) and [Ilse Chavez](#), Program Coordinators