



State And Federal Annual Notice of Educational Options

January 1, 2026

Educational options for children who are within the Ripon Area School District (RASD) attendance area include the following:

- **Full-time enrollment in a school within RASD**

The District's primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old kindergarten through grade 12, leading to a high school diploma. RASD has the following schools:

Elementary Schools
Barlow Park Elementary (EC, 4K-2)
Murray Park Elementary (3-5)
Middle Schools
Ripon Middle (6-8)
High Schools
Ripon High (9-12)
Virtual Schools
Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning (4K-12)

Some of the specific education programs and initiatives offered to eligible students who are enrolled in and attend the District's schools include the following:

- 1:1 electronic devices provided in grades K-12 as well as classroom sets of electronic devices in 4K
- Special Education for children with disabilities in 4 year old and 5 year old Kindergarten through Grade 12
- Early Childhood Special Education for children with disabilities starting at age 3 but not yet school-age
- English Learner (EL) education
- Gifted and talented education
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs
- Individualized program and curriculum modifications
- Reading and math support
- Crossroads Academy- alternative high school education programming
- Hillside Academy- near site alternative middle and high school education programming
- Summer school programming

- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education
 - Post-secondary course options
 - Articulated classes offering dual-credit with area universities and colleges
 - Advanced Placement (AP) courses, Cooperative Academic Partnership Program (CAPP) courses
- **Part-time enrollment in other educational institutions:** Educational options for students who are enrolled in the Ripon Area School District that involve part-time attendance at an educational institution other than a school of the Ripon Area School District include part-time open enrollment and Early College Credit Program (ECCP) and/or Start College Now (SCN).

- **Early College Credit Program (ECCP) and Start College Now (SCN)** Students are eligible to take one or more courses at a UW or private college/university for high school and/or college credit through the ECCP. Students are also eligible to take courses for high school and/or college credit through a technical college through the SCN Program. Tuition and book costs associated with participating in the ECCP/SCN program are covered by the school district. Requests are due in the Student Services office by October 1st for the spring semester, February 1st for the summer term (ECCP only), and March 1st for the fall semester classes. Requests must identify the courses to be taken and have the student(s) and parents' signatures. Legislation does change from time to time. Please contact the student services office for current district practices.

Early College Credit Program Applications:

- [DPI site for ECCP Applications](#)
 - [Start College Now Application](#)
- **College Classes taken Outside of ECCP/SCN**
Students who elect to take college classes that they pay for, provided they are an accredited school, will earn high school credit using the same formula as ECCP/SCN.
 - **Youth Apprenticeship:**
Youth Apprenticeship offers a course of study for juniors and seniors that combines learning in school with learning on the job. This is a paid experience and a grade will be assigned based on performance. Students learn employability skills and technical tasks within a specific career path developed by business and industry representatives in cooperation with high school teachers in the CTE area. The student's job is matched with the career interest in one of the areas. Students need to make initial contact with a placement site within their career pathway. Paperwork must be filled out and approved prior to the start of the enrolled semester/year. For more information on Youth Apprenticeship visit the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development [Youth Apprentice site](#).

- **Part-time public school open enrollment Wis. Stat. 118.52**

Wisconsin public high school pupils may apply to attend one or two courses in non-resident school districts while remaining enrolled in their district of attendance for the majority of their classes. A pupil may attend no more than two courses at any time in non-resident school districts.

Under part-time public school open enrollment:

(1) The nonresident school district may deny a pupil's application only for the following reasons:

- Space is not available in the course.
- The pupil is not in high school grades.
- The pupil does not meet the nonresident school district's criteria for being admitted to the course.
- The pupil is not enrolled in a public high school in Wisconsin.

(2) The resident school district may deny a pupil's application only for the following reasons:

- The cost of the course creates an undue financial burden on the resident school district.
- The course conflicts with the individualized education program (IEP) for a pupil who needs special education. Use this link for access to the [parent and student brochure](#).

- **Full-time enrollment at an educational institution outside of RASD schools:**

Additional educational options for children who reside in the District that involve full-time enrollment/attendance at a school, program, or other educational institution that is not a school or instrumentality of RASD include the following:

- Full-time open enrollment involves physical attendance in a public school of a nonresident school district or attendance through a virtual charter school that is associated with a nonresident school district.
- High school students meeting certain age and other eligibility requirements may be permitted to attend a technical college or certain other programs for the purpose of completing a program leading to the student's high school graduation or to a high school equivalency diploma.
- A child with a disability who meets the program's specific eligibility requirements may apply to attend an eligible, participating private school under a scholarship awarded through the state's "Special Needs Scholarship Program," as established under section 115.7915 of the state statutes.
- Enrollment in a private school of the family's choosing (at the family's own cost, as applicable).
- Enrollment in a private school participating in the Wisconsin parental choice program.
- Enrollment in a home-based private educational program as provided under state law.

- **Private School Choice Programs:**

The Private School Choice Programs (Choice) include the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP), the Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP) and the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program or statewide program (WPCP). These programs allow eligible students to attend a participating private school in grades four-year-old kindergarten (K4) to 12. Visit <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/choice-programs> to learn more. Private school educational program also include the following:

- Opportunity to attend summer school classes/programs offered in RASD.
- High school students have the opportunity to apply for approval to take up to two courses per semester in a school within RASD, pursuant to section 118.145(4) of the state statutes.
- **Special Needs Scholarship Program:** Per 115.7915 of Wisconsin State Statute, school boards are required to annually notify families of students with disabilities of the Special Needs Voucher Program available to children who reside in the school district. This program was created under Wisconsin Act 55 and began with the 2016-17 school year.

Additional information is available online at dpi.wi.gov/sms/special-needs-scholarship.
See RASD website at
<https://www.ripon.k12.wi.us/district/special-needs-scholarship-program.cfm>

- **Home-Based Private Educational Program:**

Parents may opt to educate their children at home through the Home-Based Private Educational Program. Visit <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/home-based> to learn more.

- Opportunity to attend summer school classes/programs offered in RASD.
- Students who are enrolled in a home-based private educational program have the opportunity to:
 - Apply for approval to take up to two courses per semester in public schools as provided under section 118.53.
 - Participate in District interscholastic athletics and other District extracurricular activities as provided under section 118.133.

- **Open Enrollment:**

The inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend public school in a school district other than the one in which they reside. Visit <http://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment> to learn more.

- **Virtual Schools other than Ripon's Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning :**

In Wisconsin, a virtual charter school is the only form of online learning which allows an open enrolled pupil to participate remotely, that is, without having to physically attend school in the nonresident school district during all the days and hours that school is in session. Visit <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/charter-schools/virtual-charter-schools> to learn more.

- **Charter Schools:**

Charter schools are public, nonsectarian schools created through a business-like contract or "charter" between the charter governance board and the sponsoring school board or other chartering authority. The Wisconsin charter school law gives charter schools freedom from most state rules and regulations in exchange for greater accountability for results. Visit <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/charter-schools> to learn more.