



How to Apply for the Gateway to College program 5-Step Application Process

Please review the eligibility requirements before applying to the program:

- Between the ages of 16-20
- Live in one of the following school districts: Portland Public, Beaverton, Hillsboro, Tigard/Tualatin, Lake Oswego, Sherwood, or David Douglas
- Behind in high school credits for age/grade
- Have no more than 17 high school credits

Step 1: Complete an application packet

- Complete the application packet in full. Don't forget to sign it.
- Complete your written answers to the 3 essay questions.
- Get a copy of your official high school transcripts.
- Take the "School District Information Form" into either your neighborhood school or your school district office and have someone from your school or the district office fill it out and sign it.

Please note: If you live in the Lake Oswego, David Douglas, Sherwood or Tigard-Tualatin school district, you must be approved by the district to attend the Gateway to College program. You can contact your school counselor or the district office to discuss approval for Gateway. Your Gateway application cannot be considered if you are not approved by the district.

Step 2: Attend an Information Session

Make sure to reserve a place at an Information Session by calling the Gateway to College information line at (971) 722-6225 or by emailing jana.daugherty15@pcc.edu.

Bring all your application materials to the Information Session. These include: your application packet; your essays; your transcripts; and your completed "School District Information Form."

At the Information Session, you will:

- Take a short reading level test
- Receive information on the Gateway to College program to help you decide whether it seems like a good fit for you
- Have a chance to ask questions about the program
- Have your application materials reviewed to make sure you meet all basic eligibility requirements
- Allow us the chance to meet you and learn why you are interested in this program
- Get scheduled for the evaluations and interview

IMPORTANT: PCC Parking lots require permits! If you are driving, be prepared to buy a day parking permit (\$5) from a machine in the parking lot for the Information Session, Evaluation Sessions, and the Individual Interview.

Step 3: Attend a 2-day evaluation session

At the Information Session, if you meet the eligibility requirements, you will be referred to a 2-day Evaluation Session. Each day will be about 2 hours long.

At the evaluations, we'll do some skill assessments in reading, grammar, writing and math. This gives you the opportunity to show us that your skills are ready for Gateway. These evaluation sessions will require

100% attendance, and completion of in-class and homework assignments, and you must be on time to each session.

You must be referred to the evaluation sessions from an Information Session.

Step 4: Participate in an individual interview

At the Information Session, you will also be scheduled for an individual interview. Your interview will be one-on-one with a PCC Prep staff member, and will allow you to discuss any questions you have about the program. This is our chance to get to know you in an individual setting and learn more about your strengths and motivation.

Your interview will normally be the week of your Information Session. Your interview will be about half an hour long.

Please note: All interviews will take place at PCC's Southeast Center, located at 2305 SE 82nd Ave, at SE Division St, in Portland. Regardless of where you attend an Information Session, your interview will be held at Southeast Center. Please make any arrangements for transportation that you may need.

Step 5: Selection Committee Review

The selection committee will review all applications for the Gateway to College program. It is very important that you turn in all required application materials by the deadline. Acceptance is not guaranteed. Space in the program is limited.

The selection committee will be evaluating applicants based on the following factors:

- Meets all the eligibility requirements
- Application is complete, and all application materials were turned in by the deadline
- Achieves the minimum standard scores on all evaluations
- Displays positive behavior, attitude, and participation at the evaluations
- Completes the individual interview
- Displays a commitment to completing the Gateway to College program

You will be notified by letter of the Selection Committee's decision. If you are accepted, you will be sent a letter of acceptance, your class schedule and contact information for your Resource Specialist. If you are not accepted, you will be sent a letter explaining why, and suggesting other possible options. If you are placed on a wait list, your letter will explain that, and you will be offered a spot in the next possible term.

If you are accepted and currently enrolled in high school or an alternative educational program, you will need to withdraw from school. You cannot be dually enrolled in the Gateway to College program and a high school or alternative education program.

If you have any questions or concerns about the program or the application process, please call us at (971) 722-6213.

We look forward to meeting you!