

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT REGIONAL CHOICE INITIATIVE [RCI] 2006-2007

1. *Who is eligible to go to RCI?*

Juniors or seniors who meet the criteria to take a specific AP class at Fairview are eligible to take the comparable RCI class. If a comparable RCI class is not available at Fairview, the student must have an 85% average for the previous semester. The Fairview AP classes offered and the necessary criteria are:

AP English: A 93% or higher in 11<sup>th</sup> grade College Preparation Communications or successful completion of 11<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Communications. All others must apply.

AP Calculus/AP Statistics: Successful completion of Trigonometry.

AP European History/AP American History/AP Psychology: Students are required to have two courses in social studies with an A or B. Teacher recommendation.

AP Physics: Completion of one year of chemistry, one year of physics, completion of mathematics through trigonometry and approval of the physics teacher.

AP Chemistry: Successful completion of high school chemistry with at least an 85% average. Physics must be taken previously or concurrently. Completion of at least one year of algebra with at least an 85% average and the recommendation of chemistry teacher.

Students who are interested in taking RCI classes that do not have a comparable Fairview equivalent must have an 85% average for the previous semester. All students must also exhibit good attendance with no more than five absences the previous semester. Students who were in ISS/OSS the previous semester will not be eligible to attend RCI.

2. *What classes can I take? Can they replace required classes at Fairview?*

Edinboro University and Gannon University determine the classes they will offer.

You are not permitted to take the same class at RCI and Fairview and receive credit towards class rank. These would include, but are not be limited to, AP Psychology, AP English, and AP Calculus. If you want to take a class at RCI that you already completed at Fairview for the Edinboro or Gannon college credit, you will be permitted to. However, it will be on a Pass/Fail basis. Therefore, you will not receive points toward your class rank.

Juniors are required to remain at Fairview for their Communications, Economics/Comparative government, Physics, and SAT Prep/Computer Applications II classes. RCI classes will meet junior electives. RCI classes can be used to meet the senior math, communications, science, or social studies requirements or electives.

3. *What weight will they be?*

Since these are college courses, they will all receive an AP weight.

4. *Where is it being held? How do I get there? Can I drive?*

The classes are held on the campus of the Erie County Vo-Tech School. You may ride the Tech bus that leaves around 7:35 a.m. and returns in time for Lunch A. You are permitted to drive if you have written permission from your parents. You may transport another student if you have permission from your parents to do that and the parents of the student(s) you will be transporting. Forms will be provided for this.

5. *When do the classes begin and end? How long is each period? What happens if I miss one?*  
The classes are Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The start and end date will change each semester. There will be an orientation session the first day and then 30 class sessions. Each class is the same length as the classes held at Fairview.

Attendance will be taken at RCI. If you know you will be missing a class you must let the professor know ahead of time, complete the work and send it in with another student if possible. If you are ill the day of class, it is your responsibility to find out what work you missed via your classmates, phoning or emailing your professor. Fairview's class schedule does not coincide with the RCI schedule, and it is possible you will be required to be in RCI classes when Fairview is not in session.

6. *Who teaches the classes and how hard will they be?*  
Gannon and Edinboro professors are teaching the classes. Each individual professor will determine the difficulty of the class. The curriculum followed in the RCI classes is the same curriculum being taught on the Edinboro and Gannon campuses. Although there may be a few homework assignments or quizzes, your grade will be determined primarily by tests and papers. A great deal of independent reading will be required. There is little or no opportunity for extra credit or make up work

7. *What happens if I don't like the classes? Will I be reimbursed if I drop out?*  
You will only have two RCI meetings (one week) to decide if you want to change classes. After the second class, you can either return to Fairview full time or transfer into another RCI class. There will be no tuition reimbursement if you decide to drop out of RCI. Books must be purchased by the first class, so you might have the opportunity to try and sell them used. RCI will not buy them back. After this add/drop period of two class sessions, you must remain in the RCI program until the end of the semester since there will be no Fairview classes for you to move into.

8. *How many students will be in the class and where will the students come from? How many Fairview students are going and how many can go?*  
The classes will be around 25 students or less. Students are from most of the county schools with Fairview having the largest representation so far. During the 2005-2006 school year, about 30 Fairview students attended RCI. At this time there is no limit on the number of students who can go.

9. *What do I do when I don't have class in the morning?*  
On the mornings you don't have RCI, you **will be required** to report to Fairview for study and research. You will be assigned a teacher to supervise you.

10. *What is tuition? When do I pay for tuition and books?*  
For the 2006-2007 year, tuition will be \$300 for a three-credit class. A grant received by Fairview School district should lower the cost to approximately \$130.00. Once you are accepted into the program, you will receive a letter from RCI that will indicate what is owed and where to send the check. You will be notified about the cost of the textbooks. You will also receive a list of the books beforehand if you want to attempt to purchase the books used or online.

11. *How do I get my transcripts? Are you SURE the credits will transfer?*  
At the end of the semester the university that sponsored your class (Edinboro or Gannon) will send your transcript to you. When you enroll in your college or university, take the transcript with you and you should receive transfer credit.

The director of RCI and the Fairview guidance counselors have contacted dozens of universities to ask about the acceptance of transfer credits. All universities interviewed said they will accept courses from other universities if the course is taught by a university

professor, comes from the college catalogue and the grade is on an official college transcript. The RCI classes meet these criteria. If you want to double check a specific university, you can either call the office of admissions directly or come to the guidance office and we will call for you if we haven't already spoken with that university.

12. *Who can I talk to if I have more questions?*

The director of the RCI program is Mr. William Nichols. His office is at the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit and his phone number is 814-734-8408. The RCI Academy phone number is 814-860-3031. This phone answers from 8-11:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the RCI classes. The guidance counselors can answer questions about the program. The number is 474-2600, extension 3113.