Degree Start FAQ
Students, Parents, and Families

- What is Degree Start?
  - Degree Start is a pilot program for rising Junior and Senior high school students majoring in a liberal arts field.
- How do I know if I qualify for Degree Start?
  - Students interested in Degree Start should test at the college ready level. Check the pre-requisite list below to determine eligibility for college readiness.
- Where is Degree Start located?
  - Classes will be in-person, on the Centennial Campus from 9-11:40 am, Monday – Friday. Students will be in traditional courses with adult students. Degree Start classes will have different start and end dates than the high school calendar. Students will need to communicate with their instructors regarding any absences.
- How do students get to campus?
  - Participating districts will be using their transportation system to get Degrees Start students to campus. Check with your district to determine how to get on the transportation list.
- How much does Degree Start cost?
  - Tuition is covered by the school district; however, textbook costs and course fees may not be covered. Check with your student's counselor to determine the final cost of attendance.
- What classes are in the Degree Start program?
  - Classes for Degree Start have been predetermined and cannot be substituted. At the end of the first year, students have the opportunity to earn 19 college credits. The predetermined classes for this first pilot year include:

1st Year		
GEY 1111	Physical Geology with Lab	4 Credits
ENG 1021	English Composition I	3 Credits
PHI 1011	Introduction to Philosophy	3 Credits
ENG 1022	English Composition II	3 Credits
SOC 1001	Introduction to Sociology	3 Credits
ENV 1010	Natural Disasters	3 Credits

2nd Year		
HIS 2110	African American History	3 Credits
MAT 1240	Mathematics for Liberal Arts	4 Credits
ART 1110	Art Appreciation	3 Credits
COM 1250	Interpersonal Communication	3 Credits
ANT 1001	Cultural Anthropology	3 Credits
Elective		3 Credits

- Will these classes transfer to other colleges?
  - Yes, these classes will transfer. Check with the receiving institution your student is interested in transferring to, to determine exact transferability.
- What high school credits will be earned through Degree Start?
  - Determining what specific credit is earned through Degree Start varies from high school to high school. However, the academic credit guidelines were created by curriculum specialists and counselors for this specific purpose.
- What do I need to do before signing up for Degree Start?
  - Talk with your high school counselor to determine if this is the best fit for you.
  - Complete the PPSC application to receive a student ID number (S#) and email High School Programs your unofficial high school transcript, test scores, and/or score reports.
- How do I sign up for Degree Start?
  - Once determined eligible by the counselor or district, students will need to fill out an application and will be entered into a lottery. The application for Degree Start will open May 18th and the lottery drawing will be on June 1st at 12pm. There are 12 spots available and after all spots are filled, students will be placed on a waitlist.
- How will I be notified about placement into Degree Start?
  - The High School Programs team will notify students and their families about placement on June 3rd, via email, based on the lottery drawing and eligibility list received from counselors and districts. Students will need to fill out their enrollment packet by June 10th with the High School Programs office, 719-502-3111 or pikespeak.edu/hsp, to finalize their spot.
- Will I register for these Degree Start courses?
  - No, the High School Programs team will register the confirmed students for their classes. Students can check their PPSC portal, myportal.cccs.edu/, for their schedule prior to first day of classes.
- How do I check on my student's academic standing in Degree Start?
  - Students participating in Degree Start will need to monitor their grades and attendance independently. An early alert will be filed once the instructor determines the student is "at risk" and may need additional academic and/or community resources to overcome any issue standing in the way of the student's success.