

Credit vs. Noncredit Classes at Montgomery College

What is your next step? If you want to take a course at Montgomery College, you have two options: **noncredit classes** or **credit classes**.

| Noncredit Classes | Credit Classes |
|--|--|
| Students learn new job skills or improve their existing skills. These classes <i>do not</i> lead to a degree or certification. | Students receive grades and earn credits toward a degree or certification. |

What are the differences between credit classes and noncredit classes? See the chart below:

| | Noncredit Classes | Credit Classes |
|---|---|--|
| Admission Requirements and Testing | Enrollment is open. You do not need a high school diploma. Also, you do not need to take a test. | You do not need a high school diploma. You must pass the Accuplacer tests for English and mathematics. |
| Cost | You pay tuition and fees, but noncredit classes usually cost less than credit classes. For class costs, see www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce or call 240-567-5188 | You pay tuition and fees. The cost depends on where you live. In Fall Semester 2018 to Summer Semester 2019 , a Montgomery County resident pays \$197 per credit. Many classes are 3 credits. There are some extra fees. A 3 credit class costs \$517.80 with the fees. |
| Financial Aid | No loans are available. There is a scholarship program through Workforce Development & Continuing Education. | Scholarships and loans are available. |
| Time | Noncredit classes don't lead to a degree. You can take one class, or a series of classes, on your own schedule. | Full-time students take 2 years to complete an Associate's Degree. Part time students take longer. |
| Types of Classes | You take classes to learn new job skills, to get a better job, or for your personal development. | You take general education classes, as well as classes in your major area of study. |
| Grades | No. | Yes. If you get a D or an F in a class, you must take it again. |
| Employment Outlook | Generally speaking, you may be able to get or improve your job more quickly with noncredit classes. However, your position might be lower if you don't have a degree.* | Generally speaking, you may get a higher position with a degree. However, a degree takes time.* |

* This is general information. If you have specific questions related to your educational and career needs, see below:

Credit classes: Response Center: 240-567-5000 *or* www.montgomerycollege.edu

Noncredit classes: Workforce Development and Continuing Education (WDCE): (240) 567-5188 *or* www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce

