

# 7-Week Session FAQ

Starting in the fall semester of 2023, Brightpoint Community College will begin to offer students the option of completing some programs by taking 7-week session classes. The 7-week sessions allow students whose schedules prevent them from taking more than two or three classes at a time to complete their programs of study more quickly. Students should check with their faculty advisor to determine if the 7-week option is available for their program and if it is the right fit for their instructional needs.

## **Where can I find the start and end dates for 7-week sessions?**

[Academic Calendars](https://www.brightpoint.edu/academics/academic-calendar/) for the current and upcoming semesters can be found on the college website at <https://www.brightpoint.edu/academics/academic-calendar/> and include dates for the 7-week sessions.

## **Can I still qualify for financial aid if I'm only taking two or three 7-week classes?**

It depends on the total number of credits you register for during the semester. For instance, during the fall and spring semesters, if you enroll in two 3-credit classes for the first 7 weeks and two 3-credit classes for the second 7 weeks, you will be taking 12 credits for that semester and will be considered a full-time student. For questions about financial aid, you can reach out to the [Help Hub](#) for assistance. **To be eligible for financial aid, you should register for all of your classes at the beginning of the semester.**

## **Should I register for one 7-week session at a time?**

It is best to register for both the first 7-week and second 7-week sessions at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters, especially if you are receiving financial aid. If you are receiving aid and wait until the second 7-week session starts to register for a class, it will not be covered.

It is possible that your plans for the second 7-week session may change. If so, you can go into [myBrightpoint](#) to “SWAP” the original class you enrolled in for another class without affecting your financial aid.

## **When should I purchase my textbooks and other course materials?**

You need to order your books for both 7-week sessions at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters, especially if you plan to use financial aid funds. You must have your textbooks and course materials on the first day of class.

## **How will 7-week sessions impact part-time students?**

7-week sessions are great for part-time students, allowing them to focus on one or two classes at a time while having the opportunity to accumulate more credits each semester.

## **Will my 7-week course meet twice as long as a 15-week course?**

7-week courses at Brightpoint will be scheduled as either asynchronous or hybrid sections. (See below for definitions of those modalities.) However, it is important to note that the amount of material covered and instructional time required in a 7-week class is the same as in a 15-week class, and that the learning outcomes are identical. For that reason, students are limited to taking no more than 9 credits (typically 3 classes) during one 7-week session.

### What modalities are offered for 7-week courses?

**Asynchronous classes** have no scheduled Zoom or on-campus meetings. Reliable internet access is required to complete course activities and assignments. Students will access course material using Canvas, and it will be made available on or before the first day of the class session. All students attend class by completing **required** asynchronous online activities by published weekly deadlines.

**Hybrid classes** require in-person meetings at either the Chester or Midlothian campus or synchronous meetings on Zoom on the specified days and times. Due to shortened in-person meetings, students must complete **required** asynchronous online activities by published weekly deadlines. Regular weekly assignments with established due dates are provided in Canvas. Reliable internet access is required.

### How many 7-week courses can I take at one time?

It is recommended that students take no more than two classes (6-7 credits) in a 7-week session, and they are limited to no more than 9 credits total in that session.

### What is the typical schedule for a student taking 7-week courses?

It will depend upon the student's major program of study, however the typical schedule for a student who wishes to be enrolled full time during the fall or spring semesters would be two classes during the first 7-weeks and two classes during the second 7-weeks.

Students can combine both 7-week and 15-week classes in a semester, but should be very careful not to exceed the total number of credits allowed.

### **Examples:**

In this example, the student is enrolled in seven credits the first 7 weeks and six credits the second 7 weeks, for a total of 13 credits for the semester.

| <b>First 7 Weeks</b>                              | <b>Second 7 Weeks</b>                      |
|---|--|
| SDV 100 College Success Skills (1 credit)         |  |
| ENG 111 College Composition I (3 credits)         | ENG 112 College Composition II (3 credits) |
| CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking (3 credits) | MTH 154 Quantitative Literacy (3 credits)  |

In this example, the student is enrolled in six credits the first 7 weeks and three credits the second 7 weeks, while taking a 15-week science course for four credits, which equals 13 credits for the semester. (Though not shown, this student could take an additional 3-credit class the second 7 weeks for a total of 16 credits.)

| <b>First 7 Weeks</b>   | <b>Second 7 Weeks</b>                |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic (3 credits)      |                                      |
| PSY 200 Principles of Psychology (3 credits)                   | ENG 255 World Literature (3 credits) |
| CHM 111 General Chemistry I (4 credits) <i>15-week session</i> |                                      |