

Early College Career Academy: *An Early College High School Program*

Frequently Asked Questions

Why Participate?

- Because 27% of people with post-secondary license or certificates-credentials who may have an Associate's degree- earn more than the average bachelor's degree recipient. ("Preparing the Workers of Today for the jobs of Tomorrow"- the Council of Economic Advisors)
- Within 10 regions in NYS, employment and wages in manufacturing and IT networking earn on an average \$15,000 more per year than other industries.
- Job opportunities for graphic artists, multimedia artists and web developers are expected to increase by an average of 25% over the next several years, with starting salaries in the \$30-\$40,000 range. (NYS Dept. of Labor, Labor Statistics Employment Projections for the Capital Region)
- The main source of innovation is entrepreneurs and small business start-ups with over 50% of the working population employed by a small business. (Small Business and Entrepreneurial Council, 2016)
- Be part of a program that connects real-world applications to learning in the classroom.
- Learn from regional and national industry leaders and partners.
- Earn up to 32 college credits toward an Associate's degree or Certificate Program.

Questions and Answers:

Are there any requirements to apply to the program?

Yes, students should have an 80 average or better to apply to the program. In addition, students will need to pass a placement exam called Accu-Placer in spring of their sophomore year. Speak to your school counselor for more information.

What will my schedule look like?

College classes will be held Monday through Friday. Usually one course will meet either on a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule. In addition students will take Freshman Experience, a course that will assist them in transitioning to college. Early College Career Academy classes will meet every day Monday through Friday when you do not have a conflicting class (i.e. physics lab).

What does dual enrollment mean?

You will be considered both a high school student and a SUNY Adirondack college student. You will have use of all the facilities and services provided by the college and your home school. You will receive an official transcript from SUNY Adirondack and your high school.

For more information visit:
www.wswheboces.org/echs

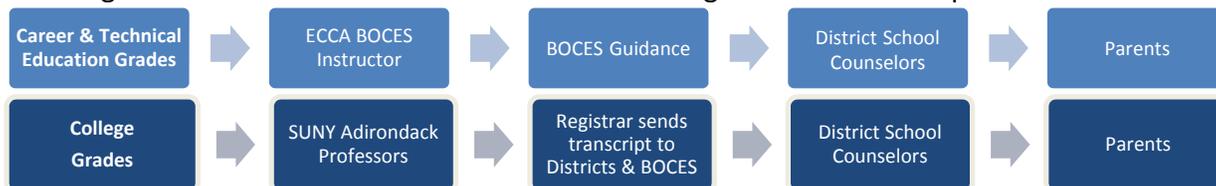
How will my grades be reflected on my transcript at my home school?

During the first and third quarters, SUNY professors will utilize a Pass/Fail grading system. After 10 weeks professors have the option of posting a mid-term grade, however this grade will have no bearing on the final grade or GPA for the student. Therefore the P/F option will give parents an indicator on their students’ progress. Additionally, five week interim reports will be sent directly to district counselors. Quarterly grades will be sent to district counselors who in turn will send to parents.

Students will have access to their grades via the SUNY Adirondack website’s “student” link. Parents are encouraged to regularly review the information available at the student link to follow their child’s progress.

Students will receive a transcript from SUNY at the end of each semester. They will receive their regular report cards from their district which will include Early College Career Academy progress. SUNY final grades will be available by January 1 for the fall semester, and June 1 for the spring semester.

The diagrams below show the flow of information for grades and transcripts.



How many high school credits will I earn in my junior and senior years?

Courses taken your junior and senior years at your district will be determined with your home school guidance counselor.

Will my college credits earned transfer to other colleges and universities?

Yes, colleges within the SUNY network such as: Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome, SUNY Alfred, Buffalo State College, and SUNY Farmingdale are transferrable when students meet the eligibly criteria. SUNY Adirondack has reciprocal agreements with colleges such as: Rochester Institute of Technology, Vermont Technical College, and Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Will I be able to participate in clubs and sports at my school?

Yes, during your junior year you will attend the SUNY Adirondack campus in the morning from 8:00 am until 10:50 am. During your senior year you will attend the campus in the afternoon from 11:00 am until 1:50 pm.

What is the cost for college courses?

Students enrolled in SUNY Adirondack Early College Career Academy will not incur any cost for attending the program while they are dually enrolled in high school. Your home school district pays BOCES tuition for the program which includes the cost of the college courses as long as the student is enrolled in the district.

For more information visit:
www.wswheboces.org/echs

When do I eat lunch?

Depending on your schedule, you may eat lunch at your home district or at the college.

What about Transportation?

Transportation will be provided to students by their home school. Students wishing to drive to SUNY Adirondack will need to do so in accordance with their home school policies. Should a student be eligible to drive to the SUNY Adirondack campus, they will need to purchase a parking permit for \$15.00. For more information visit: <https://www.sunyacc.edu/studentlife/services/vehicleregistration>

How do I get textbooks for my college classes?

Textbooks will be purchased for students by the coordinator of the SUNY Adirondack Early College Career Academy at no cost to the students, including required college level textbooks.

Will any technology be provided?

Each student enrolled in the SUNY Adirondack Early College Career Academy will be provided 1:1 technology to be returned at the end of each school year.

Will I still work with my home school counselor?

Yes, your home school counselor is still your counselor of record, and you must continue to work with your assigned home school counselor for accurate scheduling and college planning. You will also have the benefit of utilizing the SUNY Adirondack Advisement and Career Services office, as well as participate in career exploration and pathways that is embedded in the SUNY Adirondack Early College Career Academy program.

How will the high school and the college vacations/holiday be handled?

Students will follow their home school calendar for legal holidays and scheduled vacations. If their school is out of session for holidays or breaks, they will **not** be required to attend the SUNY Adirondack Early College Career Academy. However, if a district closes due to superintendent conferences or adds additional days onto existing holidays, the district **will** provide transportation to the SUNY Adirondack Early College Career Academy. When SUNY Adirondack is **not** in session due to college breaks, students **will** still be required to attend the SUNY Adirondack Early College Career Academy.

If there is inclement weather, the students should follow their home school policy.

When will I experience an internship, job shadowing experience or mentorship?

The Early College Career Academy has a continuum of work-based learning activities. The continuum delivers Career Awareness, Career Exploration, and Career Preparation. Activities will include classroom, community, and workplace opportunities. Sample activities are classroom guest speakers, professional skills development, career fairs, workplace site tours, group mentoring, industry research, mock interviews, job shadowing, technical skills training, industry certification, industry challenges, group mentoring and Kaizen (continuous improvement) events.

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