

New Kent County Public School Early College Academy

A dual enrollment partnership with RCC leading to an Associate of Arts and Science Transfer Degree

Early College Academy Description

Benefits:

- Enrich the high school experience through a dual enrollment program offered at Rappahannock Community College and New Kent High School
- Excel as part of a highly motivated cohort

The College Academy would provide:

- Valuable experience to improve academically in a college setting in order to learn the skills necessary to successfully succeed in other academic experiences.
- An opportunity to experience the rigor of a college level curriculum.
- A network of supportive professionals from both the college and the local high school to help you to successfully navigate this role.

What's less obvious is how an investment in the Academy in your high school years returns the dividend of time in your college years. The Academy is not designed to cut your college experience short. Most of you will still want to have a full college experience, and now you will have more options for what to accomplish with that experience.

During your College Years...

- You could choose to pursue a double major, because you will have the time to pursue the extra credits and requirements of a second major within a four-year span.
- You could complete a combined Bachelors/Masters program in four years that would normally require five or six years.
- You could choose to take fewer than fifteen credits per term, leaving extra time for part-time (pre-professional) work, intercollegiate athletics, extracurricular activities, student government, internships, etc.
- You could take full advantage of global "study abroad" options or semester-long or even year-long internships.
- You could use summers, normally spent catching up on credits, for work or other exploration.
- You could graduate early and move into the workforce a year or so earlier than your typical peers.

New Kent County Public School

Early College Academy

The Facts on Admissions and Transfer

When any high school student with any form of college credit decides to attend a four-year college or university, the college or university makes three decisions about the student.

- First, the college or university makes an admissions decision. Based on the high school record, does the student meet the admissions requirements of the college or university?
- Second, the college or university will make a decision about the acceptance of transfer credit. This decision may be made at the admissions level or within the academic department to which the student's major belongs.
- Third, the college or university will make a decision about the social standing of the student. Social standing decisions vary by institution and might relate to housing or course registration windows.

All transfer decisions are made by the specific college or university to which the student has been admitted. RCC makes no guarantee about the transfer of the college credit students earn through participation in the Academy. It is important to note that the college or university may make the decision about the transfer of college credits during the admissions process, once the student declares a major, or at some other time during the student's enrollment at the college or university.

Prospective Academy students should consult the transfer guides of the specific colleges or universities they wish to attend. These guides can often be found by accessing the transfer admissions portion of the college or university website. Students can also utilize the Transfer Tool of the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia (SCHEV).

The tool can be found at: <http://www.schev.edu/students/transfer/default.asp>.

Bear in mind that the information on the transfer tool does not constitute a formal evaluation of transfer credit or a guarantee of the transferability of courses and credits, and it is subject to change from time to time to ensure accuracy. For questions regarding the content of the transfer information, please contact the appropriate college or university.

Once enrolled in the program, students should contact the specific college or university of interest, their high school counselor, their RCC career coach, or one of the career, employment, and transfer counselors at RCC for more information.

Successful Early College Academy Scholars:

- Choose challenging courses in their school
- Regularly study at night and on weekends and are prepared to take college classes in the summer
- Demonstrate maturity to take responsibility for their own education and have demonstrated persistence and determination to successfully complete course requirements
- Are able to balance the requirements of extracurricular activities and academics

New Kent County Public School

Early College Academy

Families of Successful Early College Scholars:

- Provide the supports to encourage the student to meet the academic obligations
- Plan around the students need to enroll in college courses during the summer

Qualifying for the Program:

- Must be rising juniors.
- Must have completed Alg. II or higher by the end of their sophomore year.
- Should complete at least year three of a foreign language by the end of their sophomore year.
- Recommend good academic standing as defined as an “A” average or better (3.5 cumulative unweighted GPA). Students with a “B” average (3.0 unweighted GPA) will be considered. Students must maintain a 3.0 at RCC and NKHS.
- Be pursuing an Advanced Studies Diploma.
- Must be on track to have earned 5 verified credits by the end of Sophomore year (transfer students will be evaluated independently by school counselor).
- Must have excellent school attendance.
- Complete the Rappahannock Community College Online Application for Admission by your high school’s deadline. (per RCC requirement).
- Complete a short essay describing your motivation to enroll in the Early College Academy and turn it in to your counselor.
- Take the College Readiness Assessment at your high school (VPT) and receive qualifying scores, or submit qualifying SAT/ACT/PSAT scores for review to your high school counselor, by the deadline.
- Submit the New Kent Early College Academy Permission to Enroll form to the high school counselor.
- Submit the RCC registration form to your high school counselor.
- Pay tuition and fees to your high school by the deadline. Check with your high school counselor for current tuition and fees and due dates for your high school.

Application Process:

March 14, 2016

- Complete the RCC application online (RCC)
- Complete the Early College Academy Intent to Apply (NKHS)
- Complete the RCC dual enrollment form (RCC)

March 23 or 24, 2016

- Complete the VPT if needed (NKHS)

April 15, 2016

- Complete Application to the program (NKHS)