# THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM AT





A partnership program between Brevard Public Schools and Eastern Florida State College 2022-2023

# THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM

An accelerated education partnership program between Brevard Public Schools (BPS) and Eastern Florida State College (EFSC).

If your goal is to graduate from high school with both a diploma and a university-transfer Associate in Arts (AA) degree, the **Early College Program** may be for you!

Starting in the tenth grade, participants spend part of the school day on an EFSC campus taking courses that satisfy both high school graduation and AA requirements. The other part of the day is spent at the high school completing required high school courses.

College credits earned at EFSC transfer to any of Florida's public universities provided that the receiving university offers the same course with the same course number.

Early College participants also enjoy a substantial financial benefit. The Associate in Arts degree is comparable to freshman and sophomore years at a state university. By receiving an AA at your high school graduation, you will have completed two years of college with NO tuition, textbook, or residency fees. Your only potential costs will be the purchase of consumable workbooks/lab manuals, Wi-Fi access fee, graduation application fee, and yearly parking permits.

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ASSOCIATE IN ARTS (AA) DEGREE

## GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

The Early College Program allows students to customize their AA degree program to prepare for transfer into a specific baccalaureate degree major at a university or college. The university-transfer AA degree requires completion of 60 credit hours. Within the 60 credit hours, students must complete 36 credit hours of general education courses within the five subject areas of communications, mathematics, humanities, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences.

#### **ELECTIVES**

The remaining 24 credit hours of the AA degree are electives. It is essential that students work closely with an academic advisor to select electives based on common program prerequisites for the intended upper division major.

#### ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY

In addition to completing the general education and elective requirements for an AA, students must:

- 1. Achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher in all college work attempted.
- 2. Meet Foreign Language competencies.
- 3. Achieve a "C" or higher in all courses used to fulfill communications, mathematics, humanities, and social/behavioral sciences general education requirements.
- 4. Demonstrate competency in Civic Literacy.

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

#### STUDENT INTEREST FORM

Complete and submit to Guidance by your school's deadline.

#### **PERT TESTING**

Administered at the high school by invitation only.

#### **EFSC ONLINE APPLICATION**

Submit the EFSC online Application for Admission and complete the online Dual Enrollment Orientation.

### **EARLY COLLEGE ORIENTATIONS**

Upon qualifying for the program, the student and a parent/guardian must also attend an in-person Early College Program Orientation at one of the four locations. Sign-in opens at 5:45 p.m. and the presentation starts at 6:30 p.m.

<u>Campus</u>	Orientation Locations	<u>Dates</u>
Cocoa	Merritt Island High School Auditorium	Tuesday, March 29
Palm Bay	Bayside High School Auditorium	Wednesday, March 23
Melbourne	Eau Gallie High School Auditorium	Tuesday, April 12
Titusville	Titusville High School Auditorium	Monday, March 28

# 2022 SUMMER AND FALL REGISTRATION OPENING DATES

#### SUMMER TERM

Monday, April 4 Open registration begins

#### **FALL TERM**

TBA (The 2022/2023 EFSC Academic Calendar will be posted on the EFSC website)

# 2022 SUMMER TERM SCHEDULE

12 Week Summer A May 16- August 5 6 Week Summer B May 16- June 24 8 Week Summer C June 13- August 5 6 Week Summer D June 27- August 5

9th grade students may not take Summer A or B classes

# EARLY COLLEGE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be considered for admission to the Early College Program, students must have:

- 1. Selected the 26-credit high school diploma option.
- 2. Completed the first semester of the ninth grade.
- 3. Earned a state cumulative unweighted high school GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Met minimum test score requirements in Reading and Writing on the PERT.
- Maintained a school record of appropriate conduct and regular attendance.
- 6. Completed or will complete Algebra 1 or Algebra 1B by the end of ninth grade.

To maintain eligibility for the Early College Program, students must:

- 1. Maintain a state cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- 2. Earn a college GPA of at least 2.0 each term.
- 3. Earn a "C" or higher in courses requiring college level writing skills and math competencies.
- 4. Demonstrate responsible behavior and appropriate conduct.
- 5. Be qualified to enroll in MAC 1105, MGF 1106, or MGF 1107 by the fall term of senior year.
- 6. Be on track to graduate with the 26-credit high school diploma and AA degree.

## **FACTORS STUDENTS SHOULD CONSIDER ABOUT EARLY COLLEGE**

- 1. College success requires that students are independent learners and:
  - Have strong reading, research, and note taking skills
  - Are willing to devote the study time needed to meet EFSC course requirements
  - Can balance college, high school, and extra-curricular demands
- 2. Students should aim for a grade of A or no lower than B in each college course. Poor grades can impact scholarships and university admissions.
- 3. EFSC grades become a permanent part of the college and high school transcripts.

## **FACTORS PARENTS SHOULD CONSIDER ABOUT EARLY COLLEGE**

- 1. The high school counselor is the parent's point of contact for questions about the student's EFSC academic progress. Due to FERPA laws, parents may not directly contact the student's instructor.
- 2. Students are responsible for providing transportation during their junior and senior years.
- 3. Students are expected to follow both BPS and EFSC calendars.

# PLACEMENT TESTING

Students accepted into the Early College Program must present college-ready scores in reading and writing on the PERT, ACCUPLACER, SAT\* or ACT\*. Students must present a college-ready math score by the end of eleventh grade to be able to complete the general education requirement in mathematics for the AA degree by high school graduation.

## MINIMUM READING AND WRITING SCORES:

	Reading	Writing
PERT	106	103
ACCUPLACER	245	245
ACT	19	17 (English)
SAT	24	25 (Writing & Language)

## MINIMUM MATHEMATICS SCORES FOR PLACEMENT IN MATH COURSES:

	<b>MAT 1033</b>	<b>MAC 1105</b>
		MGF 1106/1107
PERT	114 – 122	123
ACCUPLACER	242 – 257	258-300
ACT	19	20
SAT	24 - 27.4	27.5

<sup>\*</sup>SAT/ACT scores must be on file at EFSC. Students should request their SAT/ACT test scores be sent directly to EFSC, or they can log into their College Board account, download and save their scores, and upload them to the student dropbox/admissions.

## THE PERT STUDY GUIDE AND PERT PRACTICE TESTS

EFSC encourages students to prepare for the PERT by downloading a PERT Study Guide and completing the practice test questions. The Guide is available on the EFSC College Credit Placement Testing webpage.

# SAMPLE THREE YEAR PROGRAM OF STUDY (AA DEGREE)

Early College participants pursue a program of study designed to meet the requirements for the two-year university transfer Associate in Arts (AA) degree. Below is a general outline of how Early College students in the Three-Year Track will sequence their coursework to earn 60 credit hours and graduate with their AA.

10th Grade...... 12 credit hours

Fall 2 EFSC classes Spring 2 EFSC classes

11th Grade...... 24 credit hours

Summer 2 EFSC classes
Fall 3 EFSC classes
Spring 3 EFSC classes

12th Grade...... 24 credit hours

Summer 2 EFSC classes
Fall 3 EFSC classes
Spring 3 EFSC classes

EFSC advisors will assist students in selecting appropriate courses to meet their major prerequisite and AA requirements.





