



EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM FACT SHEET

What is Early College?

Early College is a dual enrollment program where New Hampshire high school students take college courses while still in high school! The credits earned may satisfy your high school requirements for graduation AND can be applied towards your college degree!

Why would Early College interest me?

Early College gives motivated students like you an opportunity to get a “jump start” on college while still in high school. You will have the opportunity to take courses your high school may not offer; get exposed to potential career paths; and learn what is expected of college students - all at a discounted tuition rate! Once you graduate from high school and enroll in college, you will be way ahead of your peers. The opportunity to accelerate your time line towards a college degree is exciting, not to mention it will save you time and money.

How is Early College different than Running Start?

Both Early College and Running Start provide opportunities to earn college credits. The difference is that Running Start is taught by high school instructors on high school campuses. Early College courses are taught by college professors on the college campus. Both programs use college-approved curriculums.

How do I qualify for Early College?

To qualify for Early College, you must submit an application for enrollment (one time), submit your high school transcripts (each academic year), sign a release form (one time) and complete an Early College registration form (for each semester enrolling in courses). Early College courses are available to high school Juniors and Seniors.

If I am a home-schooled student, can I participate in Early College?

Absolutely. You will work closely with the NCC Dual Enrollment Coordinator and follow the same procedures as if you were enrolled in high school.

How many courses can I take as an Early College student?

Early college students may enroll in any number of three (3) or four (4) credit courses. There may be times NCC needs to restrict access to courses based on the number of seats reserved for matriculated students. Early College students may not enroll in any of the following courses: AUTO, AVTN, CRTN, HATN, LEXN, NURS, or any course marked as “capstone” or “internship”.

How much will it cost me?

The cost for you to take a course at NCC through the Early College program is 50% of the actual tuition with no added fees. This is a substantial discount. You must be prepared, however, to pay for your own books and/or materials. You are also responsible for your own transportation to the college. The current cost of an Early College course is \$107.50 per credit, so a three-credit course will cost \$322.50 and a four-credit course will cost \$413.00. Payment is due by the due date as stated in the current course catalog and can be made via check or Visa, MasterCard, or Discover. After taking two courses at NCC with the Early College discount, students need to meet with the Program Coordinator for their desired major in order to continue receiving the Early College discount. If a student is unsure about their intended major, they will meet with the Exploratory Program Coordinator.

Can I receive financial aid or have a payment plan for my tuition, books, or materials of my course(s)?

Sorry, as a high school student, you are not eligible for Financial Aid. This is why NCC has tried to make the tuition affordable to you and your family.

Governor's STEM Scholarship: Students may utilize the Governor's STEM scholarship for TWO courses on the approved STEM-course list per academic year for Early College, Running Start, and E-Start through any CCSNH institution. If it is determined that a student has already utilized their two STEM scholarships, they will be expected to pay the tuition or be dis-enrolled from the course.

Do I need to purchase textbooks?

As a college student, textbooks are not provided to you, so you will need to purchase or rent them prior to the start of your classes. Some courses offer NOLO (no or low-cost) textbook options. See the Dual Enrollment Coordinator for more details.

What is matriculation?

Matriculation means that you are officially accepted into an academic college program. As a high school student you are not eligible to matriculate or "declare" a major. This means you cannot graduate or earn any degree or certificate until you have completed high school. When you register as an Early College student, you are registering as a non-matriculated student. The courses you take now, however, may someday apply towards your college degree (depending upon your chosen major). There are certain restrictions and policies that limit non-matriculated students, please refer to the most recent NCC Academic Catalog for details.

When does NCC offer courses?

NCC offers courses in the mornings, afternoon, and evening, online, and some Saturday classes. Early College students can enroll in Fall, Spring, or Summer semester courses.

How do I qualify for courses?

Early College students must take the ACCUPLACER Exam or have qualifying SAT scores in order to determine which level courses they qualify for. The ACCUPLACER is a free exam offered several times per week. See the Dual Enrollment Coordinator for more information. Early College students are not eligible to CBE for college credit.

How do I register for the college course(s)?

All Early College students must register for classes in-person with the Dual Enrollment Coordinator for each semester they want to enroll and complete an enrollment form and release of liability form, and submit their high school transcripts each academic year. Please remember, all Early College students must register in person and not online or via mail or fax.

Does this mean I am a college student?

Yes, you are a college student. Once you have registered for a college course, you are a college student and any grades you earn will go on your official college transcript. You may also enjoy the rights and privileges associated with this status. Among other things, you may get a student ID, access student support services, and participate in some student life activities.

If I am graduating from high school in June and your summer classes' start in May, am I still eligible for the Early College discount?

If you are a graduating Senior and have applied and been accepted to NCC for the Fall Semester, you may receive the Early College discount for college courses for the summer semester. For those seniors who have not applied to or been accepted to NCC for the Fall, this new status disqualifies you from the Early College discount.

What if I have a disability and need accommodations?

If you have an IEP or 504 plan in high school, these accommodations do not apply to college-level courses. You will need to supply documentation of your disability (usually your most recent 3-year evaluation report) to the Coordinator of Disability Services at the college and work with that office to develop a Reasonable Accommodation Plan. You will want to do this as early as possible, hopefully before the class begins

How do I get a record of the course(s) that I took?

A record of the course you take at NCC is called an academic transcript. There are both “official” and “unofficial” transcripts. Your high school may want to see an “official” transcript in order to give you high school credit. You can request an “official” transcript, at no cost, at the NCC Registrar’s Office. You can print an “unofficial” transcript from your NCC Student Information System (SIS) account.

What is SIS or Student Information System?

Every college student has an SIS account. This is an online resource that allows you to review your registration information and your grades. Should you apply to NCC, you will also see your application and financial aid information. SIS is also where you get your “EasyLogin” which you will need to access your student email.

What happens to my Early College record if I decide to attend NCC after I graduate from high school?

Your Early College record is part of your official NCC college record. As long as you successfully complete the course, and it is required of the degree program in which you enroll, you will already have completed a course towards your degree!

What if I decide to attend a different college, other than NCC, after high school? Will my courses transfer?

If you earn a grade of C or better in the course, it is very possible the course will transfer to another college. Transferability, however, is determined by the receiving college.

What if I have any questions once I am on the college campus?

There are many places you can go on campus to get your questions answered. Your college advisor for Early College is the Dual Enrollment Coordinator and is located in the Advising Center (Room 97), so that is a great place to start.

Can I participate in Student Life activities?

NCC is a busy place and there are many activities open to ALL students. Once on campus, don’t hesitate to visit the Student Life Office to find out what is available to you.

What if I have to miss a class?

The attendance policy for your class will be in your syllabus; be sure to read it carefully. Should you miss too many classes, the instructor may drop you from the course. If you do have to miss a class, communicate this to your instructor. Then be sure to take responsibility for finding out what you missed and doing the required homework.

What if I am unable to complete the class?

For various reasons, students sometimes have to drop classes. If this happens to you, visit the Registrar’s Office and fill out an official drop form. Don’t just stop attending. The consequence of disappearing from a class without doing an official drop is an “F” on your transcript. Don’t let this happen to you. Be sure to review the Registration Policies and Deadlines sheet given to you at the time of registration.

Who do I contact to learn more?

Contact the Dual Enrollment Coordinator: Patrick McGinnis at 603-856-6117 or pmcginnis@ccsnh.edu. You can also follow us online on Facebook and Instagram (@NCCEarlyCollege).