



# Early College Program Overview

## Overview

Gull Lake Community Schools Early College (GLEC) is a five-year high school program, combining the best of the high school and an early college experience. Gull Lake Early College will offer both online and face-to face educational instruction to enable students to earn their high school diploma and college credits up to an Associate's Degree. Students benefit from a supportive educational environment in which they will receive support services to assist them in their transition from high school to college. Students will have the opportunity to enroll in courses designed to develop and enhance their academic preparation skills, study skills and social maturity skills, thus providing them with the tools they need to make a successful transition to post-secondary education.

## Goals of Gull Lake Early College

- Increase the amount of Gull Lake Community Schools students enrolling in college.
- Increase the number of GLCS students completing college.
- Increase postsecondary success for GLCS students through college knowledge and supports.
- Assist with the financial burden of college costs to families.
- Expand high school opportunities based on students' individual needs and interests.

## Program Design

Students in the Gull Lake Early College Program make a gradual transition from traditional high school to full time college students over the course of three years. They begin the transition by blending high school courses and college courses in 11th grade and continue to increase the blend until they are full time college students in grade 13. The end result is for students to graduate at the end of their fifth year of high school with a high school diploma and an associate's degree, an occupational certificate, 60+ transferable college credits, or a MEMCA Certificate.

## Highlights

- Gull Lake Early College partners with Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kellogg Community College, and Western Michigan University.
- The cost of tuition, course materials, and fees is paid for (up to an allocated amount) by Gull Lake Community Schools.
- Gull Lake Early College students have the opportunity to gain two years worth of college credits just one year after their original high school graduation date, allowing them to enter the workforce or move on to a bachelor's degree in a shorter amount of time.

## Enrollment Process

1. Students who are considering the Early College Program should be willing, motivated, and up for the challenge to perform successfully in coursework at both the high school and college level.
2. Applications are accepted during the 10th grade year from February 1– August 31.
3. Students MUST be accepted into the Early College Program before beginning their junior year .

## Questions

**Contact your student's school counselor or mentor for more information.**