

BENCHMARK 5: STUDENT SUPPORT

The Early College High School (ECHS) must provide wrap-around strategies and services involving multiple stakeholders to strengthen academic, technical, and individual support for students to be successful in their ECHS program.

Design Elements:

5.1 *Bridge Programs*

The ECHS provides a bridge program (an intensive academic preparation program that provides opportunities to strengthen academic skills necessary for high school, college readiness, and career readiness) to prepare students for the TSIA and provide academic interventions for those who do not pass the TSIA. The bridge program may also serve to support student transition from middle school to the ECHS program.

Required Artifact:

- *Bridge program curriculum and schedule*

5.2 *Advising*

The ECHS shall collaborate with its IHE to personalize the learning environment for students by developing individualized student plans for ongoing academic support, filing a degree plan, and the attainment of long-term goals. The ECHS and IHE shall develop robust college and career advising systems to support student plans and advance academic progress and shall develop a process for collaboration to provide an academic bridge across two educational systems.

Required Artifact:

- *Schedule of advising events*

5.3 *Student Intervention*

The ECHS shall administer interventions as needed, including tutoring and/or Saturday school for identified students in need of academic supports. The ECHS shall monitor academic progress with formative data.

Required Artifact:

- *Tutoring schedules*

5.4 *Classroom Supports*

The ECHS shall ensure time for advisory and/or college and career readiness advising is built into the instructional sequence for all students. The ECHS shall provide skill building instruction for students, such as time management, study skills, collaboration, and interpersonal relationship skills.

Required Artifact:

- *Advisory/study skills curriculum material*

5.5 *Wrap-Around Strategies and Services*

The ECHS shall provide a system of supports that encompasses career, academic, behavioral, and mental health supports for all students.

5.6 *Enrichment Opportunities*

The ECHS shall provide enrichment opportunities, including the following:

a. A structured program of community service to promote community involvement
b. Partnering with community businesses to expose students to a variety of potential career options and possible internship opportunities
c. Establishing a mentorship program available to all students
d. Parent outreach and involvement opportunities
e. Family engagement to support rigorous course enrollment and college and career planning

Required Artifact:

- *Calendar of enrichment events and family outreach events*

5.7 *College and Career Preparation*

The ECHS shall provide college and career awareness to current and prospective students and families, including the following:

a. College application assistance
b. Financial aid counseling
c. College and career counseling