



ELEVATE ACADEMY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. What is Elevate Academy?

Elevate Academy is a tuition-free Early College Program offered at Arroyo Valley High School. It provides select 9th-grade students with the unique opportunity to earn significant college credits while still in high school. By integrating dual enrollment courses with core high school academics, the program prepares students for higher education, leadership roles, and dynamic career paths.

2. How does Elevate Academy benefit students?

Students in the Elevate Academy gain a head start in college education by earning college credits as early as 9th grade. This head start can reduce future college costs and shorten the time required to complete a degree. Additionally, the program is designed to build college and career readiness through rigorous academics, supportive mentoring, and opportunities for involvement in campus life, sports, clubs, and electives.

3. Who is eligible for the program?

The program is tailored for a select group of high-potential 9th-grade students, specifically those attending Arroyo Valley High School. Eligibility is determined based on academic criteria—including GPA, test scores (e.g., CAASPP assessments), attendance, and a record of good behavior. Parents will be provided with specific eligibility guidelines during the application process.

4. What courses will my child take?

In 9th grade, students begin with 2 college courses. From 10th through 12th grades, they will enroll in a minimum of 2 college courses per semester. Alongside these dual enrollment courses, students will also participate in core academic classes that include MYP Honors courses in 9th-10th grades and IB/AP courses in 11th-12th grades.

5. Where do classes take place?

All classes—both the dual enrollment (college) courses and the high school academic classes—are conducted on the AVHS campus during the regular school day. This integrated approach ensures that students receive a seamless educational experience.

6. How are academic expectations managed?

Students are expected to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5, with regular grade checks every two weeks. They must also adhere to behavior standards appropriate for a college-level setting. Academic performance is closely monitored, and if any concerns arise, the program's support staff will work with the student to address these issues.



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7. What support systems are in place for students?

Elevate Academy provides a robust support network that includes:

- Educators and a program lead are available throughout the school day.
- Academic Mentoring: Daily tutoring, AVID programs, and college intern support.
- Both an AVHS counselor and an SBVC counselor are assigned to help guide students.
- Grade checks and academic interventions ensure that students stay on track.

8. Is there any cost associated with the program?

No, Elevate Academy is a tuition-free program. Students can earn college credits without incurring additional college tuition costs, making this an accessible option for high-achieving students.

9. How does participation affect my child's high school experience?

While Elevate Academy offers a challenging academic experience through dual enrollment and advanced courses, students still enjoy a traditional high school experience. They have opportunities to participate in sports, clubs, and other extracurricular activities, ensuring a well-rounded education.

10. What is the role of parents in this program?

Parents are essential partners in the success of Elevate Academy. They are encouraged to:

- Attend informational sessions and stay engaged with program updates.
- Support and monitor their child's academic progress.
- Communicate any concerns through the designated Elevate Academy staff, rather than contacting college professors directly.

11. How is Elevate Academy different from other programs?

Elevate Academy is not a middle college or a credit recovery program. It is a four-year, tuition-free Early College Program designed specifically for high-potential students. Its structure, with integrated dual enrollment and strong support systems, sets it apart as a comprehensive pathway to college readiness and career success.

12. How can I learn more or get involved?

Parents interested in learning more are invited to attend an informational session. For example, there is an in-person meeting scheduled at Arroyo Valley High School Theater, as well as a virtual meeting option. Additionally, more details can be found on the school website at www.arroyovalley.sbcusd.com, or by contacting program representatives via email at damian.lozano@sbcusd.k12.ca.us.