



## Application to the New Kent Early College Academy: 2025-2026 School Year

**\*If you submitted an “Intent to Apply” form in the past, it does not substitute for this actual application. To be considered, 10<sup>th</sup> graders must submit this application by Wed., Dec. 18.**

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW:**

NKHS strives to offer the associate degree pathway, requiring extremely careful planning of your high school course schedule to satisfy the 61 dual enrollment credits. The certificate offering is roughly half of the associate degree credits. We are confident we can fully support the certificate. We will do our very best to accommodate those wishing to pursue the associate degree, but it is heavily reliant on course offerings. Mrs. Stephens, the RCC High School Navigator, will always gladly work with a family to assess the student's status in fulfilling the remaining requirements outside of NKHS class time and at the full RCC tuition rate, with additional cost to the family. The certificate level (31 credits) often becomes highly tailored to each student and is more easily achievable, due to overlap with NKHS course offerings. It also allows for more course flexibility.

Please be aware that course availability at New Kent High School and RCC are subject to change based on availability, which can vary year to year. NKHS is continually seeking ways to maximize all AP and DE offerings to reduce the burden on families. Each student will tailor his/her pathway, based on prerequisites met and success moving through the requirements. Submit this application to the main office or Mrs. Spiak no later than **Wed., Dec. 18.** Upon submission of this completed application the statement of interest will be reviewed. Only students not satisfying the qualifications on page 2 will be denied admission. Students and families will be communicated program status via email and school messages. If there are questions about the program, please contact Mrs. Peggy Spiak, College, Career, and Life Readiness Coordinator, at [pspiak@nkcps.k12.va.us](mailto:pspiak@nkcps.k12.va.us).

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### ***PART 1:***

***NOTE: Please indicate the desired program preference.***

**Associate Degree**

**Certificate Program**

### **How Do I Qualify for Early College Participation?**

- ❖ **Must be a current 10th grader to apply. Submitting an "Intent to Apply" form in 9th does not substitute for an application for 10th.**
- ❖ **Must be on track with verified credits and the Advanced Diploma. Attendance must also be excellent.**
- ❖ **Applicants must have an “A” average or better (min. 3.5 cumulative unweighted GPA). Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 at RCC and NKHS.**
- ❖ **Students must take World History II Honors in 10th in order to qualify for AP or DE US/VA History in 11th.**
- ❖ **Students must be in good course sequencing in math to successfully complete Trigonometry by no later than junior year to take DE math in senior year. (Pre-requisites of Trig: Alg. I, Geom., and Alg.II) Failure to be in sequence will result in being denied participation or may dictate which program level of ECA participation.**
- ❖ **Students are strongly encouraged to take as many rigorous classes as possible (Honors) leading up to 11th grade.**
- ❖ **Submit this page and share the personal statement with Mrs. Spiak no later than Dec. 18.**

**NOTE:** Students must also complete world language and consecutive elective requirements to earn an Advanced Diploma. It is recommended to finish these as soon as possible to free up schedule space. Economics & Personal Finance, also required for graduation, may be taken either junior or senior year.

**Rev. 11-12-24**



**RECOMMENDED COURSE PROGRESSION FOR STUDENTS PURSUING THE  
ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE:**

Grade 10 (or earlier)	Summer RCC	Grade 11 - Fall	Grade 11 - Spring	Summer RCC	Grade 12 - Fall	Grade 12 - Spring	Summer After Sr. Yr.
Trigonometry (Rec. B+ or higher)	SDV 100 College Success Skills 1 Credit	*Math 167 DE Pre-Calculus 5 Credits	*Math 245 DE Statistics 3 Credits -OR- DE Calculus 4 Credits	Health or PE 1-2 Credit	General Elective -OR- *Math 245 DE Statistics 3 credits -OR- DE Calculus 4 Credits		*Due to AP Govt. most students won't graduate from RCC until late summer; AP scores to verify credits for the associate are not available until July.
Biology Honors	ITE 152 Digital & Info Literacy 3 Credits	DE English 111 Alternate Days DE College Composition I 3 Credits	DE English 112 Alternate Days DE College Composition II 3 Credits	Humanities 3 credits	DE English 245 British Lit. (fall) 3 Credits Alternate Days	World Lit. 255 (spring) 3 Credits Alternate Days	*Some students may also need extra classes to earn the required credits.
		DE US/VA History - Alternate Days 6 Credits			AP Government - Alternate Days 3 Credits (3 or better on AP Exam)		
		Economics/ Personal Finance			DE Psychology 6 Credits (If seeking the assoc, highly recommended)		
		Chemistry			DE Biology Every Day All Year 8 Credits		
						<b>NOTES: *DE Ceramics 1- 2 can only count for the assoc as 6 elective credits, 3 each</b>	

**Important Notes:**

\* All classes are the curriculum are subject to staffing, availability, and changes. In regard to math, DE Pre-Calc is required before a student may take DE Calc or DE Stats. DE Status covers more majors. However, intended math majors will likely need to repeat the classes by the college for the major.

- > There are some options and flexibility available with this pathway. Feel free to meet with Mrs. Stephens at any point for an advising session.
- > Approved RCC electives can be taken online or in person during any semester at the RCC full tuition rate.

The Early College Academy program is evidence that RCC and our public school district are working together to respond to Virginia House Bill 1184 and satisfy the requirements of Virginia Code section 22.1-254.13:1. HB 1184 requires local school boards and community colleges to develop agreements allowing high school students to complete an associate's degree or a one-year Uniform Certificate of General Studies from a community college concurrent with a high school diploma.