



# **Accelerate Through Excellence**

## **The Early College Program**

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# Early College Program

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# Early College Program Objectives

- Allows students to finish high school while enrolled at the college.
- Students have an authentic college experience; all classes are taught by college professors, and students learn alongside other on-campus college students.
- Students have experienced college upon high school graduation. They are more inclined to enroll in college (two or four year). They have a higher GPA than incoming freshman with no prior college experience and a higher rate of graduation from college.

# The Suffolk Advantage

- Quality education; small class size,
- Dedicated, accessible professors teach the classes,
- Wide variety of 1 & 2 yr. programs/certificates (Career and Transfer),
- Affordability, annual tuition and fees about \$6,275 for full-time students,
- Transferable credits to private and public universities,
- Convenience (3 campuses, plus Sayville/Culinary Centers),
- Flexible scheduling once matriculated into Suffolk,
- Opportunity for students to connect with faculty.

# Early College Program Program Design

- Courses may be taken during the fall, spring and summer session II semesters, year-long commitment.
- Courses available morning/afternoons/evenings/weekends.
- Courses meet one or two days per week (3-4 credits each course).
- Students choose which courses to take with guidance from the ECP campus counselor.
- Transportation – HS transports students to and from the HS & college for all 8 – 9:15 AM classes.
- Communication with designated high school counselors and parents/guardians is maintained (a signed FERPA waiver is submitted).

# Early College Program Program Design

- Supportive college faculty,
- Students are able to avail themselves of college academic resources such as the Library, Academic Tutoring Centers and Career-Transfer Center,
- Captree Commons – campus bookstore, dining hall,
- Special Events – students with a college ID can obtain tickets to on-campus concerts

# Early College Program Benefits

- Apply to colleges with an established college track record. Strengthen college application for admission & scholarships,
- Very affordable; current tuition is \$100/credit plus minimum fees,
- Acquire letters of recommendation from college faculty,
- Transfer with earned college credit (C or above grades usually earn transfer credit),
- Knowledge of college policies/procedures,
- Finish college earlier – In two years students can earn a maximum of 30 college credits (inclusive of summers),
- Be more active – Take less credits each semester upon matriculation into college as a full-time student,
- Continue at Suffolk to earn an Associate's Degree; apply to the Honors Program.

# Commitment and Transition

- Students follow Suffolk's academic calendar,
- Increased academic independence required,
- Increased assignments outside the classroom,
- Fewer examinations during a semester,
- Students adhere to the College Student Code of Conduct,
- Students are enrolled as non-matriculated students, since a high school diploma has not yet been earned,
- Courses are a supplement to HS course offerings and may not be used to replace a required HS course.

# Early College Program Application Requirements

- Students entering 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade,
- 85+ **unweighted** high school average.
- 80% or above average in high school English, social studies and Regents math classes
- Record of good attendance and citizenship,
- Recommendation from high school counselor **and** principal.

# Early College Program Application Process

## Families Complete a 'Paper' Application

- ✓ Admissions application for new non-degree students,
- ✓ Program agreement,
- ✓ Health history/meningitis acknowledgment form,
- ✓ Student approval form from the student's HS guidance counselor **and** principal,
- ✓ Essay: Students compose a one-page typed statement, "Why I Want to Be in the Early College Program,"
- ✓ Application checklist.

# Early College Program Application Process

- High School – provides copy of the student's grades/test scores and immunization records if needed.
- Applications due by \_\_\_\_\_ in the HS Guidance Office).
- Applicants create a Suffolk student e-mail account as this is the college's mode of communication.
- Approved applicants to qualify for enrollment must meet College Placement Guidelines as determined by college personnel.
- Student transcripts are reviewed and the high school counselor is notified of student's ECP status.

# Accepted Student Checklist

- Check college email in student portal account.
- Schedule classes for fall/spring/summer semesters with assistance of ECP counselor.
- Check schedule and pay tuition by due date.
- Obtain a Suffolk ID card.
- Purchase textbooks (bring class schedule to bookstore in Captree Commons).
- Congratulations, you are about to begin an amazing academic journey.