



## ECHS Frequently Asked Questions

### Early College High School at Wilmont J. Fraser Campus

63 Columbus Street, Charleston, SC 29403

#### 1. What is Early College High School?

Early College is a partnership between CCSD and Trident Technical College. ECHS students complete traditional high school coursework and are enrolled in dual credit courses to earn both HS credit and college credit. Early College students attend classes on Early College's Wilmont J. Fraser Campus and TTC's Palmer Campus.

#### 2. How can I apply?

All students must apply through CCSD School Choice. You can apply online at <https://schoolchoice.ccsdschools.com/>.

The 25-26 CCSD School Choice Application opens on January 7, 2026. The application deadline is February 12, 2026.

#### 3. What is Dual Credit?

Dual credit or dual enrollment courses allow high school students to take college-level courses and earn credit for both high school graduation and a college degree. When eligible, Early College students may earn up to 36 hours of college credit through dual credit enrollment with TTC. The final grades earned in dual credit courses are then transcribed on both students' high school transcripts and their TTC transcripts.

GPA weighting on the SC UGP scale for dual enrollment courses can be found [here](#).

#### 4. Who is eligible to apply?

All students are encouraged to apply; however, applications will only be reviewed for eligible students. Students are eligible if they meet the following criteria as eighth graders:

- Winter iReady or MAP scores at or above the 45th percentile on both reading and math

#### 5. Will transportation be provided?

Transportation is provided for all CCSD students who attend Early College. ECHS utilizes CCSD magnet bus stops. CCSD policy establishes that parent-assisted, magnet bus stops are routed within 5 miles of students' home addresses. There is no door-to-door transportation.

**6. Will ECHS students receive credit for high school courses completed in middle school?**

ECHS will review all middle school credits to ensure that all courses offered were the courses that each student needs in order to complete the core academic credits required to earn a high school diploma in the state of South Carolina.

**7. What is the MUSC Cohort at Early College?**

The MUSC Cohort is made up of a select group of ECHS students interested in pursuing careers in the health sciences. This innovative program provides students with the opportunity to gain diverse hands-on experiences such as clinical rotations, job shadowing, and internships with MUSC professionals. Through their CTE Health Science elective, MUSC Cohort students explore a number of different healthcare fields while earning industry certifications. Dual credit enrollment with TTC, allows ECHS MUSC Health Science Cohort students to earn up to 36 college credits, including an Associate of Science Degree.

Students are eligible to participate in the MUSC Cohort if they meet the following criteria as eighth graders:

- Winter iReady or MAP scores at or above the 60th percentile on both reading and math

**8. What time does ECHS start and end?**

ECHS opens to students at 7:25 AM each morning. Morning homerooms start at 7:45 AM, and dismissal is at 2:45 PM.

**9. Can my child take elective classes at ECHS?**

All ECHS students earn elective credits; however, most are earned through the college classes that are completed in the 10th-12th grades. ECHS does not offer elective credits such as Band, Chorus, or ROTC.

**10. Will my child be able to participate in extracurricular activities at his/her home school?**

Yes, all ECHS students can participate in extracurricular activities at their home schools. ECHS buses are routed to home schools to allow students to participate in after-school activities.

**11. Why do ECHS students have a homeschool?**

As a program, Early College does not operate as a standalone school. All ECHS students are required to have a home school (ex. West Ashley High School) for pupil accounting purposes. Early College students only attend ECHS but have the added benefit of participating in extracurricular activities at their zone residential schools.

**12. Should my child apply if they are not the first generation to attend college in our family?**

First-generation college attendance is only one of several criteria when admitting students. While priority will be given to students who are first-generation college-goers, all students are invited to apply.

**13. Will my child be able to attend the prom and graduation at their homeschool?**

ECHS will host its own prom. ECHS students are also eligible to attend their home school's prom as deemed permissible by each school's policy. ECHS also holds an annual Celebration of Graduates to honor ECHS graduating students. If earned, ECHS students are presented with their TTC certifications or degrees. Diplomas are awarded by each home school.

Students who earn a certificate or an associate degree will also be invited to participate in Trident Technical College's graduation ceremony.

#### **14. What academic supports are offered to Early College Students?**

As an AVID Site of Distinction, all Early College students are enrolled in an AVID elective course. The 9th-grade AVID curriculum engages students in developing the fundamental skills of writing, inquiry, and collaboration. AVID, or Advancement Via Individual Determination, also provides students with a framework for mastering the study, organizational, reading comprehension, and self-agency skills they will need to be successful in their dual enrollment courses starting in the 10th grade. Additionally, Early College students have access to the ECHS Academic Lab. Academic Lab was created with the intent of providing one-on-one assistance as well as creating cooperative learning opportunities across all subject areas, including dual credit courses. Both Academic Lab and AVID elective teachers play a key role in actively monitoring students' academic progress and supporting students' academic needs.

#### **16. What Clubs do you offer?**

Early College offers a range of nationally affiliated and student-led clubs. ECHS students participate in clubs during a designated club period each Friday. A full list of 2025-2026 clubs can be found on our website or at this [link](#).