

# TPS-EDGE 8th Grade Application-2025-26

**Program Overview** Thank you for your interest in the EDGE: Earn a Degree, Graduate Early high school program at McLain High School, Memorial High School, or Will Rogers College High School! Completing this application will take you roughly 45 minutes and additionally will require you to write an essay and obtain a letter of recommendation. Please come prepared, you will have to complete the application in its entirety. Earn a Degree Graduate Early (EDGE) is a program that provides an educational opportunity to students through a partnership between your high school and Tulsa Community College. Students attending EDGE will take a rigorous course of study and, if successful, will earn an associate degree from TCC and a traditional high school diploma. We pursue academic excellence and are excited to offer this unique college experience to a cohort of students who meet the application criteria and are selected. Students who are not selected for EDGE may pursue Dual Credit to College Degree after the 10th grade. Please contact the TCC Dual Credit office or your high school counselor for more information. In order to be considered for this program, make sure to complete this application in its entirety and submit an enrollment form.

**Applicant Information:** We want to know more about you, please review the application carefully and ensure all the information provided is complete and accurate. Any incorrect and /or incomplete application will not be considered. Each student and student's parent/guardian must read and sign below to indicate that they are providing authorization for the student to participate in all components of the TCC EDGE program while they are enrolled in the high school listed below and agree to abide by the terms and condition of the TCC EDGE program including those set forth in this application.

## STUDENT SECTION

Dear Student,

Within this application you will write one 450–500-word essay. It may be helpful to start thinking about it now. We would like you to tell us why you should be chosen to be a part of EDGE (Earn a Degree, Graduate Early). In your answer, include examples of your past accomplishments, discuss your goals, and explain why you want to be part of the program.

### What school do you currently attend?

- Carver Middle School (2)
- Central Middle School (3)
- Daniel Webster Middle School (4)
- East Central Junior High (5)
- Edison Preparatory Middle School (6)
- Hale Junior High (7)

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- Monroe Demonstration Academy (8)
- Memorial Middle School (9)
- Rogers Middle School (10)
- Thoreau Demonstration Academy (11)
- Collegiate Hall (12)
- KIPP Tulsa College Preparatory (14)
- Tulsa Honor Academy (15)
- Tulsa Legacy Charter (16)
- Tulsa School of Arts & Science (17)
- TRAICE Academy Middle and High School (18)
- Tulsa MET Junior and High School (19)
- Tulsa Virtual Academy (20)
- Other (13) \_\_\_\_\_

## What is your High School?

- Charles Page High School
- KIPP Tulsa College Preparatory High School
- McLain High School
- Memorial High School
- Union High School

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Will Rogers College High School

## Please answer the questions below

What is the student's first name? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the student's last name? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the student's mobile phone number? \_\_\_\_\_

What is student's email address? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your student's school ID number? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the student's T-shirt size? \_\_\_\_\_

## PARENT / GUARDIAN SECTION

### Parent / Guardian questions

What is the parent/guardian first name? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the parent/guardian last name? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the parent/guardian home phone number? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the parent/guardian mobile phone number? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the parent/guardian email address? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the parent/guardian home address?

Street number and name \_\_\_\_\_

Apartment number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Has either of the student's parents or guardians earned a Bachelor's degree?

Yes

No

What is the highest degree the student's mother/ guardian earned?

Not applicable

Bachelor – 4 year degree

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- Masters or post-graduate degree
- Doctorate – PhD

What is the highest degree the student's father/ guardian earned?

- Not applicable
- Bachelor – 4 year degree
- Masters or post-graduate degree
- Doctorate – PhD.

Please answer the questions below

What is the student's first name? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the student's middle name? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the student's last name? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the student's date of birth:

Month \_\_\_\_\_

Day \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_

What is the student's gender?

- Male
- Female
- Transgender
- Other

Is the student registered with Oklahoma's Promise?

- Yes
- No

**For information about Oklahoma's Promise: <https://www.okhighered.org/okpromise/>. Please contact your student's public school counselor for assistance.**

I certify that the information provided above is complete and that the submission of the false information is grounds for denial of the application and/ or withdrawal of admission. I understand that the school and college

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expect a high standard of conduct and academic performance for students, and if accepted for admission to EDGE, my child and I will abide by all rules, regulations, and student/parent expectations set forth in this application by the school district and Tulsa Community College.

Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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## EDGE Eligibility and the Selection Process

To be considered for EDGE, students must meet the following initial criteria:

- The applicant must be currently enrolled in the eighth grade.
- The applicant must meet ALL district requirements for promotion to ninth grade.
- The applicant and his/her parent must attend parent/student information and orientation meetings.
- The applicant must independently complete the essay as part of this application.
- The applicant must obtain one teacher recommendation form from a teacher at the eighth-grade center.
- The applicant may submit an optional second teacher recommendation form or a letter of recommendation.
- The applicants are expected to attend all pre-cohort activities, which includes Summer Bridge Programs
- Parents and student must commit to attend all EDGE events and classes.
- Eighth-grade bridge program is a two-day program.
  - The district will provide transportation to the college campus.
- 9th grade summer bridge is a two-day program.
  - The district will provide transportation to the college campus.
- Monthly student engagement activities will occur regularly.
  - The district will provide transportation to the college campus when events are at TCC campuses.
- Additionally, the student may be advised by the district to attend high school course-specific or language-focused summer school sessions that may last up to two months.
- The applicant will enroll in the full 9th grade preparatory courses prepared by the district for cohort enrollment.
  - This may require a schedule change and / or dropping some electives.

## Selection Process

- The selection committee will evaluate the overall application, review the teacher recommendation form, and assess the essay.
- Students are chosen by lottery.
- When the committee selects the cohort, they will also identify a waitlist if the applicants exceed the maximum cohort size.
- Waitlisted students may discuss the opportunity to enroll in the 9th grade preparatory course at the high school.
- Waitlisted students may be notified about EDGE selection at the following times:
  - August (9th grade, student must enroll in 9th grade preparatory curriculum)
  - January (9th grade, student must enroll in 9th grade preparatory curriculum and may have additional make-up work if not enrolled in fall)
  - May (9th grade, student must have participated in 9th grade preparatory curriculum)
  - August (10th grade, student must have participated in 9th grade preparatory year)
  - After August 10th of the 10th grade, eligible waitlisted sophomore students who are not added to the EDGE cohort may start Dual Credit to College Degree in June.

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Please contact the TCC Dual Credit office or your high school counselor for more information.

- Adding to the cohort:
- The applicant who moves into the EDGE participating high school must be moving in from outside the district.
- The cohort must be under maximum size.
- The final date for an incoming student to the district to apply is January 15th of the 9th grade.
  - The committee will review the application and return a decision within 48 hours.
- The student will enroll in all 9th grade preparatory courses with the cohort for the entirety of the spring semester. This will require high school schedule changes.
- The student may be required to do additional work for the Introduction to College course missed in the fall semester.

This application and selection are the initial acceptance into the EDGE pre-cohort for the Freshman preparatory school year.

*All students must meet TCC college admission standards by August of the 10th grade (unweighted HS GPA, PSAT10, Pre-ACT, ACT, SAT) to remain in the program and be in the EDGE cohort.*

- All students must meet college course prerequisites to enroll in TCC classes.
- Sophomores will begin taking TCC's Accuplacer reading test to meet enrollment eligibility for the 10th grade fall and spring enrollments.
- Students who were admitted to TCC, but who did not pass the Accuplacer reading test for 10th grade enrollment, may remain in the EDGE cohort, but may not enroll in TCC courses until the enrollment requirement is met. Students will have multiple opportunities to retake the Accuplacer reading test.

My signature indicates that I have read and understand the criteria and process that will be used to select the EDGE students.

Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Recommendation**

The applicant must obtain one teacher recommendation from a teacher at the eighth-grade center. The applicant may submit an optional second teacher recommendation. The 8th grade center teacher will submit the recommendation directly to the EDGE committee.

## **Essay**

Instructions: We want to learn more about you, please write one essay in English for the EDGE application. Address the prompt in approximately 500 words (not fewer than 450). Avoid grammatical and spelling errors as

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well as redundancy. Complete all responses independently—no help from parents, teachers, or AI/computer generators.

**Prompt:** Why should you be chosen to be a part of EDGE (Earn a Degree, Graduate Early)?

In your answer, include examples of your past accomplishments, discuss your goals, and explain why you want to be part of the program.

Write your essay on wide-lined notebook paper and submit with this application form and your teacher recommendation form or letter to your 8th grade counselor's office.

## **EDGE Student and Parent Expectations and Acknowledgement**

Please indicate below that you have read and understood the specific challenges and requirements of students in the Early College program.

I understand that there are a limited number of seats available and a lottery process will be used if the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of seats available in the program. If not invited, a waitlist will be maintained. Should program vacancies arise after the original invitation, parents/guardians will be contacted in order of the waitlist number, and applicants will be given the opportunity to accept a seat in the EDGE program.

- Yes
- No

I understand that I will be enrolled in college preparatory curriculum with other early college students and will follow a fixed sequence of courses to earn my associates degree and my high school diploma by the end of my senior year.

- Yes
- No

I understand that participating in co-curricular activities, fine arts, and athletics may be difficult because of the increased academic demands and the fixed course sequence, and that the expectation is that my academic schedule in the EDGE program will take priority.

- Yes
- No

I understand that if I drop, withdraw, or fail to pass a course on the degree plan, I will be responsible to pay all costs associated with retaking the course.

- Yes
- No

I understand that if I take a course(s) out-of-sequence (out of cohort), I will be responsible to pay all costs associated with the course(s).

- Yes
- No

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I understand that I must meet all EDGE program requirements in order to be invited to participate and that continued participation is dependent on continuing to meet those requirements including being on track for high school graduation and meeting Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education admission and enrollment requirements.

- Yes
- No

I understand that I must maintain passing grades in all high school classes and a 2.0 college GPA, per Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, policy 3.10.

- Yes
- No

I understand that I will be required to attend weekly tutoring session provided by the high school.

- Yes
- No

I understand that the program will follow the Tulsa Community College academic calendar, which may include attendance when high school classes are not in session including summer school.

- Yes
- No

I will comply with all High School regulations when taking high school courses and with TCC policies when in TCC classes. See Student Handbook for High School and Student Handbook for TCC. Violations may result in dismissal from the program.

- Yes
- No

I understand college professors do not typically distinguish between excused and unexcused absences and, therefore, I may need to limit my extracurricular activities and/or work hours.

- Yes
- No

I will follow the course policies and agenda explained in each course syllabus.

- Yes
- No

I understand that the high school will provide transportation to the college campus for cohort events and college courses from August to May and the 8th and 9th grade summer bridges in July. Summer college courses may require personal transportation.

- Yes
- No
- Yes
- No

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I understand that professors have the academic freedom to create curricula and to determine standards for their classes, which means that course content may include sensitive political, cultural, and religious topics as well as controversial texts (readings, artwork, films, etc.).

Yes

No

I understand that the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) obligates TCC to protect the privacy rights of college students, which means my professors will not communicate my college records, including grades and attendance, with my parents.

Yes

No

I understand that I will handle all matters pertaining to my college classes on my own but may seek guidance from the high school administration about college processes and policies and about communicating with professors.

Yes

No

If I have concerns about my TCC classes, I will follow the TCC Student Handbook and the course syllabus, which explain how I can address my concerns.

Yes

No

I understand that if I choose not to continue or do not meet the criteria to be eligible to continue, I will complete an exit survey.

Yes

No

I understand that I will need to dedicate a minimum of two hours study time for every one hour of in-class time, which means I will be required to devote considerable time outside of class to complete homework and to study.

Yes

No

I understand that college grades are based primarily on how a student demonstrates learning on a few key assignments and that A's and B's indicate an exceptionally high level of learning.

I understand that the college and the high school will be sharing my student records.

Yes

No

I understand that this degree transfers to several universities. I will work closely with a TCC academic advisor each semester to make certain that I am enrolled in the correct courses for a seamless transfer process. I will begin a dialogue with my intended transfer school as early as possible. I will attend student advising events

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with TCC academic advisors and advisors from selected four-year institutions to streamline the transfer process. It is my responsibility to ensure that courses transfer to the four-year institution.

- Yes
- No

My signature indicates that I am prepared to be academically challenged, and the we will follow the guidelines established here.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_