



THE BEAUFORT COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Thank you for your interest in Beaufort County Early College High School (BCECHS). By applying to BCECHS, you are taking an important first step toward a future pathway and a bright future. At BCECHS, we are committed to providing the most comprehensive educational preparation possible for the students in Beaufort County. If you are accepted, you will find this to be one of the most important and valuable experiences of your life.

Before you begin completing the online application, please read the following *General Information for Students and Families* pages carefully. You will note that BCECHS is not like traditional high schools. This document notes those differences for your consideration. You will need to understand and accept them before deciding to apply.

Online applications for the 2027-2028 school year will be posted on the BCECHS website via a Google Form in November 2026. Please check our website for the application posting.

The Beaufort County Early College will conduct an informational open house at 5:30 p.m. on **Thursday, February 4, 2027**, in the Multipurpose Room of Building 10 on the BCCC campus. This session is for eighth-grade students and their families who are seeking information about the Early College and the application process.

The online application must be submitted by February 6, 2027. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Acceptance/ waitlist letters will be sent by email during the week of February 15, 2027. Please make sure that you provide a current and valid email address in your online application.

BEAUFORT COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Application for 2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR

General Information for Students and Families

Eligibility

Because of the unique and rigorous nature of our program, students may only apply to BCECHS during their 8th grade year or transfer from another Early College High School with credentials and qualifications for acceptance. The student's legal guardian **must** be a resident of Beaufort County to apply to BCECHS.

Academic Calendar

Our school year is a mixture of the Beaufort County Community College calendar and the Beaufort County Schools calendar. Our starting and ending dates are different from other schools in the county. Our holidays and other breaks may also be different. BCECHS students must agree to follow our calendar and be in class when BCECHS classes are in session. The BCECHS calendar and the BCCC calendars are posted on each organization's website.

Acceptance Notification and Mandatory Orientation Session

All students who are accepted for enrollment will be notified via applicant-provided email the week of February 15, 2027. Letters will explain next steps. If you do not receive a notification, please call the school. All accepted students and at least one parent/guardian must attend a mandatory orientation session at BCCC as outlined in the acceptance letter.

School Day

Regular school hours are 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Some students may take college classes earlier than 8:30 a.m. or later than 2:30 p.m. and would need to provide their own transportation for BCCC classes that fall outside of regular BCECHS school hours. Students may be dropped off at 8:00 a.m. and must be picked up by 4:00 p.m. each school day.

Transportation

At the beginning of the BCECHS school year, when other BCS schools are closed, BCS buses will pick students up at their home bus stop in the mornings and bring them directly to BCCC. These routes shift when BCS schools begin the school year. Once the other BCS schools begin, BCECHS students who need transportation will ride the regular school bus to their assigned high school in the mornings and transfer to a BCECHS shuttle bus for the ride to BCCC. In the afternoon, BCECHS students will ride a shuttle bus to their assigned high school and transfer to the regular school bus for the trip home.

Meals

BCECHS participates in the federal school lunch program and receives breakfast and lunch daily. Menus are posted on the BCECHS website. Students may also bring lunch and snacks from home. The BCCC Grill is also available for students to purchase food.

Discipline

BCECHS students are expected to conduct themselves as responsible young adults and must behave responsibly both on and off campus. Infractions lead to serious consequences, including suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary action applies to minor behavioral patterns, class cutting, or non-participation, and repeated offenses will result in removal from the school. Parents or guardians are notified of all major disciplinary actions.

ExtracurricularActivities

BCECHS **cannot offer** sports, band, choir, or ROTC. If you are interested in or involved in such activities, you need to strongly consider whether you want to give them up to be a BCECHS student. At BCECHS, we encourage involvement in student clubs and have a variety available for students. Current club options are outlined in our student handbook.

Personal Maturity and Responsibility

BCECHS operates on college standards, requiring students to maintain a serious attitude toward their academic future. Consequently, our students must assume greater personal responsibility for their actions, safety, and learning than traditional high schoolers. Parent and family support is vital, and adhering to these high expectations is mandatory.

Campus Movement: Monitoring and Supervision

The BCCC campus is a busy, public college campus with people coming and going all day. Once enrolled in BCCC classes, BCECHS students must move around campus from class to class and elsewhere as needed. During extended schedule breaks, mealtimes, and occasional cancelled classes, students are generally free to move around campus on their own. We have specific places set aside where our students are expected to be when not otherwise assigned, and we will, of course, exercise reasonable levels of supervision and oversight within the limits of our available staff and time. Because every student will eventually have a unique and individual schedule and must therefore come and go around campus at different times to and from different buildings and classrooms, specific continuous monitoring and supervision of all students is not possible. Campus security cameras and sign/in and sign-out procedures monitor students and hold them accountable to adhere to BCECHS, BCS, and BCCC policies and procedures.

Parents/ guardians must understand the above information and must agree to hold their own children, not the BCECHS/BCCC staff or administration, responsible for the student's comings-and-goings around and on- and off-campus, and for their choices of who they associate with, including those from whom they accept rides.

Parents must complete the required transportation paperwork provided by the school for students in grades 11-13 who drive to come and go on- and off-campus on their own. All students are required to check out if they leave campus before the end of the day, but we cannot always contact parents prior to releasing them.

PARENTS MUST AGREE THAT BCECHS, THE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS, AND THEIR AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR STUDENTS' WHEREABOUTS OR SAFETY WHEN THEY ARE NOT SCHEDULED IN A CLASS OR SCHOOL ACTIVITY, OR WHEN THEY CHOOSE TO LEAVE CAMPUS AT A TIME OTHER THAN DESIGNATED BY BCECHS.

Resource and Internet Access

Access to information resources at BCCC, including the BCCC Library and the Internet, is not filtered or blocked like it is in the public schools. BCECHS students are required to make occasional use of these resources to fulfill course requirements, so they will come in contact from time to time with material that would have been screened, censored, or filtered if they were in a public high school. BCECHS students will be required to sign the BCCC Acceptable Use Policy.

PARENTS MUST AGREE TO ALLOW STUDENTS FULL AND COMPLETE ACCESS TO THE LIBRARY, THE INTERNET, AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT BCCC WITH NO EXPECTATION OF BLOCKING, FILTERING, SCREENING, OR CENSORING OF ANY KIND.

Idea Exchange

BCECHS is part of a college campus. On college and university campuses, the free exchange of ideas is expected. Censorship of ideas or opinions is not allowed or supported at the collegiate level. For that reason, BCECHS parents must understand that their children who come here will likely be exposed to, and expected to participate in, open exchanges of ideas, discussions, debates, and even class assignments concerning a wide variety of subject matter – including religion, politics, human social issues, sexuality issues, etc. This free flow of ideas and discussions occurs in college classrooms and throughout the college environment. Every effort is made to enforce civility, reasonable restraint, courtesy, and respect of all ideas, beliefs, and viewpoints, but you must know in advance that every BCECHS student will almost assuredly have his or her values and beliefs challenged at various times while enrolled in this program, and all students and parents must understand – and agree – that BCCC cannot, and will not, take any measures to censor ideas or opinions not in line with students' beliefs just because discussion or challenge makes the student and/or his/her parents uncomfortable. It is also important to note that this provides opportunities to work through these challenges with students while they are still at home rather than when they may be living away on a college campus.

Attendance

BCECHS students will follow the BCECHS/ BCS attendance policy for BCECHS-taught classes and the BCCC attendance policy for BCCC-taught classes. Regular attendance is essential to success at BCECHS. As a result, students are expected to attend every class every day. If absences do occur, students are responsible for all missed work and are to be prepared for coursework when they return. It is the student's responsibility to contact the faculty for missed assignments to meet these expectations. Problems with attendance may result in withdrawal from BCCC courses and dismissal from BCECHS.

Coursework and Graduation Requirements

The curriculum sequence and content at BCECHS are different from traditional high schools. This difference allows students at BCECHS the opportunity to complete both their high school diploma and their Associate's degree within five years. To accomplish this, students at BCECHS will be dually enrolled in many courses. Dual enrollment allows them to receive a high school graduation credit and a community college credit for the same course. While the students at

BCECHS will be academically prepared for dual enrollment, the courses will be challenging. Students and parents should examine the courses and the sequence of courses on the BCS and BCCC websites. This is essential to the decision of whether BCECHS is an appropriate choice. The requirements for graduation from BCECHS include both high school and college coursework. Please note graduation depends upon meeting both sets of requirements in full. Students who complete the high school requirements but not the BCCC requirements will not graduate; likewise, students who complete the BCCC requirements but not the high school requirements will not earn either the college transfer credit or associate degree. Full completion of both sets of requirements is required for both a high school diploma and a college degree and/or certificate.

Home and Family Involvement

BCECHS students need the support of their parents and families. Parents of BCECHS students must be actively involved in their students' education and fully engaged in school events and activities. At least one parent/ guardian per family is required to join us at each of the following:

- Open House – Annually- Before classes begin
- Parent Conferences – As scheduled or requested

Important note:

Student success thrives on a strong partnership between families and our school. To support your child's journey, we rely on parents and guardians to actively participate in mandatory Open Houses and parent meetings, and to stay in close communication with our staff. Because consistent family engagement is vital to maintaining a student's placement at BCECHS, we work closely with families to ensure everyone can meet these commitments and stay on the path to graduation.

Inclement Weather Procedures

BCECHS closes when Beaufort County Schools (BCS) closes due to inclement weather. Watch the TV news and listen to the radio in such cases; All BCS closings for weather will be announced just as other institutions are announced.

If you have additional questions, please contact the ECHS Main office at 252-940-6461.

The next step is yours, and your college journey starts here. If you are ready to rise to the challenge, take ownership of your education, and earn your first two years of college completely free, Beaufort County Early College High School is your best path forward. We are excited to help you achieve your goals and look forward to receiving your application for the 2027 freshman class!

YOUR COMPLETED ONLINE APPLICATION IS DUE BY FEBRUARY 6, 2027.