

MEMORANDUM

TO: Approved Early College Program Higher Education Partners
FROM: Greg Young, College & Career Readiness Coordinator – Student Pathways
Cc: Jess DeCarolis, Division Director – Student Pathways
Veronica Newton, Personalized Learning Program Manager – Student Pathways
SUBJECT: Early College Program 2021-2022
DATE: August 4, 2021

The Agency of Education and Vermont's approved postsecondary partners continue their collaboration to create a system in which Vermont seniors can complete their final year of high school at a college or university, tuition free. This program enables students to complete one year of college, while also meeting the requirements for high school graduation.

Under the Flexible Pathways Initiative, the State has encouraged and supported school districts in offering high-quality educational experiences. Two such experiences, Dual Enrollment and Early College, allow school districts to offer post-secondary experiences to students to meet graduation requirements. The Early College Program, [16 V.S.A. § 946](#), allows seniors who enroll to take a full year of college-level courses tuition free. Student readiness for and participation in college coursework must be approved by their principal (and/or their designee) and documented in the student's Personalized Learning Plan.

For each 12th grade Vermont student enrolled, the Secretary of Education shall pay an amount equal to 87 percent of the base education amount, but not more than tuition charged by the institution, to an early college program that is approved for operation by the Secretary. This amount is intended to cover tuition for both semesters, not each.

In order to continue the Early College Postsecondary Partnership, each approved partner institution must complete the participation agreement process. The completed *Cognito Form* is due by **September 15, 2021** to [Rose Wheeler](#).

The Participation Agreement process involves two steps.

1. Complete and submit the [Vermont Early College 2021-2022 \(FY22\) Approved Early College Postsecondary Partnership Agreement Cognito Form](#) by **September 15, 2021**.

Contact Information:

If you have questions about this document or would like additional information, please contact Greg Young at AOE.DualEnrollment@vermont.gov

2. Upon submitting this completed form, the AOE designee, Rose Wheeler, will convert the completed form into a OneSpan document which will then be routed to the authorized representative for signature to be maintained on file.

NOTE: OneSpan, is the AOE's official e-signature tool. Signatures indicate understanding of and assurance that the Vermont Dual Enrollment Program Participation Agreement responsibilities will be met.

The completed Cognito [Form](#) is due by September 15, 2021

We look forward to our continued work with you to fulfill the expectations of the Flexible Pathways Initiative and the Vermont Early College Program. If you have any questions concerning the Flexible Pathways Initiative and the Vermont Early College Program, please contact AOE.EarlyCollege@vermont.gov.

Resources

[AOE Early College Program webpage](#)

[Dual Enrollment and Early College Rate Information FY22](#)

[EC Enrollment and Snapshot Data Spreadsheet FY22](#)