

MEMORANDUM

TO: Approved Early College Program Higher Education Partners
FROM: Greg Young, Program Coordinator
SUBJECT: **Early College Program 2020-2021**
DATE: August 7, 2020

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 form is due by September 11, 2020 to [Rose Wheeler](#).**

This year the Participation Agreement process involves two steps:

1. Download and complete the [Approved Early College Program Partnership Agreement](#) and **email** the completed form to AOE designee, Rose Wheeler at rose.wheeler@vermont.gov by September 11, 2020.

Contact Information:

If you have questions about this document or would like additional information please contact:

AOE.EarlyCollege@vermont.gov, Student Pathways Division

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2. The completed form will be converted into a OneSpan document and routed to the authorized representative for signature to be maintained on file. The signature of the authorized representative indicates understanding of and assurance that the approved Early College Program Postsecondary Partner's responsibilities will be met.

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

Resources

[AOE Early College Program webpage](#)

[Dual Enrollment and Early College Rate Information FY21](#)

[Early College Enrollment and Snapshot Data spreadsheet](#)