

Recommended Action Steps and Timeline for Student Participation in Early College

This chart is intended for students interested in pursuing the Early College Program. Through the Flexible Pathways Initiative ([16 V.S.A. § 946](#)), Vermont's Early College Program (ECP) has made funds available to students accepted into full-time programs that are developed and operated by one of the Vermont State Colleges or an accredited private postsecondary school located in Vermont, and that are approved for operation by the Secretary of Education. The Vermont Dual Enrollment Program, [16 V.S.A. § 944](#), includes up to two college courses for eligible Vermont high school students, tuition free. Students remain enrolled in their high school for the Dual Enrollment Program whereas they need to unenroll from high school to participate in the Early College Program; both of these programs have [specific implications for students on IEPs](#). Though not a requirement, it is strongly encouraged that students participate in a Dual Enrollment (DE) course prior to the Early College Program.

Timeline	Recommended Action Steps
9 th – 10 th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore college and career options via the Personal Learning Planning (PLP) process • Discuss college planning with your school counselor (Considerations for Student Participation in a Flexible Pathway tool) • Use this crosswalk document to learn more about different student learning plans and how they can be leveraged to be prepared for successful participation in college courses • If you are on an IEP and are considering early college, it is important for you to meet with your school counselor to discuss the services available at the college that will best meet your needs. Click here for additional transition resources for IEP teams
10 th Grade Fall Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider taking CCV Intro to College and Careers • Explore college and career options via the Personalized Learning Planning process • Meet with your school counselor to identify self-assessments you can take to determine readiness and next steps for post-secondary options • Discuss college planning with your school counselor (Considerations for Student Participation in a Flexible Pathway tool)

Contact Information:

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

AOE - Early College at AOE.EarlyCollege@vermont.gov

Timeline	Recommended Action Steps
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you receive special education services, check out college courses and IEPs with your school counselor to help with preparation and planning
10 th Grade Spring Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request DE Voucher System Account Consider requesting DE Voucher to enroll in Summer Semester DE course (for summer after grade 10)* <i>NOTE: Voucher site opens for summer course voucher requests mid-February</i> Consider requesting DE Voucher to enroll in Fall Semester DE course (when you enter grade 11)* <i>NOTE: Voucher site opens for fall course voucher requests mid-April</i>
11 th Grade Fall Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request DE Voucher to enroll in Spring Semester DE course (grade 11)* <i>NOTE: voucher site for spring course voucher requests mid-November</i> Research/visit participating Early College partnering schools, discuss Early College options with college admissions staff and high school counselor Determine application deadlines, and begin the application process Continue planning for life after high school
11 th Grade Spring Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize applications for Acceptance into an Early College Program at a participating College/University If you attend a high school, you will need an approval letter from your principal to pursue Early College. If you participate in Home Study, an MCOS that include Early College must be submitted and approved for following school year. Request DE Voucher to enroll in Summer Semester DE course (summer after grade 11)* <i>NOTE: Voucher site opens for summer course voucher requests mid-February</i> If you are on a 504 plan, you should work with your school counselor and contact the college's Student Support Office or ADA Office for the college to write a new 504 plan
Before 12 th Grade Summer Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine schedule, logistics of getting to courses, or if online, identifying location for learning Ensure student supports are in place to be successful in Early College program
12 th Grade Fall Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unenroll from high school or Home Study Program prior to beginning college course work Maintain full time college course load Utilize academic/social-emotional supports (office hours, tutors, counselors, Student Support Office, other support staff) as needed

Timeline	Recommended Action Steps
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit and update personalized learning plan as necessary
12 th Grade Spring Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain full time course load • Utilize the college’s academic/social-emotional supports and services (office hours, tutors, counselors, Student Support Office, other support staff) as needed • Confirm plans for post-secondary pathway as part of the PLP process • Upon completion of second semester, students who wish to receive a high school diploma must reenroll in their high school in order to obtain a diploma

*** The recommended actions steps for DE courses are presented in accordance with the DE timeline; eligible students should consider which options are best suited to meet their individual goals and timeline as they prepare to participate in the Early College Program. Students cannot use DE vouchers while they are enrolled in the Early College Program.**