

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...



Q: Can my child be in extracurricular activities like band, dance, etc, and in the Early College?

A: Yes, your child can participate in extracurricular activities alongside BLSIA. Balancing both will help develop essential time management skills. Academic courses will be prioritized over extracurricular courses.

Q: Can my child be in the Magnet Program and Early College Program?

A: If your child applies for BLSIA there is no Magnet program at LBJHS. However, BLSIA incorporates specialty courses in the four-year plan. Students will focus on certifications in the areas of EKG, CCMA, Pharmacy Tech, and Phlebotomy.

Q: What is the difference between Early College and BLSIA?

A: BLSIA has a strong focus on Math, Science, and Health Science. BLSIA offers a student the opportunity to earn an associate in Science, whereas Early College is an associate in art. Students earn industry-based certifications in certain specialty courses. High school electives are centered on Health Science, and students gain hands-on experience through clinical rotations at hospitals and various healthcare settings.

Q: Who teaches the college classes?

A: Most courses are taught by UISD teachers approved by Laredo College; however, if needed, LC will provide their own instructor.

**Lyndon B. Johnson
Biotechnology & Life Sciences
Innovative Academy
(BLSIA)
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**Graduate from high school with up to
60 hours of transferable college credit
or an associates degree.**



It is the policy of United ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap in its programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.



Lyndon B. Johnson Biotechnology & Life Sciences Innovative Academy

**Your Future Starts Here: Early College
High School**

The Biotechnology & Life Sciences Innovative Academy at Lyndon B. Johnson offers high school students the opportunity to earn an associate's degree or up to 60 college hours while still in high school.



WHAT IS BLSIA?

Biotechnology & Life Sciences Innovative Academy is a school within a school designed for students to earn both a high school diploma and an associate's degree or up to 60 hours of credit toward a bachelor's degree. Within this program, students will be also be earning one for the following industry based certifications: Pharmacy Technician, Certified Clinical Medical Assistant, Phlebotomy, EKG amongst others.

In addition to earning an associate's degree, BLSIA equips them with the skills and knowledge needed to be workforce-ready in the medical field. Through a blend of hands-on training and academic coursework, graduates are ready to enter the healthcare industry with the expertise and credentials required for success.

WHY CHOOSE BLSIA?

The innovative programs allows students to:

- 1 Save Money/Save Time: Reduce the cost of college tuition and fee. Accelerate your education and enter the workforce sooner or continue with your graduate level goals.
- 2 Develop Critical Thinking Skills: Prepare for the challenges of higher education and beyond.
- 3 Personal Growth: Fosters independence, responsibility and self-confidence.
- 4 Work-Based Learning opportunities and post-secondary readiness.

WHO CAN APPLY?

BLSIA located at LBJHS accepts applications from all 8th grade students. If you possess a passion for Science and dream of a future in medicine, BLSIA is your next big adventure!

HOW DO I APPLY FOR BLSIA?

By the deadline indicated on the portal, parents and students must complete the Early College Program application online at earlycollegeapply.uisd.net, watch the embedded online video, and accept the terms of the parent orientation video.

HOW ARE STUDENTS SELECTED?

Students are selected based on a blind lottery system. Any 8th-grade student may apply for BLSIA. 100 students total will be selected through the blind lottery with the following breakdown: 76 slots from LBJHS, and 8 slots from AHS, UHS, and USHS. BLSIA will accept an additional ten waitlisted students in order of highest ranking GPA. Early College acceptance cannot be transferred from one school to another.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD IS SELECTED?

Your child will receive a congratulatory email and will need to go back into the portal to accept their program. Parents and Students must attend a mandatory session in May, and students must attend the two-week Summer Bridge Program.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD EARN IN BLSIA?

BLSIA students have the opportunity to earn an associate in Science (60 hours). With a strong emphasis on Math, Science and Health Science. Students will earn:

- Texas Core Curriculum: 42 hours
- Elective Courses: 18 hours

All high school core courses are pre-AP to ensure that the rigor of the program is maintained throughout the student's academic journey.

Under the Texas Education Code, all public higher education institutions in Texas are required to accept the Texas Core Curriculum. The applicability of core curriculum and elective credits may vary based on the specific degree program a student is pursuing.

It is important to note that the specific number of credit hours a student can earn may vary depending on factors such as meeting enrollment requirements, the student's academic performance, and the courses completed.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

A higher percentage of students that graduate from an Early College go on to complete their college degree.

For every 10 students that start high school:

- 8 will finish and obtain a high school diploma
- 6 will enroll in a post-secondary institution
- Only 3 will complete a bachelor's degree within 10 years.

The average yearly college tuition and fees - 2024

Public Two-Year College (In-State)	\$4,050
Public Four-Year University (In-State)	\$11,610
Public Four Year University (Out of State)	\$30,780
Private Four-Year University	\$43,350