

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...



UISD Early College Programs

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Graduate from high school with up to 60 hours of transferable college credit or an associate's degree.

United ISD Early College Programs

Your Future Starts Here: Early College High School

The Early College Programs at United ISD offers high school students the opportunity to earn an associate's degree or up to 60 college hours while still in high school.

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

A: Absolutely! your child can participate in extracurricular activities alongside the Early College Program. 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: Yes, If your child is selected for the Magnet Program that pertains to your attendance zone, your child may be enrolled in both programs.

Q: What is the difference between Early College and Early Start Pathway?

A: United ISD Early Start Pathway Program offers students up to 33 college hours and additional summer credit-earning opportunities. Students who apply for the Early Start Pathway Program will have to meet ESP requirements whereas the Early College is a lottery-based selection. Students in Early College have the opportunity to earn an associate's degree.

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.



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.



WHO CAN APPLY?

Any 8th-grade student who resides in the attendance zone for the Early College Program can apply using our online application portal. BLSIA located at LBJHS accepts applications from all 8th grade students.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN EARLY COLLEGE?

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. Students must reside in the attendance zone for the Early College they are selected with the exception of BLSIA. AHS, UHS, and USHS accept 100 students, LBJHS accepts 125 students, and BLSIA accepts 100 students (76 from LBJHS and 8 from each AHS, UHS and USHS). Each program 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 IS THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM?

Early College programs offer high school students the unique opportunity to earn college credits while completing their high school education. These programs, in partnership with our local college provide students with a head start on their higher education journey. United ISD students have the potential to earn an associates degree or college hours toward an associates degree through their Early College program.

Early College has the potential to improve high school graduation rates and better prepare all students for high-skilled careers by engaging them in rigorous, college preparatory curriculum and reducing the number of years towards a college degree.

WHY CHOOSE EARLY COLLEGE?

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.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD EARN IN EARLY COLLEGE?

Early College students have the opportunity to earn an associate in arts (60 hours). 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