

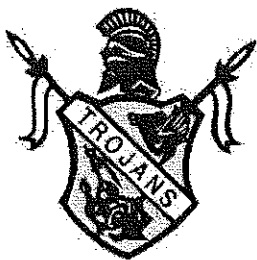
## **Description of the New Kent Early College Academy: A Pathway to the Associate of Arts and Science Transfer Degree**

The New Kent Early College Academy allows New Kent High School students to earn an Associates of Arts and Sciences Transfer degree from Rappahannock Community College while still enrolled in high school. The program is designed for high school juniors and seniors who desire a more rigorous academic program and who are highly motivated to complete the requirements for both the high school Advanced Studies Diploma and the A.A. & S. Transfer Degree. The Early College program includes a combination of Advanced Placement and Dual-Enrollment courses, with some course flexibility for students. Successful completion of the program requires necessary course grades in dual enrollment courses and scores on AP Exams of 3 or higher, summer classes at RCC to complete necessary courses, minimum scores on the VPT or other assessment to enroll in dual enrollment classes at NKHS and RCC, and thoughtful early course planning.

The Associate of Arts and Sciences degree in General Studies is a flexible program for those who wish to transfer to a four-year college or university. The Early College curriculum includes a distribution of general education courses which are usually required in the first two years of many baccalaureate programs.

Students successfully completing all course requirements will be awarded the Associate of Arts and Sciences in General Studies from RCC. Although earning an associate degree does not always guarantee junior status at a four-year college or university, Early College graduates may be prepared to enter as third-year students at many four-year colleges or universities. Early College students are strongly urged to acquaint themselves with the requirements of the college or university to which transfer is contemplated and to consult with an advisor at the four-year institution for further transfer assistance. Completion of the A.A. & S. degree with a minimum required GPA may also give students access to the Virginia Community College System's Guaranteed Transfer Program to Virginia colleges and universities.

Because most of the required courses are taught at New Kent High School, for most required courses students and families would only have to pay for the cost of related Advanced Placement Exams and tuition of \$10 per credit for dual-enrollment courses (subject to change). The current cost of the program for families, subject to change, is approximately \$1600 for two years (61 credits) of college work. There are also summer classes to take that are required for all RCC students. Depending upon their schedule and progress students may also need to take courses in the evening at RCC and during each summer, to include following high school graduation, at either the RCC New Kent Site or Glens Campus. An RCC advisor will be assigned to the student in order to assist with course selection.



## **How Do I Qualify For the New Kent Early College Academy?**

- ❖ Must be current sophomores (rising juniors). Interested rising Sophomores should also formalize their intent to apply by submitting an intent to apply form to School Counseling. Students will then plan for applying the following year and will work with his/her counselor to discuss course sequences.
- ❖ Must be able to attend the SDV 100 (College Success Skills) and ITE 119 (Information Literacy) at RCC during the summer prior to the Junior year.
- ❖ Completed Algebra II or higher, Chemistry, and AP Human Geography by the end of their sophomore year.
- ❖ Should complete at least year three of a foreign language by the end of their sophomore year.
- ❖ Recommend good academic standing as defined as an “A” average or better (3.5 cumulative unweighted GPA). Students with a “B” average (3.0 unweighted GPA) will be considered. Students must maintain a 3.0 at RCC and NKHS.
- ❖ Be pursuing an Advanced Studies Diploma.
- ❖ Must be on track to have earned 5 verified credits by the end of sophomore year (transfer students will be evaluated independently by school counselor).
- ❖ Have excellent school attendance.
- ❖ Complete the application (to include, the application form, RCC dual enrollment pink form, by the deadline (per RCC requirement).
- ❖ Take the Virginia Placement Test at your high school (VPT) and receive qualifying scores, or submit qualifying SAT/ACT/PSAT scores for review to your high school counselor. Students who have a qualifying SAT/PSAT or ACT score will be notified to continue with the application. Those who do not have qualifying scores, will be given the VPT to determine college readiness.
- ❖ Upon admission, pay tuition and fees to your high school by the deadline. You will be notified by Mrs. Spiak as to due dates for payment via Schoology message.

## **A completed application, consisting of the following documents, must be submitted to School Counseling for consideration of admission to the program:**

- ❖ The Application for the New Kent Early College Academy.
- ❖ The RCC Dual Enrollment form.

(High School Permission Form, signed by the principal and school counselor.--Due later for summer enrollment)

### **Application Timeline:**

**October 27: Attend Student Interest Meeting (during IE)**

**November 8: Attend Parent Information Night (6:30-8:30 PM, NKHS Media Ctr.)**

**December 14: Completed applications due to School Counseling Office**

**November-December:** Be sure that your requested courses for the following year are in alignment with your pathway progression; seek out your school counselor if you have questions.

**January/February:**

Mr. Williams, the RCC Dual Enrollment Advisor, will meet with applicants to discuss your pathway and sequencing.

**March:**

Complete the VPT if needed (NKHS)

**May:** Message your school counselor in Schoology to inquire if you were placed into your requested courses. It is your role to ensure that you take the courses advised.



**Application to the New Kent Early College Academy:**  
**A Pathway to the Associates Degree**  
**2018-2019**

Careful planning of your high school course schedule is critical to the process of achieving 61 dual enrollment credits while progressing through the requirements for the advanced high school diploma. You will work closely with RCC's Dual Enrollment Advisor, Hutt Williams, and your school counselor to determine your course sequence.

Please note that the courses listed on the recommended pathway are only a suggested pathway. Each student will tailor his/her pathway based on pre-requisites met and success moving through the requirements. Please also be aware that course availability at New Kent High School and RCC is subject to change. If there are questions about the program, please contact Mrs. Peggy Spiak, College, Career, and Life Readiness Coordinator, at [pspiak@nkcps.k12.va.us](mailto:pspiak@nkcps.k12.va.us).

Submit this application to the School Counseling Office no later than **Thurs, December 14**. Upon submission of this completed application, the student's academic record will be reviewed and a determination will be made whether the student must complete entrance testing required by the Virginia Community College System. The entrance test is called the Virginia Placement Test and is typically given in early spring.

**STUDENT INFORMATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Name** **Last Name** **MI**

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zipcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Name** **Last Name**  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Best Contact Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDED COURSE PROGRESSION FOR COMPLETION**

| Grade 10   | Summer RCC                                    | Grade 11 - Fall  | Grade 11 - Spring  | Summer RCC                 | Grade 12 - Fall  | Grade 12 - Spring   | Summer of High School Grad.  |
|--|---|--|--|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| Algebra II   | SDV 100<br>College Success Skills<br>1 Credit | Math 154<br>DE Quantitative Reasoning<br>3 Credits   | Math 245<br>DE Statistics<br>3 Credits                                     | Health or PE<br>1-2 Credit | General Elective<br>-OR-<br>Math 167<br>DE Pre-Calculus w/ Trig<br>5 credits       | General Elective<br>-OR-<br>Math 263<br>DE Calculus<br>4 Credits      | *Most students won't graduate from RCC until late summer; AP scores to verify credits for the associates are not available until July. |
| Chemistry  | ITE 119<br>Information Literacy<br>3 Credits  | DE English 111<br>Alternate Days<br>DE College Composition 1<br>3 Credits                    | DE English 112<br>Alternate Days<br>DE College Composition II<br>3 Credits | Humanities<br>3 credits    | DE English 252<br>World Literature II<br>3 Credits<br>Alternate Days               | DE English 210<br>Advanced Composition<br>3 Credits<br>Alternate Days | *Some students may also need extra classes to earn the required credits.   |
| AP Human Geography<br>3 Credits (must earn 3 or better on AP Exam) |   | AP US History - Alternate Days<br>6 Credits (must earn 3 or better on AP Exam)               |  |                            | AP Government - Alternate Days<br>3 Credits (must earn 3 or better on AP Exam)     |   |  |
|  |   |  | Economics/<br>Personal Finance   |                            |  |   |  |
|  |   | AP Biology or AP Chemistry<br>Alternate Days<br>8 Credits (must earn 3 or better on AP Exam) |  |                            | AP Biology or AP Chemistry<br>Alternate Days<br>8 Credits (3 or better on AP Exam) |   |  |
| 3 Credits  | 4 Credits                                     | 26 Total Credits (14 are potential w/AP)   |  | 4-5 Credits                | 23-26 Total Credits (11 are potential w/AP)  |   |  |

**Program Goals**

1. Introduce students to the experience of college studies in a supportive environment.
2. Encourage high school students to attend college by creating a seamless transition from high school to college.
3. Provide an opportunity for high school students to earn an Associate of Arts and Sciences Transfer degree, at low cost.

**Notes:**

- > **RCC graduation for those meeting all requirements will likely be the summer after high school graduation, due to awaiting final word on qualifying AP scores from senior year. In addition, some students may need to take remaining coursework that summer.**
- > **There are some options and flexibility available with this pathway that can be discussed during the advising session thus the reason for the varying credits shown above.**
- > DE Introduction to Theater is an optional three credit elective.
- > Approved RCC electives can be taken online or in person during any semester (summer, fall, or spring) in the junior or senior year.
- > A sophomore can take AP Human Geography and with a 3 or higher on the AP test receive 3 college credits and satisfy a transfer social science requirement.
- > In order to receive the 3 or 6 credits for an Advance Placement Course, the student must receive a 3 or better on the AP end of year exam.
- > The above curriculum is for the class of 2021 and subject to change as circumstances warrant.
- > Students will need to have taken Algebra 2 and Chemistry prior to their 11th grade year.

The Early College Academy program is evidence that RCC and our public school district are working together to respond to Virginia House Bill 1184 and satisfy the requirements of Virginia Code section 22.1-254.13:1. HB 1184 requires local school boards and community colleges to develop agreements allowing high school students to complete an associate's degree or a one-year Uniform Certificate of General Studies from a community college concurrent with a high school diploma.