

Texas Early College High School

Believe, Achieve, Succeed



Texas Early College High School is a partnership between
Panola Schools & Panola College



MISSION

Texas Early College High School genuinely engages a wide spectrum of students by offering a complete and rigorous curriculum, supported by technology and aligned to student interests and educational standards. Flexible and innovative coursework with an applied learning focus is provided in a challenging and supportive environment. Students will earn a high school diploma and be provided the opportunity to earn an Associate's college degree, certification or transferable college credits, enabling them to attend college and pursue a career path.



What is an Early College High School?

Early College High Schools (ECHS) are innovative high schools that allow students least likely to attend college an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and 60 college credit hours. Early College High Schools:

- *provide dual credit at no cost to students,*
- *offer rigorous instruction and accelerated courses,*
- *provide academic and social support services to help students succeed,*
- *increase college readiness, and reduce barriers to college access*

Should my child attend an ECHS?

Early College High Schools are public schools and, therefore, any high school student zoned within geographical boundaries of Panola Schools district may apply. Students who meet one or more of the following criteria are encouraged to apply:

- might be the first in their family to attend college.
- want to attend college but need a no-cost solution.
- **are motivated** to challenge themselves with in depth college-level course work.
- are comfortable in smaller classes focused on academics.
- are open to accept academic guidance from dedicated, collegiate teachers and professors.

ECHS Frequently Asked Questions

- **I have a child in the 8th grade. Should he/she apply to an Early College High School?**

All students have access to the program; however, the ECHS core mission is to give prospective first-generation and other typically underrepresented students in higher education a no-cost solution to a post-secondary education. (TEA ECHS Blueprint, Benchmark 1)

- **How many college hours will my child take if enrolled in an ECHS?**

Freshmen are enrolled in at least one college course if not two according to TSI results. Sophomores also, may enroll up to two per semester. Most ECHS students may enroll up to 12 hours of college coursework in a semester by their junior and senior years. The objective is to graduate with an Associate degree by high school graduation or to have accumulated up to 60 hours towards a Bachelor's degree.

- **If I want to attend an ECHS, do I need my parent's permission?**

Yes. Parents are recognized as our partners. By granting permission, the parent(s) are demonstrating their support to this process.

- **Can students outside of Panola Schools district apply to attend an ECHS?**

Students must reside within the Panola Schools geographical boundaries to enroll in our school.



What is the difference between ECHS and Dual Credit?

Dual Credit	Early College High School
Typically offers between 12 and 30 hours of college credit	Provides over 60 hours of college credit
Students usually begin taking dual credit in the 11th or 12th grade	Students usually begin taking dual credit in the 9th or 10th grade
Support services vary	Academic, social, and emotional support programs are required for all students (e.g., tutoring, mentoring, Saturday school, advising)

Early College High Schools (ECHS)

By blending high school and college coursework, ECHS gives students, particularly historically underserved and at-risk students the opportunity to earn up to two years of college credit (60 hours), tuition-free, while earning a high school diploma. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) launched the initiative to increase the college readiness of students across Texas by providing rigorous instruction and coursework as well as academic and social support. Early College High Schools provide students with highly personalized attention and encourage lasting relationships with teachers and classmates. The experience creates a college-like culture that encourages students to continue their higher education journey.



TEXAS
EARLY COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL

Preparing Texas students for a successful future !

The Early College High School (ECHS) model blends high school and college coursework to provide at-risk and historically underserved students and students who wish to accelerate their learning the opportunity to earn an associate's degree and/or 60 hours of college credit — tuition-free. The program puts higher education within reach of students who may otherwise be unlikely to attend college and helps them prepare for a college environment.

Call Today to make an Appointment!



Texas Early College High

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