



## Early College Access Program Information

### Overview

Anne Arundel County Public School Schools (AACPS) and Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) are joint sponsors of the *Early College Access Programs (ECAP)*, which includes *Dual Credit* and *Non-Dual Credit* programs. ECAP is designed to allow authorized high school students to explore college level coursework in a variety of academic areas. This college level coursework can complete the academic day for approved high school students who are progressing toward high school graduation or provide the opportunity to study subject matter that is of interest to the student more broadly.

### Receiving Credit for ECAP Courses

Designated courses *may* meet the criteria for both college and high school credit. Prior written consent from the school principal or designee, after advisement with the school counselor, is required. For dual credit courses, students receiving an AACC grade of 'A,' 'B,' 'C,' or 'D' will receive an AACPS grade of 'S.' An AACC grade of 'F,' 'FX,' or 'I' will receive an AACPS grade of 'U.' On the high school transcript students are awarded high school credit with the 'S' or 'U' designation. These courses do not calculate towards a student's AACPS GPA.

### Costs and Financial Assistance

The cost of participating in ECAP is the responsibility of the student/parent/guardian, as defined by the *Career and College Readiness and College Completion Act of 2013*.

- Students who are eligible in AACPS for Free and Reduced Meals (FARMs), are eligible to have AACC tuition paid by AACPS for district approved credit-bearing or non-credit courses that are a part of certificate programs related to a school's signature program for up to four courses per year. Registration, lab, parking, activity and other miscellaneous fees are the responsibility of the parent/guardian or eligible student.
- All fees must be paid at the time of registration. A separate bill for the tuition will be sent by AACC on behalf of AACPS.
- Qualified ECAP participants may apply for financial assistance through the AACC Financial Aid Office.

### ECAP Enrollment Requirements

Students must be at least **16 years old\*** to be approved by the secondary school to participate in ECAP and must demonstrate their academic readiness for specific courses by:

- being enrolled in a minimum of **two half credit classes each semester at the high school** having senior status with a minimum of 18 credits and in good standing.
- maintaining a 2.0 high school GPA.
- meeting AACC course prerequisites.
- meeting required acceptable performance levels on the College's English/Reading and/or Math *Accuplacer* assessment or nationally recognized standardized test such as the *American College Test (ACT)* or *Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT)*.

Students wishing to participate in ECAP *must*:

- complete the online AACPS Early College Access Program application at [www.aacps.org/ecap](http://www.aacps.org/ecap). All sections that are completed non-electronically must be filled neatly and accurately and must be signed by the student, guardian, school counselor, and principal or principal designee in order to enroll at AACC and received the discounted tuition.
- provide their own transportation.
- attend a new student orientation program to become familiar with AACC policies and procedures.

### Courses Eligible for Dual Credit

A list of eligible courses can be found at *Courses Eligible for Dual Credit* at [www.aacps.org/ecap](http://www.aacps.org/ecap). Dual credit will be awarded only to an AACPS student who has been formally approved at their high school *prior* to enrolling in an AACC course.

### For More Information

If you have questions, or would like more information, please contact your child's school counselor.

\*Students under the age of 18 may be eligible for special programs at the college (please contact your child's school counselor).