



Early College Scholars

What is an Early College Program?

An Early College Program is a system designed to allow high school students to be enrolled in both high school and college at the same time. It is a program that allows a student to begin transitioning to college earlier than is traditional.

Benefits from Northwood's Early College Scholars Program

- Begin college coursework during your junior or senior year.
- Graduate Northwood with college credit
- Be able to provide PROOF of success in college to colleges and universities
- Experience college campus life as an actual college student before leaving High School



Why Transition and Not Extra College Credits?

- Traditionally, students leave an enclosed, supportive, and relatively small educational environment, the High School, and move into a very large, anonymous, and impersonal environment, the College or University campus. This program is designed to support the student in this transition and give them the skills required to be successful in that brand-new world of college life.
- Given that colleges lose a good portion of students in their freshman year due to the stress and strain of this transition, it makes sense that the more support a student gets during this transition, the less likely they are to experience that stress and therefore, the less likely they are to “stop” their college experience early. Especially since at that point, either they or their parents, or both are paying a great deal of money for that experience.

Who's Eligible to Apply?

- **Current Sophomores**
 - Must have a 3.0 Cum GPA or Weighted GPA at the end of the first semester (this report card).
- **Current Juniors**
 - Must have a 2.75 Cum GPA or Weighted GPA at the end of the first semester (this report card).
- Students not meeting the basic requirements above will not be considered for application.
- Acceptance is at the sole discretion of Montgomery College and is based on all information in the application and on the results of April testing.

What Courses are Available? (1)

SENIORS

- Courses at Montgomery College are available on a space available and qualification basis
- Students may sign up for any course for which they qualify (test scores, prerequisites, etc.)
- Students will take the ACCUPLACER test scheduled in April to determine correct placement

What Courses are Available? (2)

JUNIORS

- Classes for JUNIORS will be held on Northwood's campus ONLY. Juniors are NOT permitted to have an abbreviated schedule. (Past courses have included photography, math, sociology, philosophy, sciences, foreign languages**, music, etc.)
- All Junior Early College Scholars will be REQUIRED to take AP English, EN105 – Principles of English Grammar, and EN218 – Introduction to Creative Writing of Fiction.
- AP English and the college classes will meet on either Monday, Wednesday, and Friday or Tuesday and Thursday alternately.

What Courses are Available? (3)

Courses required for high school graduation such as English or math may **NOT** be taken at Montgomery College unless:

Approved by the Principal

AND either

a. Because of conflict in course schedules an appropriate class is not available at Northwood, example: the **ONLY** available AP English Literature course at Northwood conflicts with the **ONLY** available AP Chemistry course.

OR

b. The course is not offered at Northwood, example: Theoretical Multidimensional Quantum Physics.

Why is Only One Class Allowed the First Semester?

- Between transportation, studying, work, sports, after-school activities, studying, homework, and studying, college places a great demand on the time of each student. One class is more than enough for any student enrolled in both high school and college
- A successful transition to college is the PRIMARY goal of this program, not the shortening of time spent in college after high school graduation. One class is sufficient to introduce students to the rigor and time constraints they will encounter in college
- In the second semester, seniors receiving an A or B in all their classes CAN take two classes if they choose.

Financial Information



Montgomery College

**Total including fees (no
books) for 3-credit hours
per semester about \$450.00**

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available from Montgomery College

Forms are available to any student *accepted* into the program.

ALL students are encouraged to apply for aid *regardless* of financial situation.



General Information

All students are considered to be a student of the institution in which they enroll

They are, therefore, subject to all penalties and benefits as such at their respective institutions. Example: students at Montgomery College are entitled to only a partial refund if they withdraw from a course after certain dates. Students receiving financial aid are responsible for repayment of aid should they withdraw or fail the course according to MC's standard policy.

Special Education Accommodations

All students are considered to be a student of the
institution in which they enroll

Students receiving special education services here at Northwood may or may not receive those accommodations at the University or College. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to contact the institution **AFTER** acceptance into the program to determine the institution's policy concerning special education services.

Transportation

No transportation to or from the college or university is provided by MCPS.

Students attending a Montgomery College campus may ride the Metro bus to campus. MC student IDs DO provide for Ride On access at ANY TIME

Driving is not recommended (the parking fees are high, and the parking penalties HIGHER)

Application Process

- Students applying to the program **MUST** take the Montgomery College ACCUPLACER exam to determine college readiness.
- Students not meeting cutoff scores will not be able to take enroll in any classes.

Application Process

- Preparing for the exam
 - ACCUPLACER Diagnostic
 - Saturday January 7, 8:30 am (snow date January 21)
 - Diagnostic results fed to computer-based dedicated support, called MyFoundations, available from January 30th to April 6th
 - Diagnostic and support fee: \$26 (students receiving Free or Reduced Meals, may reduce that fee to \$15, other students may request a fee waiver)
 - Support Fees DUE: DECEMBER 21st (**LAST DAY**)

Application Process

- All Applications must be submitted to Mr.

Sullivan's mailbox no later than **8:00**

a.m., Friday

February 18th.

FAQs

- Can I drive to campus?
- What if I want to do band or sports?
- I really want to take
- I am not documented. Do I have to be a citizen to enroll in MC or UMD?
- If I get into UMD for this program, am I in for my regular Freshman year?

Take-Away or Eat In

- Please **TAKE** the Early College Application Checklist with you today to help keep track of the application process
- Please **TAKE** the support program forms
- Please **LEAVE** the Parent Permission Forms