



## **Intent to Apply to the New Kent Early College Academy:** **A Pathway to the Certificate or Associate Degree**

Careful planning of your high school course schedule is critical to the process of achieving roughly 61 dual enrollment credits for the associate level and 33 credits for the certificate. Courses may be subject to change due to availability. Each pathway is tailored to each student. Therefore, the courses taken may vary slightly. However, note that math sequencing often determines participation. If a student is not positioned to complete Trigonometry by the end of junior year, with a preferred B+, pursuing a DE math class is not possible. Therefore, participation is not possible. In terms of science, students may face sequencing issues, but the certificate is often the option in those cases.

Please complete the information below to express your interest in applying to the Early College Academy for the 2023-2024 school year. Please note that submitting this intent form now does **not** substitute for submitting a completed application due in Dec. of next year. Submit this form to the Main Office or School Counseling by **Wed., Dec. 14 at 3 PM, please**. Reach out to Mrs. Peggy Spiak, College, Career, and Life Readiness Coordinator, with any questions at [pspiak@nkcps.k12.va.us](mailto:pspiak@nkcps.k12.va.us). She will Schoology message each student who submits an Intent Form with feedback on their candidacy and course recommendations.

---

**NOTE:** *Student's math sequencing & performance will ultimately determine program placement.*

**Associate Degree**

**Certificate Program**

### STUDENT INFORMATION:

\_\_\_\_\_

First Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_

MI

### Mailing Address:

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENT INFORMATION:

\_\_\_\_\_

First Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Last Name

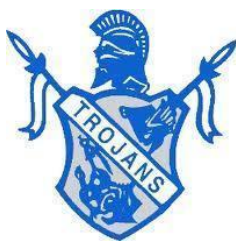
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Intent to Apply to the New Kent Early College Academy

### How Do I Qualify?

- ❖ Must be a current sophomore to apply. It is preferred that 9<sup>th</sup> submit this "Intent to Apply" form to School Counseling, but it is not required to apply in 10<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Must be on track with verified credits and the Advanced Diploma. Attendance must also be excellent.
- ❖ Able to pay for and participate fully in the SDV 100 (College Success Skills) and ITE 119 (Information Literacy) RCC classes hosted in the summer after 10<sup>th</sup>. Courses may be offered in virtual or hybrid format.
- ❖ **FOR FULL ASSOCIATE LEVEL: Math:** must be in position to take DE math by senior year. This means taking Trigonometry junior year, with a strongly-preferred B+ or better. **Science:** typically be positioned to take DE Chem or DE Bio by junior year, requiring completion of Chemistry in sophomore year.
- ❖ **FOR CERTIFICATE LEVEL:** Complete at least Algebra II (strong preference of a B+ or higher), Biology and preferably Chemistry by the end of 10<sup>th</sup>. (in addition to other standard 10<sup>th</sup> classes)
- ❖ Students will be advised on pathways by RCC—each student's pathway may vary slightly.
- ❖ Students must also complete world language and consecutive elective requirements to earn an Advanced Diploma. It is recommended to finish these as soon as possible to free up schedule space. Economics & Personal Finance, also required for graduation, may be taken either junior or senior year.
- ❖ Applicants should have an "A" average or better (min. 3.5 cumulative unweighted GPA). Students with a "B" average (3.0 unweighted GPA) will be considered. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 at RCC and NKHS.
- ❖ Qualify for DE college-credit classes, based on GPA requirements set forth by RCC. School Counseling will verify.
- ❖ Upon admission, pay tuition and fees for the first summer's classes to the bookkeeper by the deadline. You will be notified by Mrs. Spiak as to due dates for payment via a meeting around Spring Break and via Schoology messages. Students are expected to check Schoology for messages on a weekly basis, as this is an important part of their responsibilities as a student.

### Application Timeline:

**Thur., Nov. 17 : Student & Parent Virtual Interest Meeting, 6:30 PM**

**Google Meet:** <https://meet.google.com/wti-mhfg-aes?hs=122&authuser=0>

**Wed., Dec. 14: Intent to Apply Forms-preferably due to School Counseling by 3 PM** (future forms will be distributed to those accepted)

**November-December:** Be sure that your requested courses for the following year are in alignment with your pathway progression. Mrs. Spiak will message everyone who submits an intent form with course recommendations to be in sequence for the desired level of ECA.

**August:** When you received your schedule, ensure that you are in the proper classes for ECA. Counselors will have been given a list to guide them on course selection. However, being your own advocate is always recommended.

## 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 structured 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, students and families only have to pay for the cost of related Advanced Placement Exams and tuition of \$15 per credit (subject to change) for dual-enrollment courses. The current cost of the program for families, subject to change, is approximately \$1300 for two years (61 credits-full associate's) 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, Mr. Williams, will be assigned to the student in order to assist with course selection.

**\*\*There is also a certificate level of the program that equals roughly half of the full associates. That is tailored to each student. The specific pathway options for the certificate that can be shared. Parents may reach out for those specifics.**



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.

## RECOMMENDED COURSE PROGRESSION FOR STUDENTS PURSUING THE ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE:

Grade 10 (or earlier)	Summer RCC	Grade 11 - Fall	Grade 11 - Spring	Summer RCC	Grade 12 - Fall	Grade 12 - Spring	Summer After Sr.
Trigonometry (with B+ or higher)	SDV 100 College Success Skills 1 Credit	*Math 154 DE Quantitative Reasoning 3 Credits	*Math 245 DE Statistics 3 Credits	Health or PE 1-2 Credit	General Elective -OR- *Math 167 DE Pre-Calculus 4 credits	General Elective -OR- *Math 263 DE Calculus 5 Credits	<u>Note: When offering AP sr. vr. srs. Won't walk in May</u>
Chemistry	ITE 152 Information Literacy 3 Credits	DE/AP English 111 Alternate Days DE/AP College Composition I 3 Credits	DE/AP English 112 Alternate Days DE/AP College Composition II 3 Credits	Humanities 3 credits	DE English 245 British Lit. I 3 Credits Alternate Days	World Lit. I 255 3 Credits Alternate Days	
		DE US History 121-122 -Alternate Days 6 Credits			DE Government PLS 135-136 -Alternate Days 6 Credits		
			Economics/ Personal Finance				
		**DE Biology or DE Chemistry DE Science meets daily all year. 8 Credits			**DE Biology or DE Chemistry DE Science meets daily all year. 8 Credits		
					DE Psychology 200 & 230 (Alternate Days) 6 Credits		
NOTES: Must also take other 10 <sup>th</sup> gr. classes							<u>NOTE: Extra cr. may be req'd on top of sr. vr. classes with RCC.</u>

### Important Notes:

\*DE Pre-Calc. and DE Calc. may be taken junior year, with DE Quan. Reasoning & DE Stats senior year. Also, students may not have to complete four DE math classes. Mr. Moore can meet with you to help you determine if this is an option for you.

\*\*Both DE Chem and DE Bio may not be required for the full associate level. See RCC Navigator or Mrs. Spiak for options.

- All classes and the curriculum are subject to staffing, availability, and changes.
- Due to waiting for AP scores in July, many seniors cannot graduate with RCC in May. They will be summer graduates, pending qualifying scores/grades.
- There are other optional RCC approved electives that can be taken online or in person during any semester. E.g. DE Intro. to Theater is an optional 3 credit elective, subject to NKHS availability. Students must submit a High School Dual Enrollment Form to Mr. Moore or Mrs. Spiak for approval.