

Early College Academy Frequently Asked Questions

What's the purpose of the ECA?

- The ECA is designed to provide highly motivated juniors and seniors the opportunity to simultaneously earn a high school diploma and postsecondary degree or certificate from Iowa Western Community College.

Who's eligible to apply for the ECA?

- High school sophomores.

What type of student is a good fit for the ECA?

- Students who maintain high academic standards and pursue a rigorous course load, including Advanced Placement and college-level classes.

How much does the ECA cost?

- \$0. Tuition, fees, and textbooks at IWCC are provided free of charge.

Where will students take classes?

- ECA students will take a full-time course load on the campus of IWCC.

Is transportation provided?

- No. Students and parents are responsible for transportation to and from IWCC.

How will ECA students be supported at IWCC?

- An on-campus coordinator will guide, advise, and mentor students throughout their academic experience.

Are ECA students still able to participate in high school activities?

- Yes. ECA students are still considered high school students and can participate in extracurricular activities.

Is space in the ECA limited?

- Yes. It's a competitive selection process capped at 25-30 students each year.

What's the timeline for ECA selection?

- The application for admission opens in January.
- Interviews begin in February.
- Students will be notified of admission decision in March.
- Accepted students will attend New Student Orientation at IWCC in April.

How can students and parents learn more about the ECA?

- <https://www.cb-schools.org/earlycollegeacademy>.
- Families will be invited to attend information sessions held at the high schools in November.
- Contact ECA Coordinator Dr. Spencer Mathews at smathews@cb-schools.org.