



COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

CU Early College Program Updates Effective 2025-2026 School Year

November 26th, 2024

Dear School Administrators/Counselors,

I would like to share with you several updates regarding Commonwealth University's Early College program set to begin at the 2025-2026 academic year. Since integration, our Early College Program now encompasses the respective legacy programs of Early Start, Dual Enrollment, ACE, and STEM/Education Magnet programs.

The Early College Program provides high school students with early access to college course work through engagement, advisement, and support creating a pathway to thrive at any Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania location, in addition to meeting any other post-secondary goals.

Program Benefits for Students:

Including but not limited to:

- With advisement from the Early College staff, enroll in major/program specific and general education courses that can be utilized as true dual enrollment credits
- Offered a VIP application for full time, degree seeking status when eligible
- Attend exclusive events and opportunities related to their field of study
- Schedule with their departmental faculty advisor during Spring semester prior to becoming a First Year Freshman
- Schedule Honors College courses if student is eligible and courses are available

Course Scheduling Updates:

In order to maintain student success, along with prioritizing the needs of our degree-seeking students, we will be implementing the following updates for Early College students' course enrollment:

- **Fall and Spring Semesters:** Students can enroll in up to 3 courses, based on course availability and university needs. Degree-seeking CU students will get priority. Students may be able to select a 4th course if seats become available.
- **Winter and Summer Semesters:** Students can enroll in up to 2 courses in each session based on course availability and university needs.

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Early College Program Admission Requirements:

- Open to Juniors and Seniors
 - Sophomore level student eligibility is on a case by case basis.
- Cumulative 3.0 high school QPA (85% weighted GPA) or higher at the time of application
- When endorsing a student for the Early College program, please consider the student's character, integrity, and maturity to increase the prospect of success in the program.

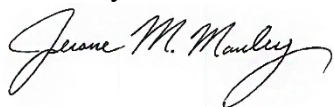
Maintaining Program Eligibility:

- Students must adhere to the University policies and procedures, including but not limited to, academic and student conduct policies.
- Students must maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or higher at CU in order to continue their following semester(s).

Students who do not maintain eligibility criteria may be asked to leave the program and return to their home district. Students may appeal this decision and will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Students who were admitted to the university as a first-time freshman, but do not maintain eligibility criteria, may have their admittance revoked if deemed necessary by the Office of Admissions. A poor academic and/or conduct standing can/will impact areas such as certain major eligibility, financial aid status, scholarship eligibility, and/or admission to the university. It is imperative both parties aid in the students' understanding of the possible consequences and to advise them to seek guidance and connect with the provided resources if challenges arise. The student's respective district should have contingency plans if a student is no longer eligible to stay in the program.

I welcome any questions, concerns, or considerations that you may offer. Our program's goal is to create a sustainable program for students and provide them with the best opportunities for success whether they continue their post-secondary education at CU or will be exploring elsewhere. We thank you for your support and our continued partnership while we create opportunities together for the students in our region.

Sincerely,



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