
MEMORANDUM

TO: Approved Early College Program Higher Education Partners
FROM: Jess DeCarolis, Student Pathways Division Director
SUBJECT: Early College Program 2024-2025
DATE: January 30, 2024

The Agency of Education and Vermont's approved postsecondary partners continue their collaboration to create a system in which Vermont seniors can complete their final year of highschool at a college or university, tuition free. Under the Flexible Pathways Initiative, the State has encouraged and supported school districts in offering a variety of high-quality educational experiences. Two such experiences, Dual Enrollment and Early College, allow school districts to offer post-secondary experiences to students to meet graduation requirements. The Early College Program, [16 V.S.A. § 946](#), is a program in which high school juniors apply to complete their senior year of high school in a college program. Student readiness for and participation in college coursework must be approved by their principal and/or their designee and documented in the student's Personalized Learning Plan.

For each 12th grade Vermont student enrolled, the Secretary of Education shall pay an amount equal to 87 percent of the base education amount, but not more than tuition charged by the institution, to an early college program that is approved for operation by the Secretary. This amount is intended to cover tuition only for both semesters, not each.

Secondary and post-secondary institutions shall ensure that students meet eligibility requirements as defined by state policy, which are subject to change based on legislative action.

Please refer to current guidance regarding eligibility and enrollment of Home Study students. For any questions, contact AOE.EarlyCollege@vermont.gov.

The Participation Agreement process involves two steps:

1. Complete and submit the Vermont [Post-Secondary Early College Participation Agreement FY25](#) by **February 16, 2024**.

Contact Information: If you have questions about this document or would like additional information, please contact: Student Pathways Division at AOE.EarlyCollege@vermont.gov.

2. Upon submitting this completed form, an AOE designee will convert the completed form into a **DocuSign** document which will then be routed to the authorized representative for signature to be maintained on file.

***DocuSign** is the AOE's official e-signature tool. Signatures indicate understanding of and assurance that corresponding Participation Agreement responsibilities will be met.

The AOE is currently in the process of updating and improving the Dual Enrollment System, should any changes impact any of the programs managed by that system, you will be notified. If any of the changes necessitate that partnership agreements need to be modified, they will be updated accordingly and redistributed for subsequent approval.

We look forward to our continued work with you to fulfill the expectations of the Flexible Pathways Initiative and the Vermont Early College Program. If you have any questions concerning the Flexible Pathways Initiative and the Vermont Early College Program, please contact AOE.EarlyCollege@vermont.gov.

Resources

[AOE Early College Program Webpage](#)