



# Quest Early College High School Benefits & Frequently Asked Questions

## Benefits

Quest Early College High School allows qualified students the opportunity to earn both a high school diploma and an Associate's degree or up to two years of credit toward a Bachelor's degree. Benefits include:

- Reduces barriers to college access
- Increases college readiness
- Offers rigorous instruction and accelerated courses
- Provides dual credit at no cost to students
- Creates a seamless transition from high school to college
- Provides academic and social support services to help students succeed

## What are early college high schools?

Early college high schools are small schools located on or close to a college campus designed so that students can earn both a high school diploma and an **Associate's degree or up to two years of credit toward a Bachelor's degree.**

Early college high schools have the following attributes of high-performing small schools:

- A common focus on key, research-based goals and an intellectual mission;
- Autonomous, small, personalized learning environments, with no more than 100 students per grade;
- Respect and responsibility among students, among faculty, and between students and faculty;
- Time for staff collaboration and for including parents and the community in an education partnership;
- Technology as a tool for designing and delivering engaging, imaginative curricula; and
- Rigorous academic standards;

## What is the evidence that early college works?

Although the initiative is relatively young, early data from early college high schools are promising. First, the schools are reaching their target populations. In 2006, three early college high schools granted diplomas to their first graduating classes. Those seniors achieved dramatic success:

- 80 percent were accepted to four-year colleges.
- 85 percent graduated with 30 to 60 college credits.
- Over 57 percent graduated with an Associate's degree.

In 2007, students graduated from 17 early college high schools around the country. Their achievements far surpass those of their peers from traditional high schools serving similar populations. Preliminary data show that:

- Over 65 percent of the graduates were accepted to four-year colleges. Others have chosen to complete an Associate's degree by spending a fifth year at their early college high school.
- More than 85 percent graduated with substantial college credit.
- Almost 1/3 of the early college high school graduates earned merit-based college scholarships.

## **Who applies to early college high school?**

Any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student in Humble ISD can apply to attend QECHS; however priority points will be awarded to traditionally underrepresented students as defined by the Texas Education Agency, including students who are:

- Disadvantaged youth
- First generation college students
- English language learners
- Underserved youth

## **What is the application process?**

Applications are available on the Quest website by visiting [www.humbleisd.net/quest](http://www.humbleisd.net/quest) or your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade counselor. Once you and your child have completely filled out the application, turn the application in to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade counselor at your child's campus. All applications will be reviewed and placed on a matrix. Qualifying students and their parents will be interviewed by Quest Admissions.

## **Where is Quest located?**

Quest Early College High School is located at Lone Star College Kingwood's Atascocita Center, located at 15903 West Lake Houston Parkway.

## **How does my child get to Quest Early College High School?**

Your child will have access to district transportation and will be bused to our campus.

## **Can my child still participate in UIL activities or home campus activities?**

No, students who are in Quest Early College High School will not be able to participate in UIL activities, nor any other home campus activities.

## **Are there any costs associated with the Quest Early College High School?**

Quest Early College High School is provided to your child free of all costs, so, for your child, there is no cost.