



Early College of Macomb (ECM) is a public, tuition-free, three-year early college program serving students throughout Macomb County. It represents an extraordinary partnership among the participating Macomb County school districts, the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) and Macomb Community College (MCC).

Frequently asked questions are listed below. Would you like to learn more about the program? Click on any question. Each question is linked to a location within this document where the answer is located. Click on any "Back to Top" option to return to this page.

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1. Why would a student consider participating in the Early College of Macomb Program?

The students at the Early College of Macomb share a desire for a rich educational experience that bridges the gap between K-12 and higher education. The Early College of Macomb is committed to improving post-secondary access and increasing opportunities for Macomb County students by improving the quality of education available to young people who desire a small, innovative school that focuses on accelerating learning in a close-knit, supportive career environment. Students graduate with their high school diplomas having innovative career-focused experiences. They may earn up to 62 college credits required for an Associate's Degree or Technical Certificate at either south campus or center campus of Macomb Community College. These credits also can be transferred to a four-year college.

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2. Do students go to high school AND take courses at MCC in 11th and 12th grades?

Yes. ECM provides the opportunity for Macomb County students to attend high school and college simultaneously in 11th and 12th grade to help students acquire the skills for success in college through tutoring, mentoring, and study skills instruction. Specific courses offered at MCC fulfill the requirements for obtaining a Michigan endorsed high school diploma while at the same time allowing students to earn college credit.

In 11th grade ECM students attend:

- 3 high school classes each semester taught by high school teachers in their home schools and
- 3 college classes each semester taught by college instructors on MCC's campus

In 12th grade ECM students attend:

- 2 high school classes each semester taught by high school teachers in their home schools and
- 4 college classes each semester taught by college instructors on MCC's campus

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3. Do students in the Early College of Macomb program have to complete the State of Michigan Graduation Requirements?

Yes. Early College of Macomb students are required to satisfy both the State of Michigan's and their home school districts' graduation requirements. Students will be able to take the necessary courses within their combined high school and community college schedules.

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4. What classes do students take in Year 13?

Students attend classes taught by college instructors, full time, at Macomb Community College.

- In certain instances, if students have not yet met all requirements for a high school diploma, students take college courses at MCC that satisfy requirements to earn a Michigan endorsed high school diploma. Both high school and college credit is earned for these courses. Students are encouraged to select extensive, fully embedded courses related to the student's career pathway.
- If students have completed all requirements for a Michigan endorsed high school diploma by the end of the 12th grade year, students can select extensive, fully embedded courses related to the student's career pathway. This is a defining feature of each student's educational experience.

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5. If a student is not currently enrolled in one of the Macomb County participating districts (i.e., attending a private, parochial, charter or home schooled), when should he/she register with his/her home district?

Families need to confirm enrollment requirements with their school district of residence. The Early College of Macomb will consider all students residing in a Macomb County school district and registered in one of the participating public high schools.

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6. If a student is enrolled in an Early Middle College, is the student eligible to participate in MHSAA sports?

Article V, Section 2.B.1.c - Students concurrently enrolled in state approved High School/College programs (ex: Pathways to Technology Early College High School "P-Tech") must have; completed all their high school graduation requirements, exhausted their high school athletic eligibility and receive written approval from the NJCAA, prior to participation in NJCAA athletics.

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7. What does it cost to participate in the ECM Program for 3 years?

There are no out-of-pocket costs to students and their families for books, fees, and tuition.

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8. Who is eligible to attend the Early College of Macomb?

Students who have an interest in being part of the ECM program should discuss their intent with their home high school counselor. ECM is designed for mature students who are ready to take on the new challenges involved with a unique high school experience that includes college coursework are eligible if they meet the following criteria:

1. Are registered in one of the Macomb County public high schools housed within the participating districts
2. Will be entering 11th grade in fall 2024
3. Have been approved by their home high school
4. Have met MCC's placement criteria (Link to: MCC's placement criteria in this document.
5. Have completed all steps in the ECM early admission application process.

Apply online at: [EMC Student Application](#)

1. Contacting your high school counselor. Your counselor needs to complete and upload Completed Counselor Recommendation Form

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9. When can incoming 11th grade students (ECM/MCC Class of 2024) apply to the ECM Program?

The online application window is December 1, 2023 – January 12, 2024.

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10. Where is the online application?

The link for the online application will be available on Dec. 1, 2023: [EMC Student Application](#)

1. A link is also located on the ECM Website at www.ECMacomb.misd.net
 - ***Go to Prospective Students***
 - Click on ***How to Apply***
 - Click on ***Online Application.***
2. Complete the online application:
 - a. PRINT the required documents
 - b. Then, click submit

Reminder: Applications for the Early College of Macomb Grade 11 will be accepted until Friday, January 12, 2024.

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11. What criteria does MCC use to determine eligibility of incoming 11th grade students who want to attend MCC courses through the ECM program?

There are 3 sets of criteria that will be used for eligibility to be accepted at Macomb Community College:

1. **Two English grades** will be averaged:
 - 2nd semester of 9th grade and 1st semester of 10th grade.
 - The GPA for these two courses must be at least 2.0.
2. **Two Math grades** will be averaged:
 - 2nd semester of 9th grade and 1st semester of 10th grade.
 - The GPA for these two courses must be at least 2.5.
3. **Overall GPA of all courses** taken in 1st semester of 9th grade, 2nd semester of 9th grade, and 1st semester of 10th grade must be at least a 2.5.

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12. If students meet all of the requirements for the ECM Program, do students also have to apply to MCC?

- ECM Students do **NOT** apply to MCC **until permission is given by the ECM Program Coordinator.**
- After permission is given in writing, a link specific for applying to MCC through the ECM program will be sent to students.

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13. How do students know what college classes to consider taking?

Students at the Early College of Macomb select an area of study identified in their Educational Development Plans (EDPs) that is connected to one of the ten Career Pathways. Students meet with their ECM counselor/academic advisor to consider options. MCC offers programs in many up-and-coming/emerging careers. To explore areas of interest on the MCC site, go to:

[MCC Future Students-Area of Interest](#)

To explore MCC programs, go to:

[MCC Future Students-Find a Program](#)

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14. What does a typical 11th grade Early College of Macomb student schedule look like?

- All 11th grade students:
 - Attend 3 high school courses at their home high school during hours 1, 2, and 3.
 - Take 3 courses at MCC. One of those courses, Seminar 100, is required.
- Students take courses that satisfy requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and count toward earning a Michigan endorsed high school diploma.
- Many students opt to take MCC courses at non-traditional times, including afternoon, evening and weekend courses, depending on students' commitments to extra-curricular activities at their home school or other commitments.

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Grade 11 Sample Schedule at the Home High School

A typical schedule at the home high school includes 3 courses during 1st, 2nd, and 3rd hours. The schedule usually includes an English course, a math course, and a science course. Lunch is the student's responsibility.

ECM Juniors Take 3 Classes at their Home High School Each Semester			
Hour	Semester 1	Semester 2	Class Location
1	English 11	English 11	Home High School
2	Algebra II	Algebra II	Home High School
3	Chemistry	Chemistry	Home High School
	Lunch	Lunch	HS/College

Each semester, students take 3 college courses at MCC during their first semester and 3 college courses at MCC during their second semester:

- All 11th grade students must take Seminar 100, a required course, during both semesters at MCC.
- Two additional MCC courses in the 11th grade year must satisfy requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Courses at MCC vary depending on each student's area of interest and information found in their EDP.

For example, students may take Economics and Political Science at MCC. Both semester courses satisfy the social studies requirement of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Each semester, the third course at MCC can vary depending on a student's career pathway and area of interest found in their EDP. Students will receive more information about course options and will meet with their ECM Counselor/Academic Advisor prior to scheduling.

ECM Students take 3 Classes at Macomb Community College Each Semester			
	Semester 1	Semester 2	Location
MCC Course 1	Seminar 100 (Required)	Seminar 100 (Required)	MCC
MCC Course 2	Economics (for example)	Political Science (for example)	MCC
MCC Course 3	Course TBD	Course TBD	MCC

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15. How many college credits will the Early College of Macomb students earn?

First and second year students (11th and 12th grade students) will be enrolled in both high school and community college courses.

At Home High School: Credits Count Toward a High School Diploma			
Grade	# of High School Classes Taken Per Semester	# of High School Credits Earned Per Semester	# of High School Credits Earned Per Year
11 th	3	3	6
12 th	3	3	6
Total High School Credits Earned			12
At MCC: College Credit Potential (Some credits also count toward a Michigan endorsed high school diploma.)			
	Semester 1	Semester 2	Year
11 th	6 – 8	6 – 8	12 - 16
12 th	9 – 12	9 – 12	18 - 24
Total College Credit Potential During 11th and 12th Grades			30 - 40
13 th Year	12 – 17	12 – 17	24 - 34
11th, 12th, and 13th Year			54 - 74

Students who earn 60 – 64 college credits during grades 11-13 are qualified for an **Associate’s Degree or a skilled trade certificate**.

If students so choose, these credits could then be transferred to a four-year institution, such as Oakland University, Ferris State University, Michigan State University or Wayne State University. Macomb Community College has already-established transfer policies with many institutions of higher learning. Link to more information:

[Michigan Transfer Agreement](#)

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16. Is transportation provided?

No. Students may be transported by parents/guardians, arrange their own transportation or use available public transportation options. However, students with licenses and MCC student IDs will be allowed to drive to the Macomb Community College campus.

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17. Are extracurricular activities available to Early College of Macomb students?

Students may participate in any extracurricular activities (i.e., athletics, clubs) in their **home school districts**, as permitted by the students’ ECM schedules. Students may also be allowed to participate in some extracurricular activities at the college, ECM students are **ineligible** to participate in intercollegiate athletics in 11th grade and 12th grade. For information about participating in MHSSA sports during year 13, please refer back to Item 6 on page 3.

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18. Will ECM provide a personal laptop to use for MCC classes?

Students will need access to a personal laptop for their MCC classes. You may use your own laptop or, if preferred or needed, you can request a laptop from the MISD for the three-year program by completing a request for laptop form. There is a \$150.00, one time only, deposit fee required, which is due by July 10, 2024.

Once a student is accepted in the program, their parent or guardian will have several forms to complete in the Power Enrollment System. One of the required forms is about Laptop requests. All parents must complete this form. There are 2 options:

- Yes, I am requesting the use of an MISD laptop for my student.
- No, I am not requesting the use of an MISD laptop for my student.

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19. Additional Questions?

Visit the ECM Website at www.ECMacomb.misd.net. See more information in the table on the next page. If you have additional questions, contact:

- Joyce Arbaugh, ECM Administrator, at 586.228.3437 or by email at jarbaugh@misd.net or
- Deb Fortuna, ECM Administrative Assistant, at 586.228.3546 or by email at dfortuna@misd.net

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Early College of Macomb 2023 - 2024 Timeline

Date and Time	Event
November 28, 2023 (Center Campus)	ECM Information Night
November 29, 2023 (South Campus, Bldg. K)	Parents and Students should attend
December 1, 2023	Application window opens for new ECM Students The ECM 5-Year Graduation Planning Document will be filled out by sophomore applicants
January 12, 2024	ECM Application Window Closes
March 2024	Parent/Guardian of students receive notification of acceptance
March 5 - 31, 2024	Students accept invitation to ECM Students apply to MCC as a new student
March 11, 2024 (Center Campus, University Center) March 12, 2024 (South Campus, Bldg. K)	ECM Orientation Meetings
August 1, 2024 (South Campus) August 6, 2024 (Center Campus)	ECM Summer Camp
August 26, 2024	Earliest possible first day at MCC. All students are expected to attend MCC courses, according to MCC's academic calendar.
TBD	First day at home high schools. Check local school district's calendar.

Michigan Department of Education: Early College Information
[Dept. of Education Early Middle College High School Opportunities](#)

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