

Montbello High School/ Graduation Requirements



Requirements for Early College Academy

Minimum of 2 college courses – This includes Accelerated, AP, or Post Secondary Educational Options (PSEO)/college classes before graduation. **Early College Students can take any combination of Core or Elective College Level Courses.**

1. Accelerated (X classes), Advanced Placement, PSEO or CU Succeed Core Classes.
2. Advanced Technology Courses – Level 3 High School Courses and /or CU Succeed and PSEO Technology Courses.

Early College students who successfully complete 6-college level courses with a 2.7 GPA or higher will receive special honors upon graduation:

1. Distinction – Successfully completing 6 college level courses with **2.7 – 2.9** GPA
2. High Distinction - Successfully completing 6 college level courses with **3.0 to 3.5** GPA
3. Highest Distinction - Successfully completing 6 college level courses with **3.6** GPA or higher

Successfully complete Montbello High School core requirements.

Four Years of Math

1. Algebra – 9th grade
2. Accelerated Algebra (Algebra X) – Advanced 9th grade students
3. Geometry – 10th grade or Advanced 9th grade students who passed Algebra in 8th grade
4. Accelerated Geometry (Geometry X) – Advanced 10th grade students
5. Advanced Algebra – 11th grade or Advanced 10th grade students
6. Algebra X $\frac{3}{4}$ - Advanced 11th graders or Advanced 10th grade students
7. CTE Math of Technology – Must have completed Geometry
8. Trigonometry/Analytical Geometry – Must have completed Advanced Algebra
9. Probability & Statistics – Must have completed Advanced Algebra
10. PSEO College Algebra – Must have completed Advanced Algebra and meet AccuPlacer or ACT score
11. Calculus I & II – Must have completed Trigonometry/Analytical Geometry or College Equivalent and must be taken in order
12. CU Succeed Math

Four Years of English

1. Introduction to Literature – 9th grade
2. Accelerated Introduction to Literature (X) – Advanced 9th grade students
3. American literature – 10th grade students
4. Accelerated American literature (X)– Advanced 10th grade students
5. World Literature/**World Literature X** – 11th grade students
6. Advance Placement (AP) Literature – Must have successfully completed American Literature
7. AP Language – Must have successfully completed American Literature
8. PSEO College English – Must have successfully completed American Literature and meet AccuPlacer or ACT score
9. CU Succeed Fundamentals of Communication – Must have successfully completed American Literature
10. Interpersonal Communication – Must have completed Fundamentals of Communication
11. CU Succeed Public Speaking – Must have successfully completed American Literature

Four Years of Social Studies

1. Geography – 9th grade
2. AP Geography – Advanced 9th graders and 10th –12th grade elective students
3. American History – 10th grade students
4. Accelerated US History (X) Advanced 10th grade students
5. Civics/American Government – Must have completed US History
6. AP Government & Politics – Must have completed US History
7. AP World History – Must have completed US History
8. PSEO College History – Must have successfully completed US History and meet AccuPlacer or ACT score
9. CU Succeed African American/Chicano History – Must have successfully completed US History
10. CU Succeed Criminal Justice – Must have successfully completed US History
11. CU Succeed Ethnic Studies – Must have successfully completed US History

Four Years of Science

1. Earth Science – 9th grade
2. Accelerated Earth Science (X) – Advanced 9th grade students
3. Biology – 10th grade students & 9th grade students who passed Earth Science in 9th grade
4. Accelerated Biology (X) – Advanced 10th grade students
5. AP Biology – Advanced 10th grade students and 11th and 12th grade students who have completed Earth Science and regular Biology
6. CU Succeed Biology – Must have successfully completed high school Biology
7. Anatomy/Physiology – Must have completed Biology (11th and 12th grade students)
8. Chemistry - Must have completed Biology (11th and 12th grade students)
9. AP Chemistry - Must have completed Biology (11th and 12th grade students)
10. Physics - Must have completed Biology (11th and 12th grade students)
11. PSEO College Science Course – Must have successfully completed high school Biology and meet AccuPlacer or ACT score

Minimum 3 Years of Foreign Language

1. Spanish I – Entry level Spanish Course for non-Native Spanish Speakers
2. **Advanced Spanish – Advanced non-Native Spanish students ??????**
3. Spanish II – Must have completed Spanish I
4. **Advanced Spanish II – Advanced students from Spanish I ??????**
5. Spanish 3X – Must have successfully completed Spanish II
6. AP Spanish – Must have successfully completed Spanish 3X
7. Spanish for Native Speakers – Must be a native Spanish Speaker
8. Spanish Reading & Composition X – Must have completed Spanish for Native Speakers
9. French I – Entry level class
10. French II – Must have completed French I

One Entry Level Computer/Business Course

1. Introduction to Computers
2. Business Management
3. Media I
4. Web Design I

Minimum 2 Years of Visual or Musical Arts

1. Arts /Crafts I
2. Arts/Crafts II
3. Ceramics I
4. Ceramics II
5. Drawing/Painting
6. Photography
7. Beginning Band
8. Concert Band
9. Orchestra
10. Gospel/Jazz Choir
11. Film Production
12. Music Sight & Sound

Minimum of 1 Year of Physical Education or Equivalent

1. Team Sports
2. Fitness and Conditioning I
3. Fitness and Conditioning II
4. Body works
5. Dance
6. Advanced Weight Training
7. ROTC

Minimum of 4 Years of Montbello High School Mentoring

Mentoring classes will focus on study skills, college preparedness, and life skills. (Students may be exempt from mentoring if their college schedule conflicts with the 5th period mentoring.)

A core team of Early College Academy teachers who share a common group of students and plan collaboratively to develop strategies to support their academy students will teach students assigned to the Early College Academy. These teachers will receive ongoing training on how to incorporate college expectation and rigor into the classroom to help prepare students for success in 2-year or 4-year colleges and universities.

Why Early College Scholars Academy

At Montbello we believe that all students should be prepared to be successful in college upon graduation of high school. In order to be successful in college students must experience the high expectations in terms of course work and expectations while in high school. The Early College Academy aims to prepare students for the expectation they can expect at a liberal arts college or university. Students will be challenged to read, write, and problem solve at high levels in order to prepare them for success in college.

Questions:

Can Early College Students also take core Technology Innovations Academy Courses?

Students in the Early college Academy may take courses in sequence from the Technology Academy; however they are only required to take 1 technology course as opposed to 4 technology courses required of Technology Academy students. Early college Academy Students may choose to take more.

What support is provided for students who struggle academically?

There are several support opportunities available for students who struggle academically. Students may sign for Study Hall on their schedule where they will use PLATO software to regularly work on areas in Math, English, Social Studies, and Science. Students may come into the Student Service Centers in rooms 209 and 210 for tutoring in the morning, lunch, and after school until 4 pm. Teachers will use test data and grades to identify students who struggle in classrooms and target them for extra help during elective periods. Montbello High School offers English Intervention and Math Intervention classes to help students attain proficiency in these areas. Read 180 is made available to students who read two or more grades below the 9th and 10th grade levels. Academy teachers will arrange to provide extra tutoring for students who meet with them personally to set up a time to tutor.

What college options are available and what is the cost?

Students may take college level classes offered in all of the core subjects and in elective areas as well. The college level classes include Accelerated and Advanced Placement classes taught by teachers who have received AP training from the College Board as well as CU Succeed (University of Colorado-Denver) and Community College of Aurora classes that are taught by professors from the respective schools (some Montbello High School teachers have been hired as adjunct professors by UCD and some professors come to the school directly from the college campus). Students who take classes at CCA travel to the campus for the classes and return to Montbello High School in the afternoon to take classes at our campus. Students who take college classes can usually get them paid for through the Post Secondary Educational Options (PSEO) fund. Students who take classes at CCA qualify to have their classes completely funded through PSEO, including the cost of books. Students at CCA do have to receive an acceptable Accuplacer Score (See Assistant Principal Ms. Geffre or ask your counselor for details) or an acceptable ACT score in order to qualify to take classes and to receive this funding. There may be a cost to the AccuPlacer assessment depending upon when you take the course (See Ms. Geffre). Students who take CU Succeed courses pay of \$75 in order to take the course, the school pays the remainder of the costs for the class. The fee does include the books. Students taking AP Courses are charged \$85 for the course; however, the school will pay the cost of these courses for all students who take the AP exam. Students who do not take the exam will have to pay the full \$85, no exceptions. Students who are eligible for free/reduced lunch **MUST** complete a fee waiver form with the Treasurer. Failure to do so will result in the student being charged \$72 for the AP course.

How will taking these courses affect my GPA?

Students who take college level courses receive weighted grades? Therefore earning a “C” for instance in a regular course is equivalent to earning a “B” in a non-weighted course. Students with more college-level courses have the opportunity to earn higher GPA’s and therefore have a greater chance of successfully competing for admission into colleges and universities and also for scholarships. Student-Athletes with higher GPA’s are also more likely to meet NCAA College Clearinghouse requirements.

Why take college-level courses?

The best predictor of success in college and on college admissions has to do with taking rigorous classes. High school students who successfully complete college-level classes in the core areas graduate college at much higher levels than students who do not. In addition to this, students who have taken several college-level classes score higher on required college admission tests such as the ACT and SAT. All four year institutions determine acceptance into their school and provide scholarships to students admitted in part based on ACT or SAT scores. If you are serious about going to college and being prepared you need to take college-level courses while in high school. Also students who successfully pass college-level classes have higher class rankings than those students who do not. Class rank is important because it qualifies students for certain scholarships and honors upon graduation and even admittance into prestigious colleges and universities