



at Northwest High School

What is Early College Academy?

Early College Academy (ECA) is a program intentionally designed to promote access and opportunity for more students to obtain a college degree.

In partnership with Friends University, ECA will allow students to take more classes for college credit earlier in high school.

When students in the program graduate from Northwest, they will have enough college credits for the equivalent of an associate degree and can start college as a third-year student.

Expectations

- College preparatory curriculum
- Maintain a 3.0 grade point average in all coursework
- Classes held primarily at the high school in the beginning, transitioning to primarily at the university toward senior year

Application process

All interested 8th grade students eligible to attend a USD 259 high school are encouraged to apply.

Application consists of:

- Entry essay
- Recommendations from teachers
- Commitment letter from parents or guardians

Applications are available on Northwest High School’s website. Notification letters will be mailed to families in the spring.

The first freshman class will consist of up to 50 students.

Benefits to students

- Workshops for students and families on topics such as FAFSA, admissions processes, and college success strategies
- Resources for teachers and students
- Summer on-campus experience starting as early as sophomore year
- A Friends University ID card for access to athletic competitions and fine arts performances

All curriculum for the Early College Academy will be developed and coordinated between USD 259 and Friends University.