

# KALAMAZOO COUNTY

# Early/Middle College

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is an Early/Middle College and what are the benefits?

- An EMC program allows students an opportunity to earn an associates degree or certificate along with their high school diploma
- Students have an additional year of high school for program completion
- Students have access to support services which enhance their success
- Tuition and fees are paid by the local school district up to an allocated amount
- Students are enrolled in a focused program of study

### Why an Early/Middle College? Why should you consider it?

- College costs continue to rise
- Education beyond high school is more important than ever
- Many careers require 1-2 years of post-secondary education
- The workforce needs people who are skilled in areas which meet their needs

### What types of programs/degrees are available?

- Transfer Degrees in Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS)  
AA or AS degrees are for students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university. They require successful completion of a minimum of 62 credit hours.
- Degrees in Associate of Applied Science (AAS)  
AAS degrees are occupational in orientation and are designed to prepare graduates for immediate employment. They require successful completion of a minimum of 62 credit hours.
- Certificates (CERT)  
Certificate programs prepare graduates for a specialized occupation. They require successful completion of 30 credit hours or more.
- Certificates of Achievement (COA)  
COA programs require fewer courses than a regular certificate program providing training in a specific set of skills for employment in a specific occupation. They require successful completion of more than 3 but less than 30 hours of credit.

### Where are the classes held?

- Local High Schools
- KVCC Arcadia Commons Campus
- KVCC Bronson Healthy Living Campus
- KVCC Groves Campus
- KVCC Texas Township Campus

### What types of supports are in place for students?

- College Success Strategies Course
  - Students take this course in 10th grade
  - Provides students with academic support skills, college survival techniques, and access to Career Cruising
- Early/Middle College Seminar
  - Students meet on a regular basis to share their experiences
- Early/Middle College Mentor
  - Meets with the student on a regular basis
  - Works with the High School Counselor to coordinate appropriate support services
- Kalamazoo Valley Community College resources
- Limited transportation is available for classes at KVCC through the EFE/EFA bus hub for participating schools

### Where can I get more information?

- Local High School Counseling Office
- Online at [www.kresa.org/emc](http://www.kresa.org/emc)
- Online at [www.kvcc.edu/earlycollege](http://www.kvcc.edu/earlycollege)
- **Kalamazoo RESA Administration Building**  
**1819 E. Milham Ave.**  
**Portage, MI 49002**  
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Take a closer **LOOK**  
at Early/Middle College!

