



KALAMAZOO COUNTY EARLY/MIDDLE COLLEGE

A division of Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

For more information

Local High School Counseling Office

kresa.org/emc

kvcc.edu/earlycollege

Kalamazoo RESA
1819 E. Milham Ave.
Portage, MI 49002

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

- A rigorous five-year high school program that combines both high school and college degree requirements
- Students can earn an associate degree or certificate along with their high school diploma
- Students are enrolled in a focused program of study
- 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

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

- EMC allows a student to complete their credential earlier than a 12th-year graduate and to start their career path sooner
- Education beyond high school is more important than ever—many careers require one to two years of post-secondary education
- College costs continue to rise

What types of programs/degrees are available?

- **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 three but less than 30 hours of credit.
- **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.

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 Student Support Meetings
 - EMC students entering 11th grade in the fall attend EMC Kickoff event in August
 - EMC students entering 12th grade in the fall attend EMC Refresh event in August
- Early/Middle College Mentor
 - Meets with the student on a regular basis
 - Goals of the meetings include discussing academic progress, developing success strategies, connecting students with resources and assisting students with their transition from high school student to college student
- Kalamazoo Valley Community College resources
- Limited transportation is available for classes at KVCC through the EFE/CTE and EFA bus hub for participating schools