



## 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](mailto:kresa.org/emc)

[kvcc.edu/earlycollege](http://kvcc.edu/earlycollege)

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

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### What is 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 continued education after high school
- 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 10<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Provides students with academic support skills, college survival techniques and access to Xello
- Early/Middle College Student Support Meetings
  - EMC students entering 11<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall attend EMC Kickoff event in August
  - EMC students entering 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall attend EMC Refresh event in August
  - EMC students entering 13<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall will attend EMC Rising 5<sup>th</sup> Year in April
- 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 KRESA Bus Hub for participating schools