



Buncombe County Early College

www.bcec.buncombeschools.org



Buncombe County Early College is an exciting collaboration between Buncombe County Schools and Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College that seeks to change possibilities for a diverse group of students.

Located on the A-B Tech campus near downtown Asheville, students have the opportunity to earn an associate degree with their high school diploma in four or five years. Students take college courses with their peers in 9th and 10th grade and are enrolled in courses with adult learners by 11th grade.

Each year, BCEC enrolls a cohort of 60 ninth graders, so our total school enrollment is no more than 300 students.



Tuition for college courses is paid while students are enrolled at BCEC. While students are responsible for some nominal fees, most textbooks and services are also provided.

Students Who Succeed at BCEC:

Earning a high school diploma and an associate degree is a challenging goal. Based on over 10 years of experience, we know that successful BCEC students:

- Have the interest and potential to do college-level work
- Can demonstrate maturity and responsibility in a college environment
- Enjoy a small learning community where they work collaboratively and are known well by other students and teachers.
- Make a commitment of time and effort to reach their goals

All courses transfer to the UNC System and to many private colleges and universities in NC.

For the Class of 2017, 80% of our graduates earned an associate degree in addition to their high school diploma.

Student Support

Our small school design provides students with personalized supports to help students develop the skills necessary to be college, career, and community-ready.

Students are assigned a CORE advisor and/or a College Support teacher who meets with small groups of students to help ease the transition from middle school to high school and college.



TRANSPORTATION

...is provided for the first two years. Since older students' schedules vary to include more college courses, students must provide their own transportation beginning their third year.

CALENDAR

BCEC follows its own calendar, which is aligned with A-B Tech. The school year typically starts in early-August.

SPORTS

...and other traditional extra-curriculars, such as band and clubs are not offered at BCEC. We do have weekly Interest Groups and encourage students to invest in campus life at A-B Tech.

FOOD

Breakfast and lunch are available through the BCS school lunch program and are most often served in the A-B Tech cafe. Students may apply for free or reduced price benefits.

"BCEC students really push themselves for the good of the greater community and to achieve their future goals." Tyler B.--BCEC student

Who We Serve

Any 8th grader in the Buncombe County Schools' district may apply to attend BCEC. As an early college, our mission is to serve students who are underrepresented in the college-going population, including first-generation college students, students from single-parent households, students for whom English is not the primary language spoken in the home, and students from low-income backgrounds. Students in these target populations are given priority in the lottery.

How to Apply:

Parents or guardians of interested students must attend one of the evening information sessions in order to apply. The dates for these meetings are available on our website. Families are also invited to attend our Open House to visit the campus, meet with BCEC faculty, and learn more about BCEC. Applications will be available at the Information Sessions or online and must be submitted according to the guidelines provided. We use a lottery to select applicants, who will also be reviewed by our selection committee.

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