



The Early College Model

An early college provides high school-age students a “seamless pathway” from high school to college. Housed on the HCC West Loop campus, with articulated sharing of space and staff, CECHS allows the high school student to gradually integrate into college course work through his or her traditional high school degree plan. This integration requires dual and concurrent enrollment in HCC classes, with the student having to show mastery of the knowledge and skills necessary for success (TSI entrance test). Students who graduate from CECHS have the opportunity to graduate with a Distinguished Diploma as well as an associate’s degree. In both cases, CECHS will provide strong support to each student and family in obtaining entrance to, and success in, higher education and beyond.

“Challenge is not your traditional high school, so it doesn’t have traditional relationships. You become closer to your teachers and peers than you would at another school. Challenge has been referred to by some, including myself, as a family. You are not just a number in a sea of nameless students. At Challenge, you are capable of becoming so much more.”

Cynthia Suryawan, Class Of 2014

“Challenge provides the perfect schooling environment and the essential motivation for you to succeed in the future.”
Daisy Diaz – Class of 2015

“Challenge is awesome because of its friendly environment. Everyone is motivated; the teachers and the students. We’re all rooting for each other.”
-Maireni Romero – Class Of 2015

My time at Challenge has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Now that I am a senior, I realize how much effort and time goes into taking college classes. I am so grateful that I received this opportunity to work with the Challenge ECHS teachers and staff. They are truly here to help you and they will not stop until you succeed. I am a Posse Foundation Semi-Finalist; The Posse Foundation awards full tuition scholarships to thirty students in the city of Houston out of 1,500 applicants. Nine of my peers are also semi-finalists and we can all agree that we wouldn’t have been successful if it weren’t for the support Challenge provides.
Mia De La Fuente – Class Of 2014

“If you want to go to a high school where you can learn in a friendly and amiable environment, and take several college, dual credit, and AP and other different classes that help you in your future. Challenge ECHS is the high school you want to attend.”
Lana Al Hasani, Class of 2016

“I always thought of having that big high school experience with sports, clubs, and fieldtrips, but sometimes you have to make the best decision for you. Challenge ECHS may not have all these activities, but it is the best decision I could have ever made. Challenge provides opportunities that very few high schools offer throughout the United States. You take college, dual credit, and AP classes that can result in helping you obtain college credits, and earn your Associates degree. Challenge cares about every single person and you will always find someone to be there for you through the bad and the good.”
Jessica T Cisneros, Class of 2016

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Challenge
EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

A School of Opportunity!



2011 U.S. DEPT. OF EDUC. NAT’L BLUE RIBBON AWARD.

TEXAS EXEMPLARY SCHOOL
 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012

TEXAS RECOGNIZED SCHOOL
 2006 | 2007 | 2008

www.houstonisd.org/Challengeechs

Challenge

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RIGOR, RELEVANCE AND RELATIONSHIPS

A high quality education at Challenge Early College High School is founded on relationships. We personalize each student's education by supporting the development of meaningful, sustained relationships among students and faculty. CECHS is an advanced placement program offering Pre-AP, AP and Dual Credit courses. The students function in a college environment are guided by adult advocates to develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning through work and life tools acquired in Advisory and Guidance classes. The high school curriculum is designed with a level of rigor that better prepares students for a successful college career.

AWARDS

- US Dept. of Education National Blue Ribbon Award
- US News and World Report Silver Medal
- Children at Risk - # 11 in Houston, #34 in Texas
- TEA Exemplary Rated School
- TEA Gold Performance
- Acknowledgement
- Washington Post Top High Schools
- Newsweek Best Public High School
- National Merit Scholar Finalists
- Posse Foundation Scholar Finalists

CECHS BENEFITS

- Tuition free college classes
- Opportunity to obtain an Associate's Degree or up to 60 hours of college credit
- Pre-AP and AP Curriculum
- Small school environment
- Courses on a college campus
- Cultural diversity
- Social and emotional support for students
- Microsoft Business Certification
- Career - Prep Program
- UIL Theatre
- HUDL Debate
- Yearbook
- Various student interest clubs

STUDENTS HELPING STUDENTS

ADVICE FROM SENIORS

1. On the college side - form study groups for classes.
2. Don't mess up your grades freshmen year, they are the foundation of your GPA.
3. Get help, but take care of signing up for HCC classes.
4. CECHS teachers will continue to help you with your college classes.
5. Scholarships, Scholarships, Scholarships
6. Volunteer service and giving something back is important.
7. Begin building your resume your freshmen year.
8. Don't be fooled, tutorials really do help.
9. Procrastination is deadly.
10. Seniors can be your friend.



YEAR	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER	SUMMER 1	SUMMER 2
Year One	No college courses	No college courses	No college courses	No college courses
Year Two	One college course	One college course	Two college courses	Two college courses
Year Three	Two - Three college courses	Two - Three college courses	Two college courses	Two college courses
Year Four	Three college courses	Three college courses	Two college courses	Two college courses
Year Five	Four college courses	Four college courses	Two college courses	Two college courses

• Fifth Year requires and application.