

## **EARLY TRANSITION TO COLLEGE PROGRAM**

### **I. PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for eligible students to substitute their senior/twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade year in high school for their first/freshman year in college/university.

### **II. SCOPE**

This policy applies to all qualifying twelfth grade students in SCS. This policy does not apply to the following: (1) early graduation under the Move on When Ready Act of 2011 and (2) junior/eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) grade students who have satisfied all graduation requirements.

### **III. POLICY STATEMENT**

In keeping with the State Board of Education's endorsement of the Early Admission Program,<sup>1</sup> a twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade high school student may complete the twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade at a participating institution of higher learning. The student will earn a year's credit in college at the same time that he/she earns credit for his/her senior year in high school. The student will be awarded credit for the senior year of high school after having successfully completed the freshman year in college. The freshman course(s) taken at the participating institution will substitute for the courses which the student needed for graduation from high school. The high school principal will determine appropriateness of the content of these courses prior to the student's enrollment in college.

Students seeking early college admission must have at least a 3.5 grade point average and earn a minimum ACT composite score of 25 (or equivalent SAT score).<sup>1</sup>

### **IV. RESPONSIBILITY**

A. Principals, teachers and counselors are responsible for adhering to this policy.

- B. Parents and students are responsible for completing requirements for admission to the Early Transition to College Program and providing the district with the college admissions letter prior to participation in the program.
- C. The Superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is followed.

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Legal References:

1. TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.06(4)

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Cross References:

## **Administrative Rules and Regulations**

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To be considered for the early college admission program, the student shall:

1. Submit a written request to the high school principal at the end of the eleventh year of school, signed by the student and parents;
2. With parents, meet with the principal and counselor for consultation;
3. Submit a letter stating educational and vocational goals, his/her plans for attaining them, and ways in which early admission will assist in reaching these goals;
4. Secure a written endorsement from the principal, counseling staff, and two classroom teachers and the participating institution of higher learning; (Written agreements completed by the student and the parents must be placed on file in the office of the principal.)
5. Be accepted into an early admission program by an accredited institution of higher learning; (Shelby County Schools does not determine admission into institutions of higher learning or their early admissions programs. The college/university makes the determination.)
6. Provide the district with the college admissions letter prior to participation in the program; and
7. Forfeit the right to compete for high school academic honors and to participate in graduation.