



Rising Stars Early College High School Academy

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is an Early College High School?

The Early College High School initiative began nationally in 2002 and builds a bridge for students to earn a post-secondary degree. Early College High Schools are an innovative approach to provide underrepresented students with rigorous coursework in both high school and college classes in a supportive environment. Early College High Schools give students the opportunity to earn both a high school diploma and an associate's degree in four years. The number of students who attend a four-year college immediately after graduating an Early College High School exceeds the national average of students who attend traditional high schools.

2. Who can apply to the Rising Stars Academy?

Current 8th grade students from Keyport Central School and Union Beach who are completing Algebra I.

3. Where will classes take place?

Classes will take place at Keyport High School until spring semester of the students 11th grade year. Then, in the student's junior year, students will take classes at Brookdale's Higher Education Center located in Hazlet. Senior year courses will take place at Brookdale's Main Campus at Lincroft.

4. Is there a cost to parents?

The annual district budget will include the cost of courses and materials.

5. Is a student eligible to participate in sports/activities?

Students are eligible to participate in the KHS Athletic programs and are eligible to participate in KHS after school clubs/activities. Please note that the coursework is rigorous and dedication to their studies is paramount to their success in the program.

6. How do I submit the application?

Applications should be delivered to Mr. Palumbo or Mr. Waters in the Keyport High School's Guidance office. The due date for applications for the 2018-2019 school year is November 27, 2017

7. Does your child receive both college and high school credit for their classes?

Yes

8. Will textbooks be included?

Yes

9. Will students be negatively impacted by entering a four year university with an Associate's degree?

Students will be considered as freshmen for housing and athletics.

10. If the student's GPA falls below the expected 3.0 what is the next step?

Students will receive academic support from both Brookdale and Keyport High School simultaneously. A student is in jeopardy of not receiving district funds if they fall below a 3.0.

11. Will students receive transportation to go from Keyport High School to Brookdale Campus (Hazlet/Lincroft)?

Transportation will be required in the Spring of Junior year. Brookdale is working collaboratively with NJ Transit to add an additional bus stop on Broad Street that is closer to Keyport High School. The district is not responsible for transportation.

12. What is the actual selection criteria for current 8th grade students?

The matrix for acceptance is inclusive of:

- SAGES 2- ELA/Social Studies
- SAGES 2- Math/Science
- SAGES 2-Reasoning
- Math PARCC 7
- ELA PARCC 7

13. What is the required number of teacher recommendations to apply?

Students must obtain 3 teacher recommendations. Forms are included in the application packet.