



La Joya Early College High School
ECHS Renewal Application
2019-2020

Contents

[Background](#)

[Contacts](#)

[Narratives](#)

[Download Assurances Signature Page](#)

Background

District Affiliation

LA JOYA ISD

CD #: 108912

Region: 01

Mailing Address (Line 1): 201 E EXPY 83

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: LA JOYA, TX 78560

School Affiliation

LA JOYA H S

CDC #: 108-912-001

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): 604 N COYOTE BLVD

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: LA JOYA, TX 78560

Academy Information

ECHS Academy Name:

La Joya Early College High School

Are you currently in the 2018-2019 planning year or are a 2018-2019 planning grantee?

No

What grade level range will your academy serve in the 2019-2020 school year?

9-12

Grade Level	Number of Students
9	120
10	109
11	86
12	98

Contacts

Superintendent

Job Title: Superintendent

Full Name: Dr. Alda Benavides

Email: a.benavides@lajoyaisd.net

Phone Number: 956-323-2000

Applicant

Job Title: Principal

Full Name: Mr. Domingo Villarreal III

Email: d.villarreal3@lajoyaisd.net

Phone Number: 956-323-2935

IHE Liaison

Affiliation: South Texas College

Job Title: Director of Early College High Schools

Full Name: Mr. Antonio de la Cruz

Email: adelacruz_4846@southtexascollege.edu

Phone Number: 956-872-2148

Narratives

ECHS Model

Which ECHS model does the district intend to implement at this time? Within these models, there are variations. For this purpose campus is defined as a CDC number not a physical location.

School-Within-School (SWS) - A subset of students on the campus are enrolled in grades 9-12 are enrolled in the ECHS academy.

Evaluation

Would your campus would like to be considered for distinguished recognition? All ECHS seeking distinguished recognition will be measured against the highest OMBs.

No

Products

Please provide links to the following products' locations on the ECHS's website.

Provide a link to the academy's written admission policy and enrollment application.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's written recruitment plan including a timeline of recruitment and enrollment events, and recruitment materials for distribution at feeder schools and other appropriate locations in the community

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's brochures and marketing in Spanish, English, and/or other relevant language(s) .

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's written communication plan for targeting identified audiences, parents, community members, school board, higher education personnel, etc.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the final, signed, and executed MOU.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's leadership meeting agendas and minutes.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's school board and board of regents' presentations.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's description of each member and role in committee.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's 60 college credit hours crosswalk.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's calendar of family outreach events.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's professional learning community agendas and notes.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's advisory/study skills curriculum material.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's master schedules.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's calendar of TSI test administration dates.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's aggregate reports of TSI exam performance.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's tutoring and bridge program schedules.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's Bridge Program curricula.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's mentor/induction program plans.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's annual training or professional development plan with the academy and IHE faculty.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's leader/liaison meeting agendas and notes.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Provide a link to the academy's leadership team member bios.

https://ljechs.lajoyaisd.com/33415_1

Free-Response

If the ECHS has identified and implemented sustainability structures to address and minimize the challenges of staff turnover, please describe those structures here.

La Joya ISD understands the importance of recruiting and promoting teachers and support staff that are highly qualified in accordance with state and IHE Requirements. La Joya Early College High School uses strategically plans and develops the training, appraisal, and professional development of our teachers based on these requirements. Additionally, there is a concerted effort to hire teachers with a Master's Degree in the core content areas and with experience in teaching in diverse classrooms with at-risk students. It is the continuous intent to recruit a teaching staff that has a proven record of performance and are meeting the academic, social, and emotional needs of the targeted student population.

La Joya Early College High School ensures teachers are given several opportunities for specialized growth through professional development seminars and training. For example, Common Instructional Framework (CIF), Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP), Working on the Work (WOW), Advanced Placement Institutes Training, Rubric Training, and Cooperative Learning and Advance Placement (AP). Additionally, the professional development also focuses on the targeted student population. This assures that teachers understand the uniqueness of addressing the needs of under-represented youth in higher education. All stakeholders provide input to develop a professional development calendar. Furthermore, the faculty is given the opportunity to participate in District Share Fairs which target all four core areas; this venue affords teachers the opportunity to share with other district personnel valuable instructional strategies and innovative technological advances aimed at improving instruction and student achievement.

Additionally, IHE staff also participates in continual training with their respective university programs/departments. The dual credit (DC) teaching staff are allocated engaging training time to keep updated on the college curricula and delivery methods. The school district and IHE partner requires that all teachers meet the rigorous teaching standards and policies.

The school district has an incentive-based policy that pays IHE staff \$450.00 per Dual Enrollment Section; the school district also provides a \$1,000 yearly stipend for IHE staff with a SACS Master's degree. Additionally, the IHE compensates their staff with an extra \$350.00 per Dual Enrollment Section. This compensation has prompted more teachers to pursue their master level degrees.

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) allow teachers to present on best practices, as well as, provides the ECHS staff the opportunity to work collaboratively to support the school's CIF. This helps to create a shared vision and family atmosphere. Additionally, the PLC time focuses on teachers being provided opportunities to voice areas in which they could use additional support. Teachers, support staff and the campus leader also have various options throughout the school year to grow professionally. ECHS conferences, webinars, peer conversations and sharing on the state TEA ECHS network also allow for problem solving, sharing ideas and lessons, and most of all allows a platform to keep updated and connected to the evolving ECHS work.

Describe the processes that the dual credit provider and the ECHS campuses monitor student progress, and determine when interventions are needed. How is this ECHS going to share data and monitor student progress and ensure student success?

The La Joya Early College High School supports its students to ensure success by personalizing the learning environment with individualized student plans, offering tutoring during the day through a scheduled class period (Advisory Period) and Saturday tutorials.

LJECHS takes the time to increase college awareness for students and their families in order to allow them to better navigate through the college application process, financial aid applications, and with college and career choices.

If students experience academic difficulties, emotional, social, and academic supports are in place and readily available as needed. These supports range from parent outreach initiatives, connections to social services, and conferencing with an IHE counselor.

Campus monitoring begins at the start of each semester with South Texas College (STC), our higher education collaborating institution with the evaluation of course objectives. This collaboration is reflected in the creation of the IHE's respective syllabi. Administrators and appropriate personnel will review and approve syllabi prior to their disbursement to students each semester.

Each semester, the ECHS evaluates methods and assignments required to master each learning objective. Assessments are determined by individual faculty as are each passing standard and target percentage necessary to meet each core objective. Target percentages are typically set at 70% unless the criteria proves to be either too difficult or too easy. Target percentage necessary to meet core objectives are reassessed each year in order to keep courses challenging yet attainable.

The ECHS continues to track student success and failure rates after the courses are completed, but academic monitoring on campus continues in the following formats:

Progress reports

PEIMS data

AP Benchmarks

Regular meetings addressing data and programs

RTI communications

The ECHS network utilization of the latest in research/technology -

- CLE Center for Learning Excellence –Provides a variety of tutorial opportunities (IHE).
- DegreeWorks – Is a tool that monitors student academic standing. (IHE/ECHS)
- VECTOR Program – Tracking system and degree audit that consolidates data, ECHS Benchmark Results, Degree Planning, and College Readiness Indicators.
- IHE/District Agreement – developed between both entities that includes the monitoring of academic progress, grades per semester, current/cumulative GPA, graduation completion, and academic standing.

In our data sharing agreement with South Texas College, the LJECHS leadership team and the IHE review and re-evaluate data systematically at the end of each semester. Additionally, the ECHS and IHE partner will evaluate dual enrollment courses for effectiveness. All stakeholders create a plan of action if an individual course fails to meet its course objectives for the following school year.

Endorsements

Identify the current endorsements that are offered:

- Arts and Humanities
- Multi-disciplinary Studies

Certificates

For a description of level (one or two) certificates, please see:

<http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/10494.PDF?CFID=75314517&CFTOKEN=13839274>

Identify all associate degrees offered to students.

Degree	Description
Associates of Interdisciplinary Studies	The Associate of Arts Degree field of study in Interdisciplinary Studies provides students with a broad-based education in "college basics" that promotes critical thinking skills and allows

Identify all level one certificates offered to students.

Certification	Description
Computer Application Specialist	This one-semester specialization will provide students with the foundation technical skills required in the use of computers and the Internet. Students will learn entry-level skills needed t
Computer and Internet Specialist	This one-semester specialization will provide students with the foundation technical skills required in the use of computers and the Internet. Students will learn entry-level skills needed t

Identify all level two certificates offered to students.

Certification	Description
---------------	-------------

TSIA + IHE

Is this ECHS a TSIA testing site?

Yes

What ID number do students use when taking the TSIA exam?

Unique State Assigned ID

Is the IHE liaison working with other ECHS campuses?

Yes