



EL DORADO H S
ECHS Renewal Application
2021-2022

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Background

District Affiliation

SOCORRO ISD

CD #: 071909

Region: 19

Mailing Address (Line 1): 12440 ROJAS DR

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: EL PASO, TX 79928

School Affiliation

EL DORADO H S

CDC #: 071-909-005

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): 12401 EDGEMERE BLVD

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: EL PASO, TX 79938

Academy Information

What is the academy name?

Empire Early College High School

Which model does the district intend to implement at this time? Within these models, there are variations.

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

Distinguished Recognition

Grade Levels Served

What grade level(s) will your academy plan to serve in the 2021-2022 school year?

9

10

11

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 9th grade.

135

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 10th grade.

114

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 11th grade.

114

Contacts

Applicant

Applicant 1

Job Title

Early College Director

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Stephen

Last Name

Fernandez

Email

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Phone

9152151693

Principal

Principal 1

Name Prefix

Mrs.

First Name

Venessa

Last Name

Betancourt

Email

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Phone

9152044368

Superintendent

Superintendent 1

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Jose

Last Name

Espinoza

Email

jespin01@sisd.net

Phone

9159370000

Narratives

Current Designations at SOCORRO ISD:

- SOCORRO H S - ECHS - 1516
- MONTWOOD H S - ECHS - 1617
- MONTWOOD H S - T-STEM - 1415
- AMERICAS H S - ECHS - 1718
- EL DORADO H S - ECHS - 1819
- MISSION EARLY COLLEGE H S - ECHS - 0607
- EASTLAKE H S - ECHS - 1819
- EASTLAKE H S - T-STEM - 1819
- PEBBLE HILLS H S - ECHS - 1819

Previous Planning Year Applications at SOCORRO ISD:

Narratives

The majority of the following questions will be narrative response. Narrative responses are limited to a maximum of 250 words. We recommend writing your responses in a text-editing software such as Microsoft Word and then pasting your responses into the website when they are complete. Progress to the next section when you are ready.

Narratives: Degrees and Credentials: IHE Agreements, Degrees and Credentials, Recruitment and Enrollment

Degrees and Credentials

Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Architecture & Construction
Arts AV Tech & Communication
Education and Training
Health Science
Law & Public Service

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Architectural Design

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Graphic Design and Multimedia Arts

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Teaching and Training

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Bio-Medical Science

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Government and Public Administration
Law Enforcement
Legal Studies

Which of the following credential(s) does the academy plan to offer students in 2021-2022 school year?

AD

What associate degree(s) does the academy plan to offer?

Item

Biology

Engineering

Pre-Medicine

Criminal Justice

Business

Mathematics

Physics

Chemistry

Recruitment and Enrollment

Describe any changes in established plans for recruitment and enrollment process that meet open enrollment requirements.

Empire Early College has been using virtual meetings to connect with students and parents to provide information about the program. We have been conducting class visits to our 8th graders in our feeder pattern via Microsoft TEAMS. We have had several open forum parent meetings where we have provided information about the program. With the help of our middle school counselors, we have informed all students and parents that applying for the program can be accessed online through electronic applications. Our virtual lottery will be taking place using the SISD Lottery application.

Degrees and Credentials: IHE Agreements

Does the IHE partner currently have an articulation agreement with a four-year IHE detailing how a student's associate degree and accrued credits could lead to a baccalaureate degree?

Yes

Provide the university name that your IHE partner has an articulation agreement with and the bachelor degree that students could earn using their associate degree and accrued credits. Each row represents a degree.

2-Year Degree

University

4-Year Degree

2-Year Degree	University	4-Year Degree
AA Criminal Justice	University of Texas at El Paso	BA Criminal Justice
AS Biological Sciences	Univerisity of Texas at El Paso	BS Biology
AA Psychology	University of Texas at El Paso	BS Psychology

Narratives: Strategic Partnerships

Strategic Partnerships

IHE Partner 1

Affiliation

El Paso Community College

Name Prefix

Ms.

First Name

Tonie

Last Name

Badillo

Email

mbadill4@epcc.edu

Phone

9158316755

Job Title

Dean of Dual Credit and Early College High Schools

The Early College High School shall have a current, signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each school year that defines the partnership between the school district(s) and the institution(s) of higher education (IHE).

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirement: Curriculum alignment and courses of study, which enables a student to combine high school courses and college-level courses to earn either an associate degree, postsecondary certificate provided by an IHE, or industry certification.

The articulation agreement (Interlocal Agreement) between Socorro Independent School District (SISD) and El Paso Community College (EPCC) addresses Benchmark 2, Curriculum Alignment, under Section 5 Academic Plan. An academic plan is developed for each student to enable them to earn a high school diploma and an Associates Degree. In addition to college credit being earned through dual credit course work, Empire Early College is responsible for administering all end-of-course exams and transcribing of all college courses to the student's transcript according the district defined crosswalk. Pathways to an associate degree are additionally outlined in the articulation agreement through defined courses of study and curriculum alignment. Empire Early College students are provided with courses of study that meet the requirements of the Associates of Arts or Science Degree as well as the Distinguished Level of Achievement diploma in the following endorsement categories: STEM, Business and Industry, Public Service, Arts and Humanities, and Multidisciplinary Studies. Additional courses of study must be approved by the campus principal and the appropriate EPCC dean on an individual basis. The curriculum for Empire Early College students is developed to ensure that each student has the ability and opportunity to earn a high school diploma and an associate degree in four years. Course and curriculum alignment is reviewed annually by the Advisory Committee as outlined in the articulation agreement.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Policies for: 1) advising students on the transferability of all college credit offered and earned, 2) ensuring the IHE transcripts college credit earned through dual credit in the same semester that credit is earned, 3) advising students as to the transferability and applicability to baccalaureate degree plans for all college credit offered and earned (college credits earned during high school should allow students to progress from an associate degree to a bachelor's degree and beyond in their chosen field), 4) students accessing the IHE facilities, services and resources

Empire Early College has a dedicated counselor and director as defined in the articulation agreement to ensure students are advised on the transferability of all college credit offered and earned. All Empire Early College students have access to EPCC Student Services including EPCC counseling services. In addition to the requirements in the agreement, seniors have access to a transition counselor who further advises students on the transferability and applicability of their course work to baccalaureate degree plans at their planned college of choice. Empire Early College student's dual credit courses are transcribed onto the high school transcript as outlined in Section 5 of the articulation agreement. When students take college courses at EPCC, the Empire Early College Counselor and administrator are responsible for transcribing student grades following policy EIC(LOCAL). Students who take college classes at the early college site with a credentialed SISD teacher have their grades transcribed automatically through the student information system. All grades adhere to the requirements outlined in the IHE syllabus as well the appropriate grade conversion for the high school grade as stated in policy EIC(LOCAL). All Empire Early College students have full access to El Paso Community College Student services as outlined in Section 8 of the agreement. Student services provided by EPCC include the issuance of an EPCC ID, access to EPCC's online library databases, materials, and resources, on-campus tutoring centers, Academic Computer Services labs and libraries, access to participation in student government and clubs.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Transportation costs and fees including provisions for discontinuing operation while ensuring students previously enrolled will have opportunity to complete their course of study.

Socorro Independent School District ensures that transportation routes for students attending courses at all EPCC site facilities are available during the fall and spring terms. Bus routes also includes round-

trip transportation for students to attend official school activities, such as daily classes in an approved class, orientation, etc.,. Beyond the requirements outlined in Section 9E of the agreement, SISD provides early college students transportation for summer classes scheduled at EPCC sites and for students who attend The University of Texas at El Paso throughout the year. In the event of nonrenewal or termination of the agreement, students are afforded the opportunity to complete their course of study. Section 14, Renewal or Termination, states that termination will not occur during the middle of a school year in order to not disrupt the academic progress of the students of Empire Early College. If the agreement is terminated, Empire ECHS will continue operation through the 11th grade cohort's scheduled graduation from high school. Students enrolled in the 9th and 10th grade will also be able to continue through graduation by agreement. In the event of a termination, Empire Early College will not be able to enroll any additional students in grades that have been phased out but will continue to meet all the required design elements and provide full support for those who are still enrolled in Empire Early College.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Data sharing agreement that includes provisions for teacher data such as qualifications and student level data such as credit hours taken and earned, GPA, formative data to assess if student is on track for college readiness

Per the articulation agreement, data is shared and collected for required reporting purposes and for internal purposes to include student level data. The school district and the IHE agree to share any data required for the successful completion of the Empire Early College High School students' graduation plans and with the hiring of qualified staff members for dual credit teaching assignments. When sharing teacher data for qualifications, El Paso Community College discipline faculty will serve on the Empire ECHS teacher hiring committees. The school district and El Paso Community College will collect and review the following disaggregated data: number of credit hours taken and earned; GPAs; El Dorado H S // ECHS // End of Course results; SAT/ACT/PSAT; TSI readiness by grade level; qualifications of early college staff; and the location(s) where courses are taught. Any program improvements are based on the collection, review, and sharing of the following data: EPCC data; SISD data; articulation of high school students in four-year colleges/universities and level of entry and enrollment/retention rates; and leaver codes and attrition rates by grade level. Additionally, Empire ECHS will participate in instruction success and faculty satisfaction surveys. Survey data is shared by EPCC the semester following the evaluations and may be used in program improvements.

Narratives: Advanced Academics

Advanced Academics

Select the type of advanced courses (dual credit/AP/IB) your campus plans to offer students in 2021-2022.

DC
AP
IB

What type of dual credit courses does your campus plan to offer?

AGCM

Describe any challenges in ensuring your academy has educators with qualification to teach dual credit. What steps did your academy take to address the need?

Recruiting and retaining educators who are credentialed through the Southern Association of Colleges and School Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is one of the greatest challenges facing Empire Early College. When a credentialed teacher leaves, it is very difficult to find teachers who have the correct SBEC certificate and SACSCOC credentialing. To address these challenges, the district has implemented a dual credit teacher scholarship. Through a partnership with the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), SISD has implemented a Dual Credit Scholarship where interested teachers apply for and take graduate level coursework that leads to credentialing in areas of high demand such as biology and economics. To address retention of credentialed staff, teachers who go receive the Dual Credit Scholarship must commit to three years with the district upon credentialing and receive a stipend for each dual credit section they teach. At the campus level, the Empire Early College director supports the dual credit scholarship by identifying future courses based on students to recruit teachers to apply for the scholarship. To support current staff, EPCC hosts faculty and online facilitator workshops at the beginning of each college term as well as required discipline meetings that include learning objective and syllabus updates. The Empire Early College Director also provides specific professional development for the faculty to enhance classroom instruction and provide TSI workshops. With the combined efforts of the campus, district and IHE, the district continues to recruit, educate and place credentialed teachers in the early college.

Is the academy a TSIA testing site?

Yes

Narratives: Curriculum and Support

Curriculum and Support

Provide examples of how the campus plans to provide students with academic services. List activities and brief descriptions of the activities. Add a new row for each provided service.

Activity	Description
AVID	All freshman and sophomores are enrolled in an AVID I or II class. Juniors and Seniors take AVID if requested or needed based on TSI and EPCC Academic Standing or are used as Peer Tutors in the AVID I and II class.
On Campus Tutoring	Students have required tutoring for all those that have below a 70% average. Students are required to attend and parent contact is made for those that miss.

Activity	Description
El Paso Community College Tutoring	EPCC provides online tutoring for those students needing assistance. Students have been informed on navigating the website and the link is provided on our school web page.

Provide examples of how the campus plans to provide students with wrap-around services. List activities and brief descriptions of the activities. Add a new row for each wrap-around service.

Activity	Description
Parent Academy	Parent outreach program to assist in aiding their children and looking for signs of stress at home.
Hand to Heart	AVID run outreach program that is voluntary to all scholars in early college who are stressed or can't seem to cope.
Progress Monitoring Sessions	Meetings with scholars that fail to meet progress for 3, 6, and 9 weeks with all coded at-risk students.
IHE Advising	EPCC counselors conduct advising sessions on campus

How does your academy use the access, achievement, and attainment data for program improvement?

Empire Early College uses the access outcomes-based measures to drive recruitment. Recruiting at Empire Early Colleges starts with general recruitment/presentation to all 8th grade students within our own feeder pattern. After student presentations, a general recruitment night is held at El Dorado High school for all parents, students and community members. Finally, Empire ECHS students and staff do additional recruiting in their feeder school 8th grade AVID and WIN classes. This allows for targeted recruitment to the At-Risk, ELL and first time college students. These recruitment efforts have allowed for Empire ECHS to apply for distinguished early college status. The achievement outcomes-based measures are used to shape Empire ECHS TSI intervention and testing schedules. TSI Diagnostic data from those students who do not pass are used to help tailor specific remediation throughout the year. Additionally, diagnostic data is used when planning bridge camp activities since all district 8th graders take the TSI reading. Spring Board Math is used in all Empire ECHS non dual credit math courses to ensure that 45% of Algebra I students meet the advanced standard of EOC and are better prepared for the TSI, PSAT and SAT. With the close monitoring and use of the achievement outcomes-based measures, ECHS is able to design and advise students individually to ensure they are taking the appropriate classes (college-level English and Math in 11th grade) and completing the courses required by HB5 and their college degree plan to graduate with a post-secondary on or before their high school graduation.

Leadership Team

List the Leadership Team's three priorities for the next year and describe how the selected priority contributes to the academy's success. Each priority should be a benchmark from the ECHS/T-STEM/P-TECH Blueprint.

Benchmark	Description
Benchmark 1 & 4	Preventing early college students from dropping the program and providing enough support and guidance where they feel comfortable in completing the four years in the program.
Benchmark 4	Encouraging parents to get involved in their child's learning and provide support for them while at home.
Benchmark 5	Encouraging students to attend TSI tutoring regularly for those that haven't passed and encouraging students to use the Edgenuity program to increase TSI scores.

Narratives: Benchmark 1 Products,
Benchmark 2 Products, Benchmark 3
Products, Benchmark 4 Products,
Benchmark 5 Products, Benchmark
Products, Benchmark 6 Products

Benchmark Products

Benchmark 1 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

Benchmark 2 Products

Provide a link to the academy's final, signed, and executed MOU with their IHE.

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

Benchmark 3 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

Benchmark 4 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

Provide a link to the academy's Master Schedules

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

Benchmark 5 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

Provide a link to the academy's Bridge program curricula

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

Benchmark 6 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62378>
