



MISSION EARLY COLLEGE 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

MISSION EARLY COLLEGE H S

CDC #: 071-909-007

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): P O BOX 20500

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: EL PASO, TX 79998

Academy Information

What is the academy name?

Mission Early College

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

Stand Alone Academy - All students on the campus 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
12

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.

127

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

115

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 12th grade.

119

Contacts

Applicant

Applicant 1

Job Title

Principal

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Benjamin

Last Name

Ortega

Email

bortego5@sisd.net

Phone

915-937-1202

Principal

Principal 1

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Benjamin

Last Name

Ortega

Email

bortego5@sisd.net

Phone

915-937-1202

Superintendent

Superintendent 1

Name Prefix

Dr.

First Name

Jose

Last Name

Espinoza

Email

jespin01@sisd.net

Phone

915-937-0000

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.

Business Marketing Finance

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

Business Management

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

Interdisciplinary Studies/General Studies

Criminal Justice

Biology

Psychology

Recruitment and Enrollment

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

Include the following face-to-face to virtual changes: 1. Virtual class visits to 8th graders in feeder via Microsoft TEAMS- Mission Early College will participate in two advanced academy recruitment nights hosted by SISD's CTE department. Recruitment meetings will take place during Microsoft Office Teams. 2. Virtual Parent meetings- two virtual campus specific virtual open house nights via Microsoft Office Teams. Open house nights will include a virtual presentation, video, and students testimonials. 3. Electronic applications- Electronic applications will be accessible for families to fill out via the campus webpage. 4. Virtual Lottery using SISD Lottery application- Campus will have a virtual lottery to select 2021-2022 cohort.

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
AA Criminal Justice	University of Texas at El Paso	BA Criminal Justice
AS Biological Sciences	University of Texas at El Paso	BS Biology
AA Psychology	University of Texas at El Paso	BA 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

915-831-6755

Job Title

Dean of Early College High School and Dual Credit

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, [Campus] 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. Mission 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 Mission 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

Mission 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 Mission 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. Mission 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 Mission 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 Mission 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.

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 Mission 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 Socorro 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; SOCORRO 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, Mission 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.

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

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 Mission 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 Mission 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 Mission 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.

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

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?

Mission Early College High School strives to hire highly qualified educators with a graduate level degree credentialing or potential dual credit credentialing should the need arise. Should the campus not have a credentialed instructor in a core subject that applies toward a student's degree plan, MECHS students have the option to take a class or classes with an EPCC instructor the the Mission Del Paso campus which is located on site. As per the MOU; All staff for MECHS shall be employees of SISD. SISD shall pay all salaries and provide benefits. EPCC shall have no responsibility to compensate or provide benefits to any of the staff of MECHS. SISD shall be responsible for professional development of all full-time and part-time staff assigned to MECHS, including staff development aimed at working with at-risk students and technology. MECHS faculty will participate in the professional development activities of EPCC, Educate Texas, and the agency designated by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to provide ECHS leadership coaching and technical assistance.

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
Tutoring	The campus tutoring center is staffed with a full time intervention coach and four part time tutors. Every student has access to the campus tutoring center. The center is open daily at lunch and after school and is available during instructional time should faculty feel the need to refer students for more individualized assistance. Our partner college also has a fully staffed tutoring center accessible to students 7 days a week.
TSI Prep	The campus has four half days of TSI prep for incoming 9th graders during spring and summer bridge camps. TSI prep and exams continue during the regular school year for students pending passing any portion of the exam. Mandatory tutoring occurs weekly during lunch with testing taking place at the end of each month. Currently, the campus is hosting virtual TSI prep.
College Advising	IHE counselors visit the campus on Fridays once a month. Students sign up for academic advising with the counselor. The visiting counselor is on campus all day.
College Visits	The campus works with colleges and universities to schedule campus visits/presentations during lunch or on Fridays.
Go Center	As of the year, the campus will have a full time Go Center adviser to assist students with college applications, FAFSA, scholarships, college advising, college visits, PAM/TSI testing, and college/university outreach.
EOC/AP Tutoring	Faculty will develop EOC and AP exam specific tutoring plans. Students selected for EOC tutoring will be based on teacher recommendation and attend for a prescribed amount of days prior to the exam. All AP students will attend at least three AP review study sessions prior to AP testing.
CHAMPS Mentoring Program	A pool of at-risk students is selected on a yearly basis and assigned an adult mentor to meet with monthly. The adult mentor also informally meets with the student throughout the school year to check in with them on their academic progress as well as any other issues the student may bring to their attention.
Flex Friday	During the college academic year, students participate in Flex Friday on a yearly basis. Students are able to sign up for tutoring with teachers, study halls to complete work, and various other academic enrichment activities throughout the day. Students who are struggling academically or behind on work are scheduled for interventions for a partial or full day. The campus also conducts TSI tutoring and TSI proctoring on Flex Friday.

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
CIS	The campus has a full time CIS Coordinator. The coordinator currently has a caseload of 104 at-risk students who she checks in with on a weekly basis and whose academic progress she monitors. Our coordinator assists teachers with contacting parents, checks in with students on a weekly basis, refers students to appropriate counseling services, assists with parent nights, and coordinates volunteers at the campus.
Parent Nights	The campus hosts a Fall and Spring parent night for parents to meet with their child's instructor.
Open House Recruitment Night	The campus hosts a Fall Open House recruitment night to give middle school families the opportunity to personally visit the campus and learn about early college high school. Parents listen to a presentation and then have the opportunity to visit with faculty and student representatives from different clubs and organizations.

Activity	Description
Community Recruitment	Campus representatives visit SISD high schools and middle schools to present information about the campus and recruit a new cohort for the forthcoming academic year.
Fall and Spring Festival	The campus hosts Fall and Spring festivals for the students, their families, and the
PTSA	The campus has a PTSA with parent volunteers. PTSA and members assist the campus with various activities throughout the year and fund raise to award seniors college scholarships at the end of the year.
Coffee w/ the Principal	The campus hosts a monthly Coffee w/ the Principal to allow parents and community members the opportunity to meet with campus leadership.
Blackboard/Website	The campus utilizes a phone, email, and text messaging system to keep parents updated on important campus information and events. The campus also maintains a website that contains a campus calendar and is regularly updated with campus information and events.

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

The campus regularly uses data for improvement for academic improvement. Academic progress is monitored through assessment data. Campus PLC's along with the leadership team review data regularly to identify students in need of targeted interventions. Interventions are developed by campus PLC's in coordination with campus leadership. Assessment data includes EOC's, TSI, PSAT/SAT, etc. Campus systems are structured or developed to meet the academic needs that the data identified. Instructional data is also monitored regularly through the entry of classroom walkthrough data into district software. Reports are run by leadership and shared with faculty identifying specific areas of instructional improvement on the campus. Individual meetings with faculty members as well as professional development address areas of instructional refinement. Data shared between our IHE partner and SISD including progress toward Associate's degrees, college grades, TSI data, etc. is monitored by the counselor and campus leadership to track student progress and develop appropriate plans with students to ensure their success. Data is available to campus leadership through the district's Dashboard utility. 12th graders have a "Senior Interview" with their counselor where their data is individually reviewed with them to assess their academic progress as well as what is needed in their final year for success completion of college and high school curricula.

Narratives: Leadership Team

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
Target Population	Mission Early College will continue to improve recruitment systems to ensure the campus meets its target population for at-risk sub populations of students. The campus will target AVID and WIN middle schools for recruitment as well as target schools located within areas of the district with a low socioeconomic population.
Curriculum	Mission Early College will continue to calibrate with our IHE partner to improve upon implementation of college curricula within the high school setting and blending of college and high school policies that must be followed in lesson development, instruction, and grading. An IHE representative will come on campus to provide PD for our teachers in these areas
Academic	Mission Early College will continue to refine and improve upon TSI systems for bridge camp and tutoring

Rigor and Benchmark Readiness**Description**

support to ensure all students meet TSI requirements to avoid delaying college academic progress. The campus goal will be to have all 9th grade students successfully meeting Reading and Writing requirements by December of their first year, and for all other students to meet all TSI requirements for Reading, Writing, and Math by the end of their Sophomore year. Mission Early College leadership will also ensure that curriculum and instruction continues to meet high standards whether learning is remote or in person.

Narratives: Benchmark 1 Products, Benchmark 2 Products, Benchmark 3 Products, Benchmark 4 Products, Benchmark 5 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/62177>

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/62177>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62177>

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/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/Written%20Communication%20Plan.pdf>

Benchmark 2 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62178>

Benchmark 3 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62179>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62179>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62179>

Benchmark 4 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/SISD%20DC%20ECHS%20Crosswalk.pdf>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/5403#calendar9093/20190122/monthv>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/MECHS%20PLC%20Agenda.pdf>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/MECHS%20Study%20Skills.pdf>

Provide a link to the academy's Master Schedules

<https://www.sisd.net/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/2020-2021%20Master%20Schedule%207.13.20.pdf>

Benchmark 5 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/Fall%202020%20TSI%20Testing%20Schedule.pdf>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62181>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/MECHS%20Bridge%20Program%20Schedule.pdf>

Provide a link to the academy's Bridge program curricula

https://www.sisd.net/cms/lib/TX01001452/Centricity/Domain/1119/TSI_Tutoring%20and%20Bridge%20Camp%202021.pdf

Benchmark 6 Products

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/566>

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

<https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/DualCredit>

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

<https://www.sisd.net/Page/62182>