Texas Education Agency

EDCOUCH-ELSA H S

ECHS Renewal Application

2023-2024

Contents

Background

District Affiliation

EDCOUCH-ELSA ISD

CD #: 108903
Region: 01
Mailing Address (Line 1): P O BOX 127
Mailing Address (Line 2):
City, State, Zip: EDCOUCH, TX 78538

School Affiliation

EDCOUCH-ELSA H S

CDC #: 108-903-001
Region:
Mailing Address (Line 1): P O BOX 127
Mailing Address (Line 2):
City, State, Zip: EDCOUCH, TX 78538

Academy Information

What is the academy name?

Edcouch-Elsa 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?

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.

135

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

121

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

125

Contacts

Applicant

Applicant 1

Job Title

Assistant Principal

Name Prefix

Mrs.

First Name

Mary

Last Name

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Phone

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Principal

Principal 1

Name Prefix

Ms.

First Name

Amelie

Last Name

Sanchez

Email

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Phone

956-262-4731

Superintendent

Superintendent 1

Name Prefix

Dr.

First Name

Gregory

Last Name

Rodriguez

Email

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Phone

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Narratives

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

Specify Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer.

N/A

Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer.

Other

Which of the following credential(s) does the academy plan to offer students?

AD

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

Item
Interdisciplinary Studies/General Studies
Business
Criminal Justice
Engineering
Computer Science

Recruitment and Enrollment

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

In order to recruit our targeted student population this year, we made some new changes to our recruitment and enrollment process. We hope to continue these processes moving forward as we continue to recruit our first generation and at risk students. Recruitment Timeline: -Two day student presentations for our feeder school, incoming 8th graders; -Current Early College High School student

ambassadors speak to our visiting 8th graders to share their own experiences and testimonials. -We provide an ECHS Overview of the program, dual enrollment and EC expectations. -All 8th grade students leave recruitment presentations with an ECHS enrollment application -We schedule a series of informational parent meetings to accommodate our working parents. These meetings provide parents an overview of the Early College High School program, accessibility, expectations and timeline for application process. Parents also have the opportunity to ask questions. -The EC Assistant Principal along with Counselors schedule small group interviews with student applicants to dig deeper and probe students about the future college and career goals. -Students are notified by mid May of their acceptance into the EC program for the proceeding school year. All EEISD 8th grade students are given the opportunity to apply.

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
Associates of Arts	Texas A & M Kingsville	Baccalaureate of Arts
Associates of Arts	University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley	Baccalaureate of Arts
Associates of Arts	University of Texas at Austin	Baccalaureate of Arts
Associates of Arts	Texas State University San Marcos	Baccalaureate of Arts

Narratives: Strategic Partnerships

Strategic Partnerships

IHE Partner 1
Affiliation

South Texas College

Name Prefix

Dr.

First Name

Ricardo

Last Name

Solis

Email

president@southtexascollege.edu

Phone

956-872-3541

Job Title

President at South Texas College

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 Edcouch-Elsa Early College High School in collaboration with our IHE partner; South Texas College has articulated an MOU that provides our students a pathway and a rigorous course of study. Our EC students can earn their high school degree while at the same time earn college credit through our dual enrollment programs. Our students have the opportunity to graduate core complete by earning a minimum of 42 college credit hours and/or earn an associate's degree (60+ credit hours) towards a baccalaureate degree in grades 9-12. Our students are able to obtain high school and college credit simultaneously for a variety of specified courses as indicated in the crosswalk. Edcouch-Elsa Early College High School and South Texas College have established a course equivalency crosswalk which is updated on a regular basis. Our EC students take in person dual courses at ECHS, online (remote/virtual) and/or at the college campus for specific courses that may require the use of Science labs. Our Instructional crosswalk plays a critical role on how students obtain and earn dual credit and high school credit. The ECHS ensures that students follow their individual instructional plans which stem from the crosswalk in order to allow students to earn their college credit towards completion of the associates degree or graduate core complete.

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

The articulation agreement between EEISD and South Texas College provides our EC students various support services such as advisement on the transferability and applicability to baccalaureate degree plans of all college credit offered and earned. Advisement is provided for all first time dual credit students by requiring students to complete Dual Credit Student Modules, group advisement via Degree Works and face to face advisement by STC representatives. Degree audits take place once a year for Juniors and Senior cohorts. Both STC and our counselors create individualized instructional plans based on the Dual Credit Crosswalk to ensure students are making progress towards Core Complete and/or Associates degree requirements. The college and high school agree to award college credit earned through dual credit during the same semester that the credit is earned so that it reflects on their high school transcript upon completion of courses. Student progress towards academic goals and transcript credit is used by the counselors and Administrator to conference with students during advisement sessions to monitor progress. ECHS students are college students therefore, they have access to all resources and services the IHE and campus have available to support students. Dual students have access to the IHE's facilities such as computer labs, academic counseling, library resources, advisement services, virtual tutorials, campus and online support. The EC encourages students to follow a pathway that will result in the completion of a core complete curriculum or associate's degree upon graduation.

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.

Edcouch-Elsa ISD provides Edcouch-Elsa Early College High School students all textbooks, equipment and supplemental materials required for the dual classes being offered through the dual enrollment program. Approved textbooks are purchased by the School District as required for for college courses and are used for four years as specified in the MOU. The School District provides bus transportation for all dual enrollment students that are enrolled at Edcouch-Elsa ECHS. Transportation is provided for students that take college classes at the South Texas College Mid-Valley campus. This would apply to students that register for dual college classes and require a Science lab and/or for students that take independent courses that are not offered at the campus. The school district also provides transportation for all Edcouch-Elsa ECHS field trips, orientation trips to the college and project based learning events. Transportation for students to and from campus is provided weekly and at no cost to the students or families.

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

The IHE and EEISD are expected to meet FERPA requirements to maintain the privacy of student data. The college provides student data reports to the school consisting of semester grades, credits earned, attempted, cumulative hours, potential core complete lists, potential associate graduate lists and academic progress. Student data sharing and progress checks take place through the Starfish Report.. Semester grades and grading policies are outlined in each instructor's course syllabus. ECHS students will be informed by the instructors of academic progress/grade status prior to the last day to Drop/Withdraw a college course. Counselors and EC Assistant Principal meet with EC students for

advisement sessions on an on-going basis to monitor student progress during the school semester. Using the data reports, the school is able to cross reference and confirm and update grades and cumulative hours for dual credit on student High School transcripts.

Narratives: Advanced Academics

Advanced Academics

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

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?

At Edcouch-Elsa ISD one challenge our school faces is acquiring teachers that possess a Master's degree in specific content areas. In order for high school teachers to teach a dual course they must have a Master's Degree in the field of study. If a teacher has a master's degree they can apply with STC to become an adjunct STC professor after going through the interviewing and certification process. There is on-going professional development through the IHE for all dual and adjunct professors throughout the school year. The IHE also provides curriculum support, frequent visits from department chairs and classroom observations in person. The ECHS currently has only 2 high school teachers employed that are also adjunct STC professors. Edcouch-Elsa Early College High School will continue to build capacity in this area as vacancies arise.

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
Individual Advisement for Students	Counselors and EC Administrator meet with students on an on-going basis to track and monitor student progress towards goals.
TSI Reading Language Arts (RLA) and Math Tutoring	Weekly TSI tutoring available for all students in order to target key targeted TSI skills.
College & HS Course Tutoring	Weekly tutoring available to students by our HS staff to assist with HS and Dual Courses. This is for students that may need additional assistance in Writing, Math and Science.
Individualized Instructional Plans	Each students has an instructional plan outlining courses needed to graduate Core Complete and/or earn an Associates degree.
Summer Bridge Camps	Incoming 9th grade cohort attend a 2 week summer camp that provides TSI Prep and College Readiness Instruction

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
Campus Parental Involvement Meetings	Parent meetings that keep parents and students engaged in students; academic progress and campus instructional programs available
Family FAFSA Night	Parents and students attend FAFSA night where our College and Career Specialist, college staff and campus counselors provide parents assistance with financial aid applications
College 101 Parent Meetings	Parent and student meetings where parents receive an overview of our campus dual enrollment program and TSI Testing requirements.
Character Strong- Social Emotional Classroom Instruction	Teachers and Counselors provide students with Character Strong topics and instruction to support social emotional needs of our students.
College Success Class for all 9th graders	All 9th grade students enroll in College Success class that provides TSI prep, Dual Enrollment overview and College Readiness Awareness
A team of Campus Counselors and School Social Workers accessible to students	Provide counseling services and one-on-one sessions with students to meet their social emotional needs

Activity	Description

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

The Edcouch-Elsa Early College High School uses the access, achievement and attainment data to continue to improve our instructional program and to ensure student success. As for ACCESS (Benchmark 1) – we ensure that we recruit our target populations such as At-Risk and Economically Disadvantaged 9-12 students in order to meet all required OBM's for Access. As for ACHIEVEMENT (Benchmark 5) – we ensure that EC students are TSI ready by meeting passing standards for Reading, Writing and Math TSI assessments in order to begin the dual enrollment program. As for ATTAINMENT (Benchmark 4) – we ensure that our students continue to make sufficient progress, we monitor student progress and we aim to ensure students are on track to meet their goal of earning at least 42 college hours and ultimately earn their Associates degree. The E-E Early College HS provides instructional support systems to ensure academic success.

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
#1 Target Population	When recruiting, it is critical that we engage and attract our at risk student population. We schedule 8th grade group presentations in order to provide EC awareness and to inform all students of the benefits in joining the EC program.
#4 Curriculum Support	Embed TSI and STAAR tested skills and standards into weekly lessons and tutorials to help students meet passing standards. We implement updated TSIA 2.0 resources during weekly TSI tutorials. Our ELA and Math teams work closely with our new ELA and Math Literacy Coaches to align curriculum and instruction.
#5 Academic Rigor and Readiness	Continue to provide professional development for teachers in order to engage students in a more rigorous and college ready curriculum. Implementation of HQIM to ensure critical thinking and rigor.

Narratives: Benchmark Products

Benchmark Products

On this page, you must provide a hyperlink to the location where your digital products corresponding to the product and activities that are required to be posted by the first day of serving students. Enter the hyperlink here. Hyperlinks must be entered with the fully qualified URL including "HTTP://" or "HTTPS://".

https://www.eeisd.org/o/eehs/page/early-college