



Stephen R. Mahoney, Executive Principal  
Meghan Harrison, Academy and Advanced Learning Coordinator  
Katelyn Fenn, School Counselor and Department Head

---

## Family Information Sheet

### YOUR STUDENT CAN BE PART OF THE HOLYOKE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM – WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

- Your student can be a part of an awesome program! Over the course of their sophomore, junior, and senior years in high school, they will graduate high school *AND* earn 15 college credits!
- It's free! That's right...they'll get 15 college credits while they are in high school. That's 25% of an Associates' Degree – FOR FREE!

### MY STUDENT CAN BE A COLLEGE STUDENT AND A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT?

- That's right! Your student is a student at Holyoke High School and at Holyoke Community College. They have a student ID for both, and can use the HS and college facilities!

### THEY WILL TAKE A COLLEGE COURSE AS A SOPHOMORE?

- That's right! They will take one college course during the spring semester of sophomore year. This course will be part of their HHS schedule. A college professor will come to HHS to teach the class two days a week (on Mondays and Fridays). Their HHS teacher will be in the class too!
- Their college course will be linked to their HS Academy:
  - CGS Academy = Introduction to Criminal Justice
  - ELS Academy = Ethics
  - PMA Academy = Mass Communications
- We know it's a big leap to take a college course as a sophomore. So, your student will also have an early college preparation course for the fall semester to prepare them. That prep course will continue to meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week to give them tutoring and other support.

### WILL THEY TAKE MORE COLLEGE COURSES?

- Yes! In their junior year they'll take one college course each semester, and as a senior they'll take two more college course – one each semester.
- As juniors and seniors they will go to HCC and take college courses with college students.
- They will receive a PVTa bus pass to get to and from HCC.
- They will have access to all HCC facilities including the library, gym, and tutor center just like all HCC students.
- They will also receive tutoring support during their junior and senior years by HCC professional tutors.
- By the time they graduate, they'll have 15 college credits!!



*"A pathway for every student"*



### WHAT CAN I DO TO GET MY STUDENT INTO THIS AWESOME PROGRAM?

- Fill out and return an application as soon as possible.
  - You can get an application from your student's school counselor, Early College Coordinator Meghan Harrison ([mharrison@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:mharrison@hps.holyoke.ma.us)) or on our HHS website at <https://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/early-college-program/>
  - **Applications are due March 20.**
- Attend one of our 2019 Family Information Sessions to be held in the Holyoke High School North Campus Cafeteria.
  - Session 1: Monday March 11th from 5-6pm
  - Session 2: Tuesday March 12th from 8:00-9:00am & 2:15-3:15pm

### HOW MANY STUDENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED INTO THIS PROGRAM?

- 80 students will be accepted to be part of this program for school year 2019-2020.
- If we have more than 80 applicants a blind lottery will be held and students not selected will be put on a waitlist.

### WHO CAN I TALK WITH TO GET MORE INFORMATION OR HELP FOR MY STUDENT?

- Your student's school counselor
- Meghan Harrison, Early College Program Coordinator at [mharrison@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:mharrison@hps.holyoke.ma.us)
- Holyoke High, 534-2020 main number, ask for the teacher, Early College Counselor Kate Fenn, or Meghan Harrison ext. 1113

We are so excited for your students to have the opportunity to be part of the Holyoke Early College Program. On behalf of our teachers, counselors, and administrators at Holyoke High School and our awesome partners at Holyoke Community College, I thank you for sending us such great kids!

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Mahoney  
Executive Principal  
Holyoke High School



*"A pathway for every student"*