

Thoughts for consideration:

- Early college programs are entering a rapid stage of growth. To what do you attribute this growth? What does this mean for your Institute of Higher Education (IHE) partner?
- There are many Early College initiatives. What is the best fit for your school, program, IHE, and student population?
- "The ceiling is the roof." Or is it? What is the next level for your school and IHE?
 - Expansion
 - Sustainability
 - Human and Fiscal Resources
 - Credit Access and Innovation

Early College as a Force for Equity in the Post-Pandemic Era

- This discussion paper highlights the following:
 - Early College significantly increases the likelihood that students will pursue higher education without interruption.
 - Early College students are attending four-year institutions at higher rates.
 - Early College produces outsized post-secondary enrollment gains for students of color.
 - Early College has provided a buffer to the serious disruptions caused by the pandemic.
 - Through the pandemic, Early College students are persevering in college at higher rates than their peers.
 - Many Early Colleges have built pathways to careers in advanced industries.



Longitudinal Data (Pre-Covid)

- Early college students earned more college credits in high school and were more likely to enroll in postsecondary education.
- Early college students were more likely to earn a postsecondary credential.

Impact on Postsecondary Credentials

	Adjusted Treatment Mean	Control Mean	Adjusted Impact, ITT estimate
% Attainment of any postsecondary credential by eight years after 9 th grade (N=1671 students)	37.0	22.2	I4.8*
% Attainment of associate degree	28.4	8.8	19.6*
% Attainment of technical credential	2.2	3.0	-0.8
% Attainment of Bachelor's degree	18.1	12.8	5.3*

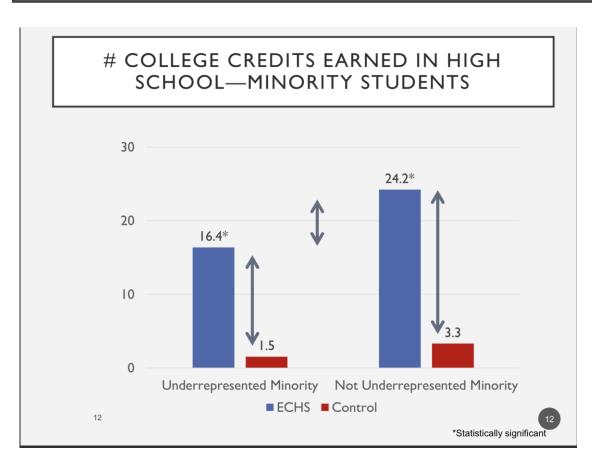
^{*}Statistically significant

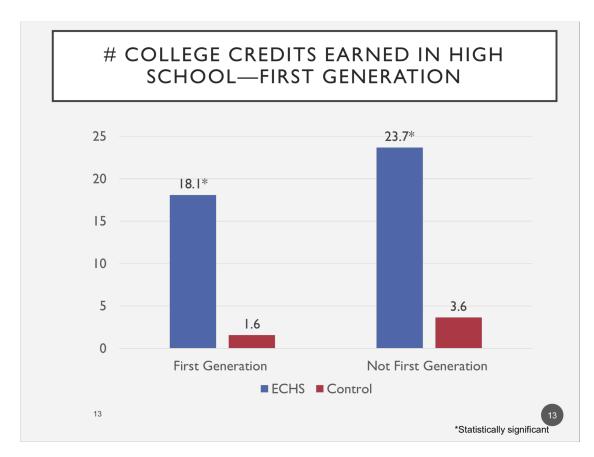
Impact on Postsecondary Enrollment: Full Sample

Percentage of students ever enrolled in postsecondary education				
	Adjusted Treatment Mean	Unadjusted Control Mean	Impact Estimate	
% Ever enrolled in postsecondary education (through six years after 9 th grade) (N=4053)	89.9%	74.5%	15.4%*	
% Ever enrolled in 2-year institution	83.9	53.8	30.1*	
% Ever enrolled in 4-year institution	41.4	35.9	5.5*	

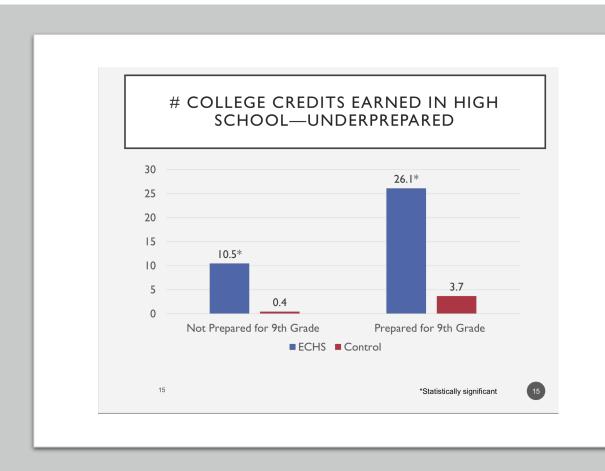
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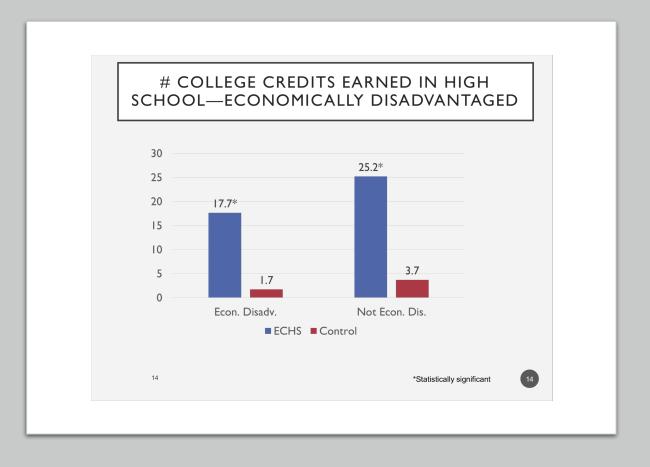
The Impact- Longitudinal Data





The Impact- Longitudinal Data





Why does that matter?

Early College guiding principles present a cycle of support:



1. Equitable Access

prioritizing underrepresented students in higher education



4. Connection to Career

through workplace and experiential learning experiences



2. Guided Academic Pathways

that are well integrated and aligned with college and career



5. Effective Partnerships

between high schools and colleges



3. Enhanced Student Support

in both academics and advising

https://www.maearlycollege.com/guiding-principles/

What is your strategy for Early College improvement, innovation, and sustainability?

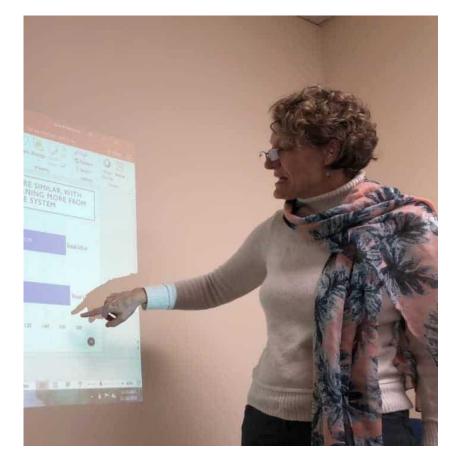
- Infrastructure
- Staffing
- Outreach
- Recruitment
- Voice (student, parent, personnel)
- Data-informed decision-making
- Sustainable strategy creation
- Purpose and progress



From an expert...Dr. Edmunds writes:

The examination of the early college model gets at a bigger question of how to open postsecondary opportunities for more students, particularly those who have barriers in their way.

"For me, it becomes an equity issue," Edmunds said. "Because at this point, the students who are able to go to college are those who already have the advantages. They have parents who already have gone to college in the past. They have incomes that can support them ... They have all the sort of cultural capital, social capital, and monetary capital that enable them to take it on. And if the postsecondary education becomes this new default that we expect for everybody, and the only people that are really able to take advantage of that are people that already have advantages, well then what does that mean? That means that our gap continues to widen."



You are changing lives.

- Be encouraged, Early College:
 - Provides opportunities for the historically resilient to experience success
 - Changes life outcomes for those engaged
 - Promotes equity and access with exposure to various careers
 - Increases positive attitudes towards school and school outcomes
 - Makes college education accessible with positive longterm outcomes related to college persistence (2 or 4-year institution and post high school graduation certifications)
 - Exposes students and families to planning for life beyond high school
 - Trains students in self-advocacy and other soft skills
 - Provides educational options for families
 - Transitions traditional school support to a broader scale (think ELL, 504, IEP...)





DESE Fall 2022 Early College Convening

Let's continue to move forward the work.

