

# Early College Access Program (ECAP) Information Session

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ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Overview Of Session

## Part 1

- What is ECAP and what are the benefits?
- Eligibility, costs & discounts, and steps to enroll



## Part 2

- Goal-setting, course selection, placement, and registration

## Part 3

- Expectations, supports, and getting Riverhawk Ready!

# What is the Early College Access Program (ECAP)?

A way for eligible high school students to take Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) classes and earn college credit while still enrolled in high school.



# Why ECAP?

What are your interests and goals?

- Training for a job after high school?
- Progress toward an Associate's Degree?
- Credits toward a Bachelor's Degree?



*Save time and money!*



# Where? At Broadneck

## Signature Program Courses

- Introduction to Drone Technology
- Restoration Ecology
- Student Success Seminar

## Early Childhood Education/Child Care Services program

- Complete program and pass a proficiency test

More info at [aacc.edu/ecap](https://aacc.edu/ecap)



# Where? At AACC

- Arnold Campus (pictured)
- Glen Burnie Town Center  
*(under renovation 2025-2026)*
- Arundel Mills
- Online (synchronous & asynchronous)



# Am I Eligible To Take College Classes?



- Be age 16 or older (*younger if Gifted & Talented*)
- Meet course prerequisites, if any

See [aacc.edu/ecap](https://aacc.edu/ecap) for complete eligibility details.

# Am I Eligible For Free Classes?

**11th or 12th grade, College & Career Ready (CCR), any GPA**

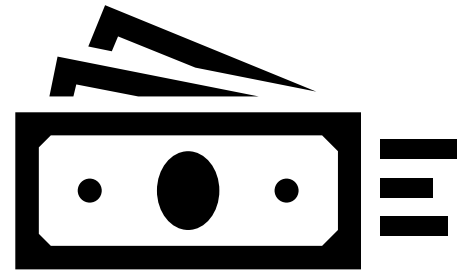
– 4 free courses per academic year\*

**11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade, NOT CCR but with unweighted 3.0 GPA**

– 1 free course per semester (2 per year)

**11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade with unweighted 2.0**

– Take Signature Program courses for free



*\* Academic year is fall → spring → summer (but not after graduation)*

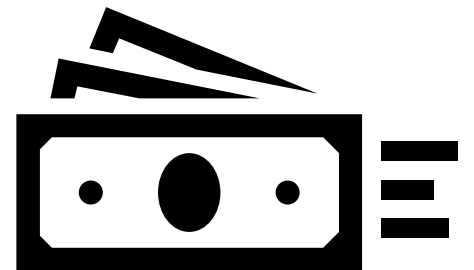
*See full details at [aacps.org/ecap](https://aacps.org/ecap), and talk to your school counselor to confirm your eligibility.*



# Am I Eligible For a Discount?

- If you are **not** eligible for free classes or you want to take additional courses, the college offers a 25% tuition discount for credit classes.
- [Maryland Public High School Tuition Discount Request Form](#)
- With the discount, a regular 3-credit class will cost approximately \$377 (still much less expensive than at 4-year colleges)
- See [aacc.edu/ecap](http://aacc.edu/ecap) for details.

*NOTE: Tuition discounts depend on timely submission and approval of the discount form.*



# When to Take Classes?

- 12<sup>th</sup> grade is easiest if you have a shortened schedule  
– make the most of your time!
- 11<sup>th</sup> grade if you have time to do **more** than your full schedule of high school classes\*

\*Note: AACPS will **pay** for classes only during

- 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- Summer between 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>
- 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> for Gifted & Talented only



# Steps to Enroll

**Review criteria and meet with your school counselor. Then...**

1. [Apply to AACC](#) as a “nondegree dual enrollment” student (credit programs only) and activate your MyAACC account
2. Look for classes based your [major/program](#), or get advised
3. Check your [eligibility](#) – take placement tests if needed
4. Submit [ECAP form/Funding Request](#) for approval.
5. Register for classes through the [MyAACC portal](#) (credit) or at [aacc.edu/noncredit](https://aacc.edu/noncredit)



# ECAP Forms: AACPS

- [Electronic ECAP Funding Request Form](#) linked on AACPS website
  - Check with your counselor to see if you are eligible for free classes
  - Written and video directions at [aacps.org/ecap](http://aacps.org/ecap)
  - Know the course you want before completing form.
- [Maryland Public High School Tuition Discount Request Form](#) (to request a 25% tuition discount for credit classes that are not covered by AACPS)



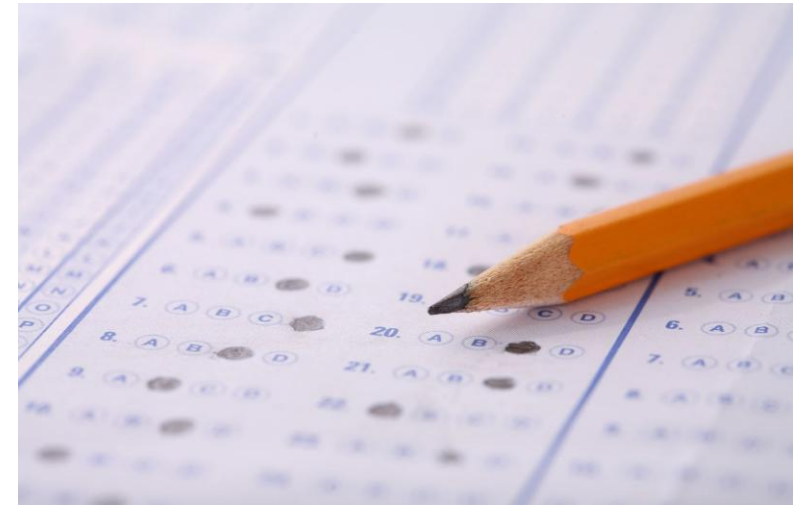


# Review #1

1. Who handles eligibility for FREE college classes?
  - A. AACPS (the school system)
  - B. AACCC (the college)

Answer: **A**

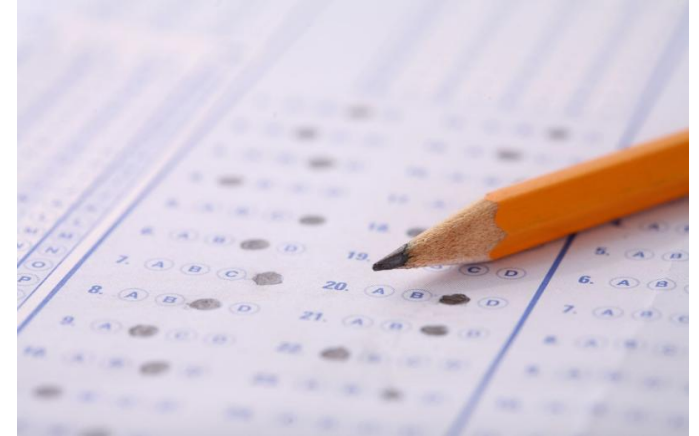
*See [aacps.org/ecap](http://aacps.org/ecap) for details.*



# Review #2

**TRUE or FALSE?**

You will know you have successfully registered for classes when your ECAP Funding Request is approved.



Answer: **FALSE**

*The ECAP Funding Request approves your funding, but you must register for your class through your college account, MyAACC.*



# Questions Before Part 2?

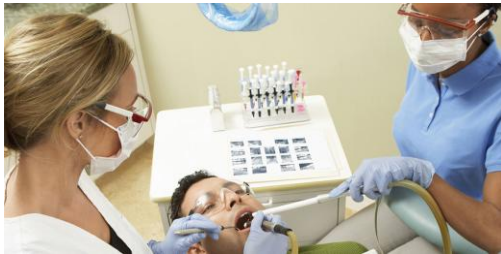


## Up Next:

- Course Selection Factors
  - Your Goals & Interests
  - Dual Credit Option
  - Schedules and Course Formats
  - Course Eligibility
- Registration

# Is Job Training Your Goal?

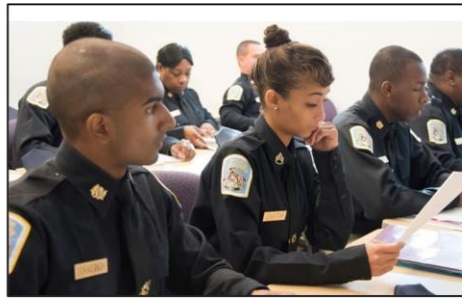
- Noncredit/Workforce classes to prepare for a particular job.
- 60+ Options for job training, certifications, licenses, and apprenticeships
- [Programs & Courses](#) → Job Training, Professional Skills, & Certifications





# Is Your Goal a College Degree?

- 2-year **Associate's Degree** that will lead straight into a career.
- 2-year **Transfer Associate's Degree** to prepare you to complete your Bachelor's Degree at a 4-year college or university
- Custom **Transfer Studies Degree**
- 160+ options for degrees and credit certificates under [Programs & Courses](#) →  
Browse Credit Fields of Interest



# Will Your Classes Transfer?

- AACC classes transfer well to many public and private 4-year colleges & universities in Maryland and out of state
- If you have specific colleges in mind, check before you register to be sure that your credits will transfer
- See our Transfer Services page for more information - transfer advising is available

[aacc.edu/transfer](https://aacc.edu/transfer)



# Uncertain About Your Goal?

1. Explore <https://www.mynextmove.org/>
2. Choose from [General Education Requirements](#)
3. Once you are enrolled at AACCC, you may make a personal appointment at the Career Counseling Office for more guidance.

**Your goal may change, but start with some direction!**



# Course Eligibility and Placement

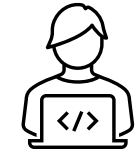
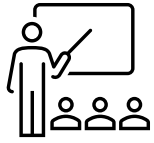
- Each course description will include its prerequisites.
- Ways to determine placement:
  - Accuplacer tests for English and/or Math
  - SAT/ACT scores
  - High School GPA ***after 11<sup>th</sup> grade*** (along with math grades, for math placement)
- Send scores and/or transcript to [records@aacc.edu](mailto:records@aacc.edu)



Details at [aacc.edu/placement](https://aacc.edu/placement)



# Ways to Take Courses



- In Person on Campus
- Online Synchronous (meetings by Zoom)
- Online (assignment deadlines but no class meetings)
  - Some classes are hybrid (combinations of the above modes)
  - ***Make sure the class times and locations fit with the rest of your school schedule!***



# Sample Course Description in MyAACC

SOC-111 Introduction to Sociology (3 Credits)

→ [Add Course to Plan](#)

Learn sociological principles and perspectives as a way of understanding everyday social life. Study meanings and functions of various roles in historical and contemporary societies. Evaluate causes, consequences and comparisons of social hierarchies. Prerequisite: Eligibility for ENG 101/ENG 101A. Note: Also offered as SOC 111H; credit is not given for both SOC 111 and SOC 111H.

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**Requisites:**  
Eligibility for college level English. Email documentation (i.e., ACT, SAT, or AP scores, high school/college transcripts) or questions to records@aacc.edu. -Must be completed prior to taking this course. See Registration Permissions tab. If approved, you may ignore this warning.


**Locations:**  
Main Campus, Glen Burnie Town Center, AACC at Arundel Mills, Online, Off Campus

**Offered:**  
Offered in All Terms

[View Sections Offered for SOC-111](#) ←



- Includes prerequisite of Eligibility for ENG 101/101A
- “Add Course” for planning purposes
- “View Sections” to see actual times, dates, and formats of available sections.

# Example: In-Person, 15 Weeks

<div><u>SOC-111-009</u> <b>D</b> Introduction to Sociology</div> <div>Add Section to Registration Cart</div>			
Seats 	Times	Locations	Instructors
30 / 0 / 30 / 0	M/W 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM <u>1/21/2026 - 5/17/2026</u>	Main Campus, Careers Center 344 Lecture	Ono, T ( <b>Lecture</b> )

- In-person class meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays
- 15 weeks (full semester)
- Main Campus, Arnold
- Seats: **30 available**/0 taken/30 capacity/0 waitlisted

# Example: Online Synchronous, 13 Weeks

<div><u>SOC-111-021</u> </div> <div>Introduction to Sociology</div> <div>Runs from 2/3/2026 - 5/17/2026</div>				<a href="#">Add Section to Registration Cart</a>	
Seats 		Times	Locations	Instructors	
<b>25 / 0 / 25 /</b> <b>0</b>		T/Th 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM <u>2/3/2026 - 5/17/2026</u>	Online, Online Synchronous OL Online Courses		

- Class meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- 13 weeks (nearly full semester)
- Meetings on computer by Zoom
- 25 seats available



# Example: Online, 8 Weeks

SOC-111-214



Introduction to Sociology

Runs from 3/23/2026 - 5/17/2026

Add Section to Registration Cart

Seats ⓘ	Times	Locations	Instructors
25 / 0 / 25 / 0	<u>3/23/2026 - 5/17/2026</u>	Online Online Courses	Krueger, K ( <b>Online Courses</b> )

- 8 weeks (VERY compressed)
- No class meetings – log in to Canvas and work independently
- Meet assignment deadlines
- Requires great level of motivation and time management
- 25 seats available

# Dual Enrollment vs. Dual Credit

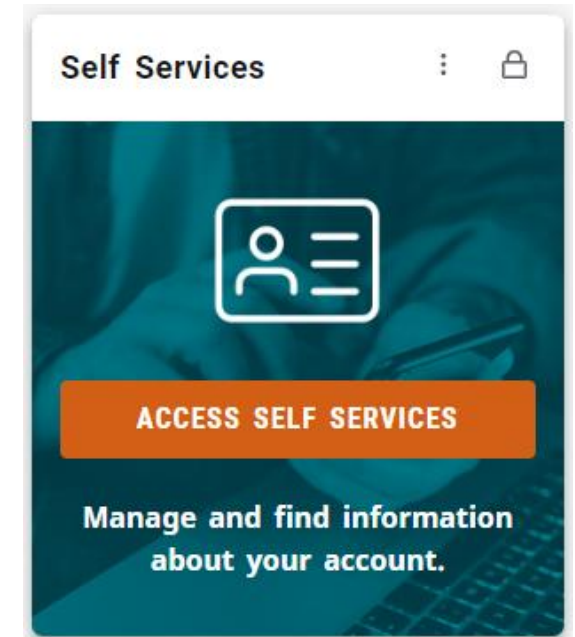
- Most AACC credit courses and many noncredit/job training courses are eligible for ECAP funding – these are all considered “**dual enrollment.**”
- Some classes have a “**dual credit**” option – approved as equivalent to specific AACPS classes (dual credit must be approved by counselor & principal).
- Classes taken for dual credit are given the same quality point in your weighted GPA as AP & IB.

See [aacps.org/ecap](https://aacps.org/ecap) for more information.



# Registration Instructions (Credit Classes)

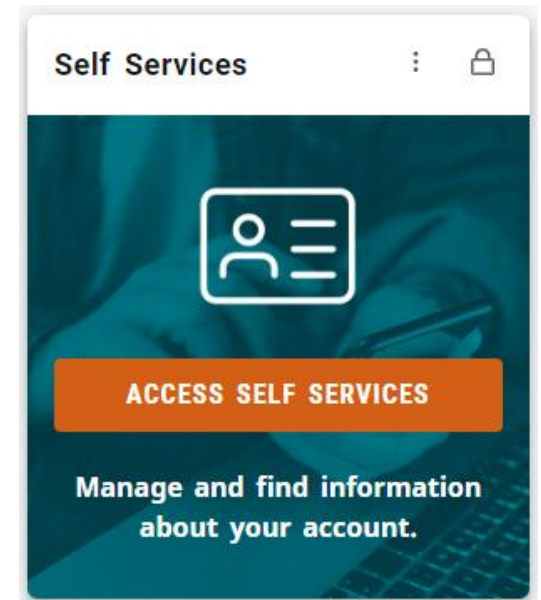
1. Activate your [MyAACC account](#)
2. Access Self Services
3. Confirm your demographics
4. Submit your location (each term)
5. Select classes and register



Details here: [Student Planning, Scheduling & Registration Guides | Rise 360](#)

# Registration Reminders

- **MyAACC** account info is emailed to you after you apply – contact the Technical Service Desk at 410-777-4357 if you need help with access.
- The ECAP Application/Funding Request DOES NOT register you for classes.
- If you register for a course without an approved ECAP Funding Request, ECAP Form, or Tuition Discount Form, you will be responsible for paying your full tuition and fees bill.
- Check your Outlook Email **regularly** through MyAACC or the Outlook app.



# Registering for Noncredit/Job Training Classes

- Register for a [Job Training Info Session](#)

OR

- Contact a [Success Coach](#)
- If eligible for ECAP, submit ECAP form to the cashier first.



See full registration instructions at [www.aacc.edu/noncredit](http://www.aacc.edu/noncredit)



# Your Bill

- As soon as you register, you will be billed, unless your [AACPS ECAP Funding Request](#) has already been approved and received by the college.
- If payment arrangements have not been made, **you will be dropped** from your classes the following Monday after you register.
- View your bill in your [MyAACC account](#) → Self Services → Student Finance

AACC Self Services		
<a href="#">Financial Information</a> • <a href="#">Student Finance</a> • <a href="#">Account Summary</a>		
Account Summary		
View a summary of your account		
Account Overview		
Amount Overdue	\$0.00	
Total Amount Due	\$0.00	<a href="#">Make a Payment</a>
Total Account Balance	\$0.00	<a href="#">Account Activity</a>

# Support for Registration

**Need individual help with registration?**

## **Spring 2026:**

- Attend a [Personal Enrollment Session](#)
  - 30-minute appointments on selected Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-6:00 p.m. (starting again in January)
- [Make an appointment](#) with Jen Sheppard
- Come into the [Admissions Office](#) to meet with another available Admissions Officer

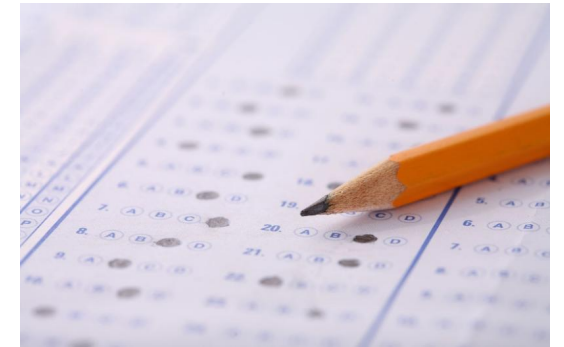
## **Fall 2026:**

- Watch for information about Broadneck's Personal Registration Day (PRD)!



# Review #3

When choosing a section of the course that you want to take, which would be more difficult – an 8-week section or a 15-week section?



Answer: **8-week**

*All the same material compressed into a shorter time period.  
MANY assignments can be due each week.*

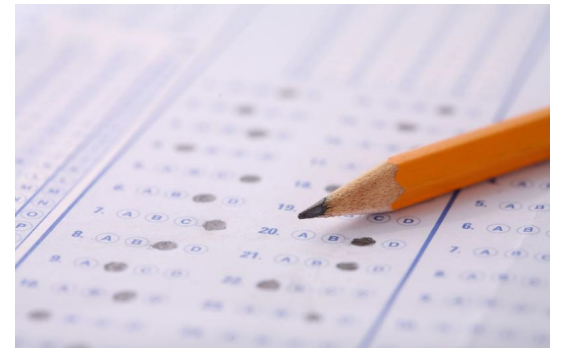
# Review #4

How can you decide what course to take?

- A. Choose from General Education Requirements
- B. Look at requirements for your major/program
- C. Attend a Personal Enrollment Session or a Personal Registration Day
- D. Contact Dual Enrollment Admissions Officer Jen Sheppard

Answer:

**Any/All of the above!**





# Questions Before Part 3?



## Up Next:

- Expectations
- Support
- Campus Opportunities
- Getting Ready



# HOW ARE COLLEGE CLASSES DIFFERENT?

- More study time! Plan for 6-9 hours per week ***outside of class time*** for a full-semester class (way more for 13- or 8-week classes)
- Deadlines are firm
- Grading: no “re-do’s” – understand the work and do your best
- Syllabus is your guide



[High School vs. College - Anne Arundel Community College \(aacc.edu\)](https://aacc.edu)

# OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

- College calendar
- Attendance is required
- Communication with your professor
- Drop/withdrawal deadlines
- IEPs/504 plans do not extend to AACC, but you may request accommodations



[High School vs. College - Anne Arundel Community College \(aacc.edu\)](https://aacc.edu)

# ECAP Success Guide

Differences between high school and college courses  
Short YouTube videos with practical tips for success



- Course selection
- MyAACC vs Canvas
- Tips for Time Management
- Success in Online Courses
- Tutoring
- Withdrawing
- Tips from Faculty
- Disability Support Services

# Student Support Services & Facilities

See [Student Resources](#) & [Campus Life](#) for Details



- Advising
- Tutoring
- Virtual Writing Center
- Health & Wellness Center
- Career Services
- Disability Support Services
- Library
- Dining Hall



# Get Involved as an AACC Student!

- Join clubs and organizations, even Student Government!
- Attend performances, sports, etc.!
- Research opportunities





# Just to Recap: How to Get Started

**Review criteria and meet with your school counselor. Then...**

1. [Apply to AACC](#) as a “nondegree dual enrollment” student (credit programs only) and activate your MyAACC account
  2. Look for classes based your [major/program](#), or get advised
  3. Check your [eligibility](#) – take placement tests if needed
  4. Submit [ECAP form/Funding Request](#) for approval
  5. Register for classes through the [MyAACC portal](#) (credit) or at [aacc.edu/noncredit](#)
- **Note: Steps 2-5 must be completed each semester/term.**
  - **See detailed instructions here: [www.aacc.edu/ecap](#)**



# Ways to Get Ready



Take a  
**Campus Tour!**



Online or In Person  
**Attend Orientation!**

# Upcoming Dates

- January 21: Spring classes start
- March 11: Registration for Summer begins
- April 8: Registration for Fall begins
- Spring 2026: Counselors will advertise Accuplacer testing and Personal Registration Days (PRD's) to get ready for summer and fall registration





# My Contact Information



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*~ hablo español ~*



# AACC

# THANK YOU!