



# The Early College of Arvada

A college preparatory school teaching grades 6-12

## What people are saying...

*"My talents were encouraged at ECA. I accomplished things I never knew were possible."*

~ Lauren Beaugh, ECA 2014;  
CU-Boulder, Presidential  
Leadership Class, Journalism  
& International Affairs

*"ECA is what school should be. It is home and it is the place that will bring out your very best."*

~ Eglén Galindo, ECA 2015,  
Daniels Scholar; Stanford  
University, Physics & Engineering

*"The teachers, students, and staff at ECA form a family. This family never gives up on you."*

~ Misha White, ECA 2014, Daniels  
Scholar; Arizona State University,  
Non-Profit Management

**Early College of Arvada (ECA)** is a free public charter school serving grades 6-12. ECA partners with University of Colorado Denver to provide students the opportunity to begin their college journeys in a small and supportive community-based school. ECA is run by a staff of passionate and highly engaged educators who are deeply committed to our students and the mission of the school. ECA students may earn up to 59 free college credits by the time they graduate.

**Mission.** The mission of the Early College of Arvada is to prepare a diverse student body for success in college and beyond through the combination of a rigorous college preparatory education, a supportive and empowering school community, and multiple opportunities for community service, personal growth, and leadership development. ECA students will have the opportunity to earn up to 59 free college credits during high school. Students graduate with advanced standing in higher education and essential skills in community leadership, social justice, and global citizenship, well prepared for the next stages of their remarkable journeys.

### Goals. ECA's 5 R's

- To engage students in **rigorous** and **relevant** curriculum at the middle school, high school and college level
- To maintain small class sizes (<25:1) to allow the formation of positive **relationships** between students and staff
- To empower a diverse population of students to achieve independence, dignity, and **respect**
- To encourage students to take **responsibility** for their education and to be **responsible** members of their communities

### NOW ENROLLING FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

ECA is looking for families and students that share our commitment to the mission of our school. If you are interested in enrolling please visit [ecarvada.org](http://ecarvada.org), call **720-473-4400** to set up a tour, or attend one of our open houses from 8 am to 7 pm on 2/16, 3/15, 4/19, or 5/11.



Learn more at [ecarvada.org](http://ecarvada.org) or call 720-473-4400  
4905 W 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Arvada CO



## What is an Early College?

An early college focuses on preparing students for a successful transition to college by allowing students to earn college credit while still in high school

## What are the benefits of an Early College

Nearly two decades of research on early college programs show that students that attend an early college...

1. Have higher high school graduation rates
2. Have higher college continuation rates
3. Have higher GPA's in college
4. Are more likely to complete a four-year college degree

## Our Staff

The Early College of Arvada has an amazing staff of teachers that are highly dedicated to the mission of the school and the success of our students and deeply passionate about their fields of study. The mission of the school and the unique opportunities that we offer to teachers helps us to attract and retain a distinctly highly qualified staff. We have a high percentage of teachers with doctoral and masters level education who are qualified to teach our college level courses. The staff culture is incredibly cohesive and collaborative with teachers involved extensively in the leadership of the school.

## Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to provide students with rigorous and engaging academic experiences that will prepare them for the challenges of college level coursework two years earlier than the typical secondary program. While still predicated on the Colorado content standards, our course outcomes are aligned for earlier entry into college level coursework. In addition, we infuse a set of college readiness standards into all of our courses to help prepare students for success in college and beyond.

## School Culture and Community

ECA has always prided itself in being a small community-based school. Our focus on relationship building helps us to build a strong community that feels more like a family than a school. In a safe and positive environment, students can build strong friendships and teachers can really connect with students. ECA embraces a set of ethical values grouped under the themes of "Work, Wisdom, and Wonder." This values guide our actions and imbue all aspects of our school culture. Our nine ethical values include Courage and Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility, Empathy and Compassion, Spirit and Attitude, Diversity, Honesty and Integrity, Appreciation and Gratitude

## Our Authorizer- The Charter School Institute

The Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI) is the state's only non-district charter school authorizer. Currently, the Institute authorizes 39 Colorado charter schools across Colorado. The mission of the Charter School Institute shall be to foster high-quality public school choices offered through Institute charter schools that deliver rigorous academic content and high academic performance in a safe environment and on par with the highest performing schools.

## Our History

ECA was founded in 2008 by a group of seven educators passionate about the early college mission. We opened our doors that first year with around 60 freshman and sophomores interested in getting a head start on their college careers. In 2010 we expanded the school to include grades 6-8. Our school community continues to grow and we now serve 350 students in grades 6-12.

