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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL
94-1211 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY
WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

2026-2027 School Year **unless noted, Consent Form to cover Summer26, Fall26, & Spring27semesters ** *(rev. 1.27.26)*

RE: Waipahu High School Early College Consent Form

To the Parent/Guardian,

Congratulations! This letter is to inform you that your child has expressed an interest in participating in the Waipahu High School (WHS) Early College program. Early College is a program that allows high school students to enroll in college classes and earn credit toward high school graduation and a college Associate degree. The classes will be held during the school day, at the end of the school day, and on some occasions on the weekends at WHS and occasionally at a nearby University of Hawai‘i (UH) system campus.

Final registration into the Early College class is based on 1) WHS Early College efforts to give all qualified applicants a class, 2) class availability and enrollment capacity, 3) priority registration status [Consistent with most universities and colleges, seniors are granted priority registration status, in addition to Early College students, who need to meet high school graduation requirements through completion of a dual credit, Early College class, honors seeking students, and Olympian degree-seeking students.], 4) EdReady Placement cutoff scores and course prerequisites, and 4) returning student status. **When student demand for a course exceeds the number of available seats and <u>after</u> all students with priority registration status have secured their seat, students who represent the excess demand will be placed in a fair and equitable waitlist based on the criteria outlined above.** Students who are not able to be registered for an Early College class that semester may be given priority status the following term.

The WHS Early College program adheres to the Department of Education (DOE)/UH Memorandum of Agreement, UH and UH Community College (UHCC) admissions criteria, regulations and policies of each respective institution of higher education (IHE) partner. Accordingly, the following guidelines articulate the admissions criteria:

1. UHCC applicants need a minimum 2.0 grade point average (GPA) or higher.
2. UH West Oahu & UH Manoa Outreach College applicants need a minimum 2.7 GPA or higher.
3. Application to Early College is open to all students with consent of the principal, parent/guardian and counselor.
4. Olympians and upperclassmen may have "priority" registration if all procedures are followed. The goal is for each graduating senior to accrue the maximum number of college credits toward a college degree
5. (a) All **UH West Oahu & UH Manoa Outreach College applicants** or students must complete: 1) STEP 1, under the "Apply Now" section at the following website: (waipahuhs-earlycollege.org), 2) Early College Dual Credit/Running Start application, 3) UH online application, 4) Parent Consent Form, and 5) official high school transcript.
6. (b) All **UH Community College applicants** or students must complete: 1) STEP 1, under the "Apply Now" section at the following website: (waipahuhs-earlycollege.org), 2) Early College Dual Credit/Running Start Application, 3) UH online application for the respective UH campus course is offered, 4) Parent Consent Form.
7. Satisfactory EdReady Placement that meets or exceeds the prerequisite for the course.
8. All NEW students must complete EdReady English and attain a score of 75. If student is registering for a math course, student must complete EdReady Math Path 2 assessment and attain a score of 72.

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Continuous Notice of Non-Discrimination
The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) and its schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion in its programs and activities. Please direct inquiries regarding Department nondiscrimination policies as follows:

Civil Rights Compliance Branch, Hawaii State Department of Education, P.O. Box 2360, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804, (808) 586-3322 or relay CRCB@k12.hi.us, Beth Schimmelfennig, Director, Rhonda Wong, Compliance, Aaron Oandasan, Title VI, Toby Yamashiro, Title VII, Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX, Krysti Sukita, ADA/504

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2026-2027 School Year ***(rev. 1.27.26)***

By signing this agreement all parties understand and agree to the following:

1. **The UH and high school reserves the right to determine admission to the college and/or registration in classes**.
2. The parent/guardian and student understand that if the student does not successfully complete the Early College dual credit course(s), the student may not meet high school graduation requirements.
3. The student and/or parent/guardian may, when applicable, be responsible for consumable supplies, transportation, and other related educational expenses; notwithstanding, students will be informed of such expense in advance.
4. The parent/guardian and the student understand that the student is expected to fully participate in all course activities (including off-campus field trips), courses which may be held at the college, labs, and course content which may involve exposure to alternative viewpoints that may include material of an adult nature.
5. The parent/guardian and student understand that the Hawai‘i State DOE is not liable for the student's health and safety when the student has left the high school campus.
6. The high school is the final authority on high school graduation requirements. Your child must work closely with her/his high school counselor to ensure that graduation requirements are met. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that college course(s) completed as part of the Early College program will also meet high school graduation requirements. If your child transfers to a different high school, the dual credits accrued through Early College may or may not count toward meeting the graduation requirements of the new high school. If your child does not successfully complete the Early College course(s), he/she may not meet high school graduation requirements.
7. All Early College students have the same rights and responsibilities as any other UHCC student and must comply with the applicable UHCC or UH West Oahu Student Conduct Code, in addition to the high school behavioral expectations and school policies.
8. The student and parent/guardian gives permission for the UH West Oahu, UHM Outreach College, UHCC schools, and the high school to share and release application and registration information, student health records, UH ID numbers, Placement test scores, Free or Reduced Lunch status, ethnicity, ELL status, student survey data and grades to each respective authority.
9. The WHS Early College Program has limited seating capacity. Admission is based on first-come, first-serve and **FIRST to complete all** application documents.
10. **The UH/UHCC and high school may photograph, videotape, or otherwise record the student's first name, voice, and/or likeness. These recordings will be used exclusively for non-commercial, educational purposes, which may include, but not be limited to, distribution by print or digital media within or outside the state of Hawai‘i for the duration of the media**.
11. Early College students with documented disabilities must call 808-307-9575 ten weeks prior to the start of the first day of Early College instruction in order to have adequate lead time for accommodations.
12. Early College students must complete the weekly "temperature check" emails sent by the Tagnawa Tutors (Early College tutors). Students agree to keep open lines of communication with their assigned Tagnawa Tutors and/or EC Leadership Team for any support and advisement during the Early College Program.
13. Early College students must attend a mandatory Early College orientation offered prior to each semester. Students who miss the mandatory orientation session may be dropped from their Early College courses.
14. Early College students are provided detailed information on registration. If an Early College student registers for the wrong course or section, the student may incur an obligation to cover the tuition fee for enrolling in a non-Early College course.

With your signed consent, the student may apply and may be registered for an Early College class depending on the aforementioned criteria and funding. **Attendance is mandatory and will be taken for each class.** Should the student be registered for a course and fail to abide by the UH/UHCC and WHS policies, procedures and deadlines, the Principal or any designee reserves the right to disenroll the student for repeated tardiness, more than three (3) absences, violation of student conduct code and/or repeated failure to complete coursework. In such cases, or should the student fail to complete the course and earn college credit, the student will be responsible to pay the minimum tuition fee for the course (student will incur a financial obligation). Note: Running Start Courses are charged at a much higher tuition rate vs. Early College courses.

If there are any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact the Early College Director, Mrs. Eunice Fukunaga, at (808) 307-9545. For more information: https://www.waipahuhs-earlycollege.org

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date	Student Signature & Date
Printed Parent/Guardian Name	Printed Student Name

Things to Consider Before Applying for Dual Credit Programs

The decision to begin college early is an important one. It is important to consider each student's maturity level in making choices about educational options. Although a student may be academically prepared for college level coursework, s/he may find the demands of college extremely overwhelming. Student success requires motivated individuals who work independently, take initiative, have good study skills, and are able to responsibly complete assignments on-time throughout the semester.

Parents and students should give careful consideration to the appropriateness of the Early College program before enrolling. Students should always keep in mind that they are starting a permanent college transcript when they take any college class. High school and college advisors are available to discuss the many options available for early college access. Like any early access program, Early College has its own strengths and limitations:

Program Strengths	Program Limitations
• Students have the opportunity to take courses that may not be offered at their local high schools. • Academically prepared students have an opportunity to get a head start on taking college level courses and earning high school and college credits simultaneously. • Students have an opportunity to experience post-secondary education while in high school, easing the transition from high school to college and making future educational and career plans more realistic. • Students who have difficulty fitting into a traditional high school setting may flourish in a different educational setting. • Students and their families can reduce the cost of college. • In college, high school students gain maturity and knowledge through participation in upper level courses and the diversity of other college students.	• If your child transfers to another high school after earning Early College credits at WHS, the receiving institution has sole discretion as to whether or not the dual credit will be counted toward the high school graduation requirement. • Withdrawing from a course mid-semester could affect a student's high school graduation status. • Some academically qualified students may not be ready socially or emotionally for the college environment and may find the independence and speed of college classes overwhelming. • College schedules may conflict with high school classes or extracurricular activities (sports, drama, clubs, etc.), so careful planning must occur in order to avoid conflicts with family, work, and school activities. • The college academic calendar may operate differently from the high school academic calendar (holidays and vacation periods are often different). • Students are expected to attend classes at the college even though their high schools may not be in session.

What to Expect as a College Student

Once students begin attending college, they will be considered as "regular" college students. The faculty will expect the same level of classroom participation and quality of work from all students. Students will be expected to meet class deadlines, be prepared for class, ask questions, and conduct themselves as responsible adults. If students are having difficulty or need additional assistance, it is their responsibility to seek out the instructor. Instructors keep posted office hours when students can come to see them for help or discussion. Other things students can expect to encounter as college students are:

Class Pace: The academic pace of college classes is faster than in high school. For example, a high school math class that is taught in one year at the high school is taught in one semester at the college. There is little time for faculty to stop and review lessons for students who do not understand the material or who were absent from class. However, faculty members do encourage students to see them during their scheduled Office Hours for individual help.

Homework: Many college classes demand an average of 2 hours of homework for each hour of class time. Unlike high school, classroom time is not given to students for completing homework.

Class Size: Classes can vary in size from 10 to 30 students, with an average class size of about 25.

Attendance: It is the student's responsibility to attend and be prepared for class every day and meet all deadlines. Attendance is mandatory and absences may be excused if the student communicates with their course faculty, assigned Tagnawa tutor, (Early College tutor) and/or EC advisor.

Class Participation: This is an integral part of college and many faculty require students to participate in classroom discussions. Faculty will provide a syllabus at the beginning of the semester outlining their expectations. It is the student's responsibility to understand and follow through with these expectations.

Withdrawing/Dropping a Class: Withdrawing from a class may have serious implications on a student's high school graduation status. To withdraw from a class, students must first meet with their assigned Tagnawa Tutor (Early College tutor) and/or one of the members of the WHS EC Leadership Team. Many students believe that if they simply stop attending, they will be withdrawn from a course; this is NOT true, and students must officially withdraw by informing the proper Early College staff and completing the proper withdrawal forms/surveys.

Grade Reports: Grades are posted on "My UH Portal" following final exams. Each high school will receive grade reports for their Early College students and will, in turn, post these credits/grades on each student's high school transcript according to Department of Education guidelines. **Grades from all dual-credit courses taken at WHS will be posted on the student's official transcripts. If a student is taking a dual-credit course from a non-UH system school, it is the student's responsibility to submit a copy of the final grade report to the WHS Registrar and/or the WHS EC Leadership Team.

Academic Records: Students successfully completing Early College classes will receive both high school and college credit. Grades received become part of their permanent college transcript.

Academic Standards: The University of Hawai'i has an Academic Standards Policy. Students must maintain a 2.0 grade point average each semester. Students whose cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0 for any one semester may be placed on academic probation. Students may face dismissal from the college if they are academically deficient. In general, a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required for college graduation and federal financial aid.

Costs: Generally, college expenses (tuition, books, lab fees, transportation, etc.) are the responsibility of the Early College student; however, some students may be eligible for various types of financial assistance, such as the GEAR UP Hawai'i - Running Start Scholarship, McInerny Foundation Scholarship or other grant subsidies that may defray part or all of these expenses. Students should check with the Early College staff and/or UH Running Start counselors to see if any financial assistance is available.

Parent's Access to Student Records: It is the policy of the University of Hawai'i to regard Early College students as "regular college students," as such, Early College students are treated as adults. Colleges are not allowed to give information regarding a student's attendance or progress to parents without the student's written permission. In addition, faculty will not discuss the student's progress without written consent.

Transferring to Another College or University: College credits are transferable to all University of Hawai'i campuses, according to the guidelines of each institution. Students interested in attending private or out-of-state colleges should contact each institution on an individual basis for their policy on accepting Early College credits.