



School Profile

Mission Statement

Each student, regardless of background or skill level, will have the opportunity to pursue a growth mindset that will allow them to achieve mastery and to demonstrate they can succeed in school, in college, and in their chosen career.

No exceptions. No excuses.

School Information

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Our Community

Located in the city of Aurora, Colorado Early Colleges Aurora serves a diverse community including the entire geographic areas of Adams and Arapahoe counties and the northern and eastern portions of the Denver Metro area. We are under the authorization of the Charter School Institute, which authorizes 35 charter schools in the state, ranging from K-12th grades.

What is Colorado Early Colleges?

Colorado Early Colleges is a comprehensive, four-year public charter college preparatory high school that offers students the opportunity to earn an associate's degree while in high school. CEC is a bold approach, based on the principle that academic rigor, combined with the opportunity to save time and money, is a powerful motivator for students to work hard and meet serious intellectual challenges. CEC blends high school and college in a rigorous yet supportive program, accelerating the time it takes to complete a high school diploma and the first two years of college.

CECA as an Early College

CECA was founded in 2017 and welcomed its first students in the fall of the same year.

CECA started with 250 students in the 2017-2018 school year and is currently serving 570 students in the 2024-2025 school year.

*Students must earn an associate degree, postsecondary or industry certification or 60+ college credits in addition to meeting the high school graduation requirements to be awarded a CEC diploma (Class of 2022+)

Curriculum at CECA

The academic program is organized around the model of students earning their associate's degree or post-secondary/industry certification while in high school, for free. The school currently pays up to \$4,800 each year per full-time student, which covers students' tuition, fees, and required textbooks. Upon initial enrollment, every student takes the Accuplacer which determines placement into college prep or college level courses. Students that place into College Algebra (MAT 121), must have completed Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II before taking College Algebra. Students average about six high school courses a semester, which is all dependent upon a student's academic course load. For instance, a student who is completely college ready, might only take 3-4 college courses that add up to at least 12 credit hours but is still considered to be taking a full academic load (12 college credits). Every course on campus is on a semester schedule. Each high school (College Prep) class is 90 minutes. College Prep courses are 2.5 days per week, with the exception of our Construction CTE course which is 5 days a week. The college level courses, taught on the CECA campus, are also 90 min long and meet 2.5 days a week meeting the seat hours requirement set forth by the college (Community College of Aurora).

AURORA COURSES. Students take college courses on the CECA campus, and once they have exhausted the courses they need for their intended degree, they take the remainder of their courses at one of the local colleges that CECA partners with.

College Prep (High School) Program

College preparatory courses offered on the CECA campus during the 2023-2024 school year include:

- English 090 I and II
- English 095
- English 099
- Creative Writing I & II
- English Language Development
- Algebra I (090)
- Geometry
- Algebra II (099)
- Health Sciences
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Medical Terminology
- Astronomy
- Biology A and B
- Chemistry A and B
- Early and Modern U.S. History
- Early and Modern World History
- Geography
- 20th Century History
- Western Civilization
- Civics
- Spanish I & II
- Span for Heritage Speakers I, II, III & IV
- Span Lit I & II
- Career Exploration
- College and Career Readiness
- 2D Studio Art
- 3D Art
- Theater I & II
- Entrepreneurship
- Introduction to Aviation
- Aviation/Weather
- Drone Technology
- Introduction to Engineering
- Digital Electronics
- Robotics & Automated Systems
- Intro to Construction
- Intro to Electrical
- Digital Literacy
- Certification Lab
- Microsoft Applications
- Career Exploration
- College/Career Readiness

College preparatory course design:

- Rigorous high school level course work
- Semester based courses
- Highly Qualified teachers
- Prepares students for college-level course work quickly and efficiently
- Core classes fulfill college course prerequisites
- Designed to help students at all levels, including those who are academically ahead, right on track, or behind
- Tracks with the community college system by offering course content similar to their pre-college-level courses

College Program

College courses offered on the CECA campus during the 2023-2024 school year include:

- English Composition I and II (ENG 1021 & 1022)
- Creative Writing (ENG 2021)
- Introduction to Literature (LIT 1015)
- Literature of Women (LIT 2046)
- Ethnic Literature (LIT 2005)
- Public Speaking (COM 1150)
- Math for Liberal Arts (MAT 1240)
- College Algebra (MAT 1340)
- The Science of Biology w/ Lab (BIO 1005)
- American State and Local Government (PSC 1025)
- Intro to Pol Sci (PSC 2020)
- Intro to Criminal Justice (CRJ 1010)
- Intro to Macroeconomics (ECO 2001)
- Introduction to Sociology I & II (SOC 1001 & 1002)
- Contemporary Social Problems (SOC 2015)
- Family Dynamics (SOC 2005)
- History: US since Civil War (HIS 1220)
- Drawing I & II (ART 1201/1202)
- Painting (ART 1301)
- Ceramics (ART 1703)

College course design:

- Courses and grades are recorded both on CECA's high school transcript and on the college transcript from the institution providing the course.
- CECA employs college/university-approved professors
- College BRIDGE students attend CCA college courses on the CECA campus as part of CECA's normal school day in classes composed entirely of CECA students.
- College SELECT students attend college courses at area institutions such as Community College of Aurora, Pickens Technical College, CU Denver, and Metro State University, integrating into the classrooms and campus life of those institutions learning side-by-side with other college students.
- GT courses guaranteed to transfer to post-secondary institutions in CO

Grades & Credits

- College prep courses usually earn 1 credits/semester.
- College courses are weighted one additional grade point.
- College semester credit hours convert to high school semester credits as follows

College Credit Hours	High School Credit
1	.5
2	1
3	1
4	1.5
5	2

Standardized Test Results

Class of 2025 SAT	State of CO
Composite 835	978

Graduation Requirements

CECA has two pathways of instruction.

University pathway also requires the completion of an Associates Degree or 60 college credits.

The Career pathway requires the completion of a post-secondary or Industry Certification.

English . . .	4 credits
Math	3 credits
Science . .	2 credits
Social Science . .	2 credits
College & Career Readiness	1 credits
Academic Electives . .	<u>8 credits</u>
	20 credits

Grading and Ranking

Students are ranked based upon their weighted GPA. Valedictorians and salutatorians are determined based upon their GPA and amount of college credit they have accumulated. Class rank is determined at the end of the first semester of a student's senior year.

Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculation

GPA is computed using the quality points below. Beginning with grade nine, all subjects, whether passed or failed, are included in the computation. A minimum of 20 credits is required for graduation. Graduates earn honors based off the amount of college credit earned. 30 or more college credits are awarded Honors. Graduates with 60 or more college credits are awarded High Honors. Graduates that have earned a weighted GPA of 3.75-3.89 are distinguished as Cum laude, 3.9-4.199 are considered Magna cum laude, and 4.2- 5.0 GPA are awarded Summa cum laude. College level classes are weighted. The college level formula is used to determine a weighted GPA. Grades are recorded on the transcript. GPA is computed in January and May.

High School Weighting

A – Excellent	90–100	4
B – Above average	80–89	3
C – Average	70–79	2
F – Failure	69 or below	0

CECA does not recognize a D as a passing grade.

College Course Weighting

A – Excellent	90–100	5
B – Above average	80–89	4
C – Average	70–79	3
F – Failure	69 or below	0

While college transcripts will give grade points for D grades, CECA does not recognize a D as a passing grade.

CECA Transcript

College courses are indicated with the institution's initials at the beginning of the course name.

CECA Transcript Key

- CCA—Community College of Aurora
- PKT—Pickens Technical College
- SNC—Snow College
- UCD—University of Colorado Denver
- MSU—Metro State University Denver
- AMC—Aims Community College
- ACC—Arapahoe Community College
- RRCC—Red Rocks Community College
- FRCC—Front Range Community College
- CCD—Community College of Denver

2023-2024 Student Population

Total student body 570

Seniors 150
 Juniors 137
 Sophomores 135
 Freshmen 148

Female 283
 Male 287

African American 15%
 American Indian/Alaskan Native <1%
 Asian 4%
 Caucasian 13%
 Hispanic 63%
 Two or More Race Categories 4%

Affiliates:

- Community College of Aurora – CCA**
www.ccaurora.edu
- Pickens Technical College – PKT**
www.pickenstech.org
- Snow College – SNC**
www.snow.edu
- University of Colorado Denver – UCD**
www.ucdenver.edu
- Metro State University Denver – MSU**
www.msudenver.edu
- Aims Community College – AMC**
www.aims.edu
- Arapahoe Community College – ACC**
www.arapahoe.edu
- Red Rocks Community College – RRCC**
www.rrcc.edu
- Front Range Community College – FRCC**
www.frontrange.edu
- Community College of Denver – CCD**
www.ccd.edu
- Charter School Institute – CSI**
www.csi.state.co.us
- League of Charter Schools**
www.coloradoleague.org