

# **MIDDLE AND EARLY COLLEGES**

**PRESENTATION TO THE  
ALASKA SENATE AND HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEES**

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# About NCSL

- We are the non-partisan organization serving all 50 state legislatures – think of us as an extension of your staff. We conduct policy research and track state legislation, and provide comprehensive, unbiased information about the most pressing policy issues before state legislatures.





# Presentation overview

- What are middle/early colleges?
- History of Middle Colleges
- Statistics
- State Models





# DEFINITIONS

## Middle Colleges:

- Secondary schools, authorized to grant diplomas in their own name
- Located on college campuses across the nation.
- Small, with usually 100 or fewer students per grade level
- Rigorous academic curriculum within a supportive and nurturing environment
- Serves historically underserved and underrepresented students in colleges.
- Students have the opportunity to take some college classes at no cost to themselves.

## Early College:

- Location on a college campus
- Strong academic program, supportive environment
- Designed to serve the same target population.
- Early Colleges also have a defined and structured program that enables the high school students to earn both their high school diplomas and their Associates Degree in 4 to 5 years with no cost to the student.

## Dual Enrollment:

- Dual Enrollment high school students are able to take college courses
- Usually at nearby post-secondary institutions.
- Successful completion of the college-level course enables the student to obtain credit toward both the high school diploma and toward a college degree.

Source: Middle College National Consortium





# History of Middle Colleges

- First Middle College established in 1974 at LaGuardia Community College in NYC.
  - Combined the last two years of high school with the first two years of college
    - Provides students with Intensive Counseling, Small classes, Interdisciplinary curriculum and career guidance.
    - School designed for students who would flounder in a traditional high school setting

Source: LaGuardia Community College



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# Middle College National Consortium

- ❑ Is a professional development organization for secondary and post-secondary public-sector educators. MCNC provides technical assistance and support for both new and established Middle College High Schools as they implement education reforms via MCNC's Design principles and engage in professional activities designed to help under-performing students meet high academic standards.
- ❑ They are partnered with an approx. of 40 schools on college campuses across 16 states (include public and charter schools) All schools are affiliated and located on or near college campuses.
  - ▣ States- California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington

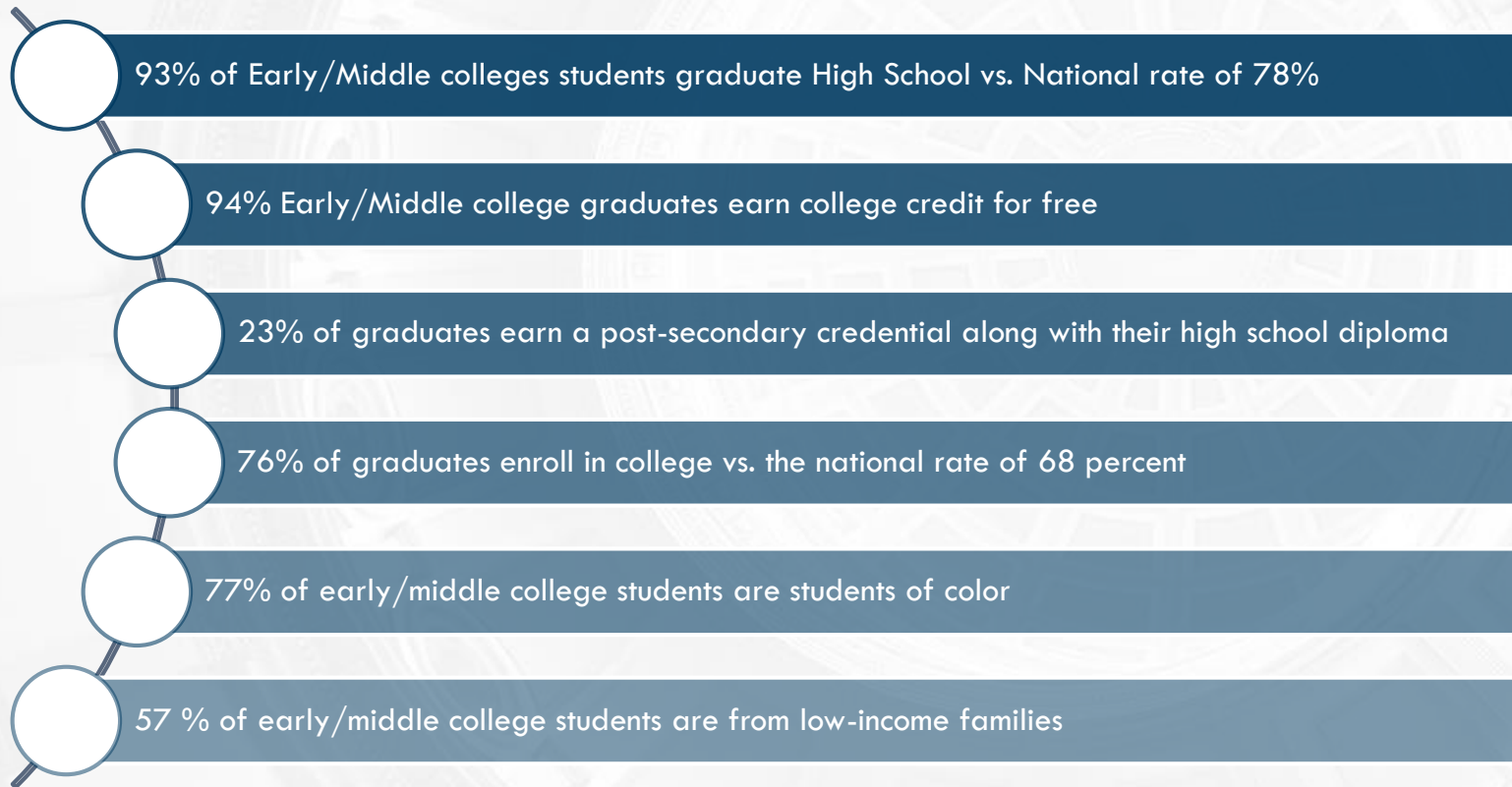
Source: Middle College National Consortium



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# Statistics



Source: [Jobs for the Future](#)



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# California

## □ California Education Code (EC)

Section 11300 declares that Middle College High Schools (MCHS) have proven to be a highly effective collaborative effort between local school districts and community colleges. The basic elements of MCHS include:

- ▣ A curriculum that focuses on college and career preparation
- ▣ Reduced adult-student ratio
- ▣ Flexible Scheduling
- ▣ Opportunities for experimental internships, work apprenticeships and community service
- ▣ These schools offer challenging academic programs designed to serve high-potential, high-risk students. MCHS feature effective support services, small class size, and the opportunity for students to concurrently take some college classes at typically minor cost to the student.

## □ California *Education Code*

(EC) Section EC 46146.5 exempts an Early College High School (ECHS) and a MCHS from the 240-minute school day requirement. The legislation provides that a day of attendance for an ECHS or MCHS student is 180 minutes if the student is a special part-time student enrolled in a community college under specified provisions, or the student is enrolled in grades 11 or 12 and is also enrolled part-time in classes at California State University or University of California campuses. EC Section 46146.5 also reduces the minimum instructional time requirements for charter schools that operate as ECHS or MCHS.

Sources: [CA Dept of Education](#)



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# CONNECTICUT

## Connecticut Early College Experience

- UConn Early College Experience (ECE) is an opportunity for students to take UConn courses while still in high school. Every UConn ECE course is equivalent to the same course at the University of Connecticut. There are approximately fifty courses in over twenty disciplines made available to partner high schools. Courses are taught on the high school campus by high school instructors who have been certified as adjunct faculty members by the University of Connecticut. UConn ECE students benefit by taking college courses in a familiar setting with an instructor they know. Courses offered through UConn ECE are approximately one-tenth of the cost in comparison to taking the same course on a UConn campus.

## 2018 HB 5478

The Connecticut Employment and Training Commission shall develop, in collaboration with the Connecticut state colleges and universities, Department of Education, and regional work force development boards established pursuant to section 31-3j, a state-wide plan for implementing, expanding or improving upon career certificate programs established under section 10-20a, middle college programs, early college high school programs and Connecticut Early College Opportunity programs to provide education, training and placement in jobs available in the manufacturing, health care, construction, green, science, technology, engineering and mathematics industries and other emerging sectors of the state's economy. Such plan shall include a proposal to fund such programs.





# FLORIDA

## Dual Enrollment

- 1007.217
- (1) The dual enrollment program is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student or home education student in a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a career certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree.
- (3) The Department of Education shall adopt guidelines designed to achieve comparability across school districts of both student qualifications and teacher qualifications for dual enrollment courses. Student qualifications must demonstrate readiness for college-level coursework if the student is to be enrolled in college courses. Student qualifications must demonstrate readiness for career-level coursework if the student is to be enrolled in career courses.





# FLORIDA

## **“Early Admissions Program”**

- 1007.271 “(7) Early admission shall be a form of dual enrollment through which eligible secondary students enroll in a postsecondary institution on a full-time basis in courses that are creditable toward the high school diploma and the associate or baccalaureate degree. Students enrolled pursuant to this subsection shall be exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees.
- 1007.271 (8) Career early admission is a form of career dual enrollment through which eligible secondary students enroll full time in a career center or a community college in courses that are creditable toward the high school diploma and the certificate or associate degree. Participation in the career early admission program shall be limited to students who have completed a minimum of 6 semesters of full-time secondary enrollment, including studies undertaken in the ninth grade. Students enrolled pursuant to this section are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees.”





# MICHIGAN

## Dual Enrollment

- “The Michigan State Legislature passed Public Act 160 of 1996, the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act and Public Act 258 of 2000, the Career and Technical Preparation Act also known as the "Dual Enrollment" bills. These bills modify and expand on provisions of the State School Aid Act providing for students to earn college credit while in high school. The bills also require that the board of a school district or public school academy ensure that each student in eighth grade or higher be given information about college course taking opportunities. The classes that students are eligible for must not be offered by the high school or academy and must lead towards postsecondary credit, accreditation, certification and/or licensing.”

## Middle Colleges

- 38.1661B (1) Amount not to exceed 8,000,000. each fiscal year for CTE early/ middle colleges and dual enrollment programs. Planning grants for the development or expansion of CTE early/middle colleges
- Collaborate with the career and educational advisory council to develop a regional strategic plan that aligns CTE programs and services into an efficient and effective delivery system for high school students

Sources: [MI Dept of Education](#)



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# MICHIGAN

## Middle/ Colleges

- Early and Middle Colleges are structured programs that use the flexibility with the Dual Enrollment laws to provide a specific and deliberately designed course of study that will result in earning 60 transferable college credits. These credits can be used toward a four-year degree from a Michigan public or private university, an advanced certificate, an associate degree from a community college, or a MEMCA technical certificate or a professional certification.

Sources: [MI Dept of Education](#)



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# MICHIGAN

## Michigan Early Middle College Association

Michigan Early Middle College Association (MEMCA) is a voluntary alliance of educators actively involved with one or more of the Early Middle Colleges working towards significantly increasing the collegiate and post-secondary success and completion rate of Michigan youth. The group comes together to share best practices, develop a community of learners and reflective practitioners, and share research with the broad high school transformation community.





# Tennessee

- Tennessee policy on middle colleges as part of their goal of equipping 55% of Tennesseans with a degree or certificate by 2025
  - ▣ Students enrolled in middle college high schools are funded at the same level as students enrolled in traditional high schools
  - ▣ If program is funded through local, state or federal funds appropriated to a local education agency, then no fee shall be charged by the local education agency or a public postsecondary institutions to any student participating in such program.





# TEXAS

## 2003 TX SB 976

- ❑ Establish and administer a middle college education pilot program for students who are at risk of dropping out of school or who wish to accelerate high school completion.

## 2005 TX S 1146

- ❑ Establish and administer an early college education program for students who are at risk of dropping out of school or who wish to accelerate completion of the high school program.





# Questions?



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