



The Norwalk Early College Academy

NECA is a school-within-a-school based on the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) model. NECA partners with Norwalk Community College and IBM to combine the best of high school, college and the professional world.

NECA encompasses grades 9 to 14 (high school grades 9 – 12 and college grades 13 – 14). All scholars earn a diploma from Norwalk High School in four years. They can also earn an applied associates of science degree in Mobile Programming or Software Engineering within this time frame, but have up to six years to complete the college degree requirements. Upon graduation, NECA scholars are prepared to join the work force, are first in line for interviews with IBM, or may transfer to a four-year college or university to complete their undergraduate degree.

How Does NECA Work?

Before starting high school, scholars participate in a 3-week freshman academy. Scholars enroll in courses in English, math, workplace learning, and high school prep; they also participate in field trips to enhance their learning. A unique component of the summer program is the high school prep course where students complete the NCC application; scholars are enrolled in college prior to starting high school!

The student schedule includes eight courses. Four of the eight periods are with NECA teachers - English, math, workplace learning, and exploring computer science. History/social studies, science, and electives are taught by NHS teachers. This model affords scholars the opportunity to have an integrated high school experience. Every course meets a graduation requirement and prepares the scholar for advanced courses.

During the first three years of high school, scholars participate in Workplace Learning (WPL) courses which emphasize the professional skills of presentation, self-marketing, and communication critical to success in the workplace. Part of the workplace learning experience includes matching scholars with IBM mentors.

To determine eligibility for college courses, the Accuplacer results (NCC placement test) and other data (course placement, teacher recommendation, grades, grade point average, etc.) are considered. When a scholar successfully completes a college course, the course may be used to fulfill a high school requirement (ex. English 101 in lieu of English 3). This determination is made as part of the student's major declaration and academic planning.

Who Can Attend?

NECA is open to all Norwalk scholars at no cost to scholars and their families. For the 2018-2019 school year, 100 grade 9 scholars will be admitted by lottery. Applicants must...

- 1) **be in good academic standing (no final grades of D or F)**
- 2) **have attended school regularly (no chronic absenteeism or tardiness)**
- 3) **be interested in studying computer science at NCC; degree offerings include Mobile Programming and Software Engineering**
- 4) **have ability in math (degrees require college algebra, college pre-calculus and college calculus)**
- 5) **agree to participate in IBM-related events and site visits**
- 6) **must be entering 9th grade in September 2018 and be a Norwalk resident**

How Do I Get More Information?

INFORMATION SESSIONS

7th and 8th grade students and their parents are invited to join us for an Information Session and an opportunity to meet students and staff.

Thursday, November 9 at 6:15 pm
Norwalk Community College Forum, East Campus

Wednesday, November 15 at 6:15 pm
Norwalk High School Auditorium

Tuesday, December 5 at 6:15 pm
Norwalk City Hall Community Room

How Do I Apply for Admission?

Applications are available online and can be accessed through the NPS and NHS websites.

Supplemental forms (English and math teacher recommendation forms **and** School Counselor Recommendation form) must be submitted to the middle school teachers and counselor. The completed recommendation forms will be forwarded to NECA by the middle school counselor.

Paper applications are available to families without online access; contact the NECA office to have an application mailed to your home. Completed paper applications can be **mailed** to NECA Admissions, Norwalk Early College Academy, 23 Calvin Murphy Drive, Norwalk, CT 06851, **emailed** to NECA@norwalkps.org, **or faxed** to 203-682-4305.

Visit the **NECA website** located at <http://nhs.norwalkps.org/neca>

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