

*Hagerstown Community College
Early College Degree Program*

Board of Trustees Report



August 31, 2023

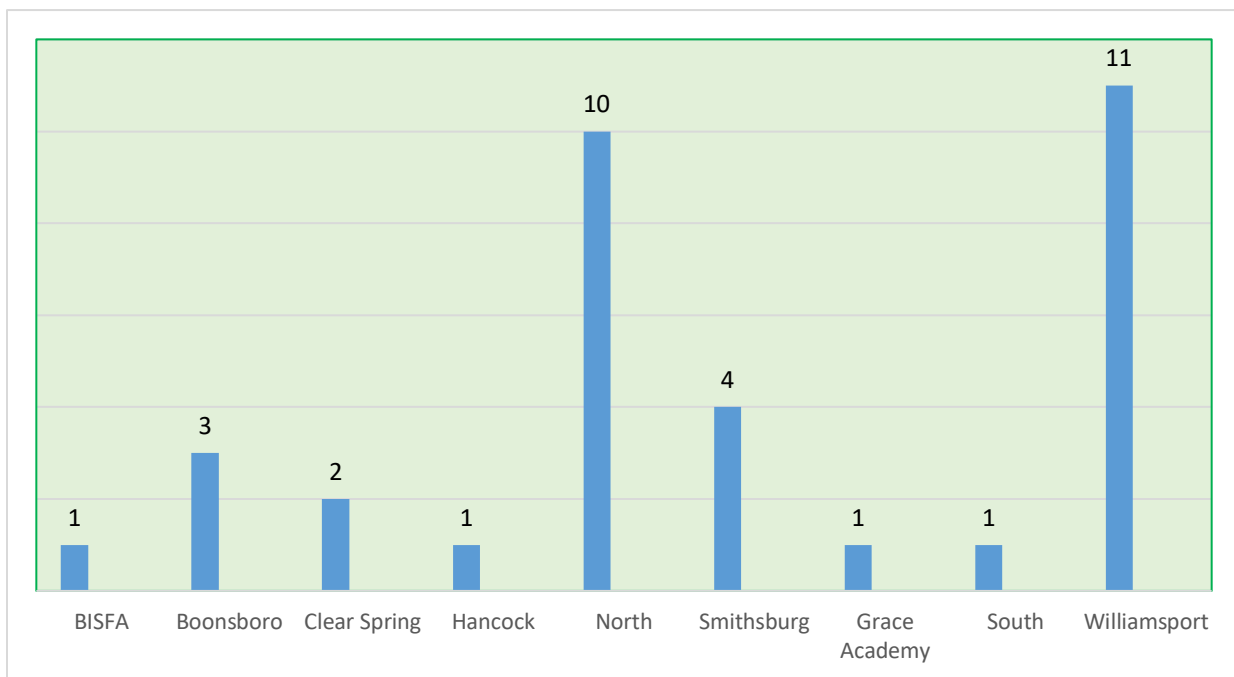
Report Agenda

1. Early College Degree Program Graduates (2023)
2. 2022-2023 Students Receiving Financial Assistance
3. Outcomes & Alumni Updates
4. Current On-Campus Cohort
5. Blueprint for Maryland's Future
6. Program Success Factors
7. Fall 2023 Developments



Early College Degree Program Graduates (Class of 2023)

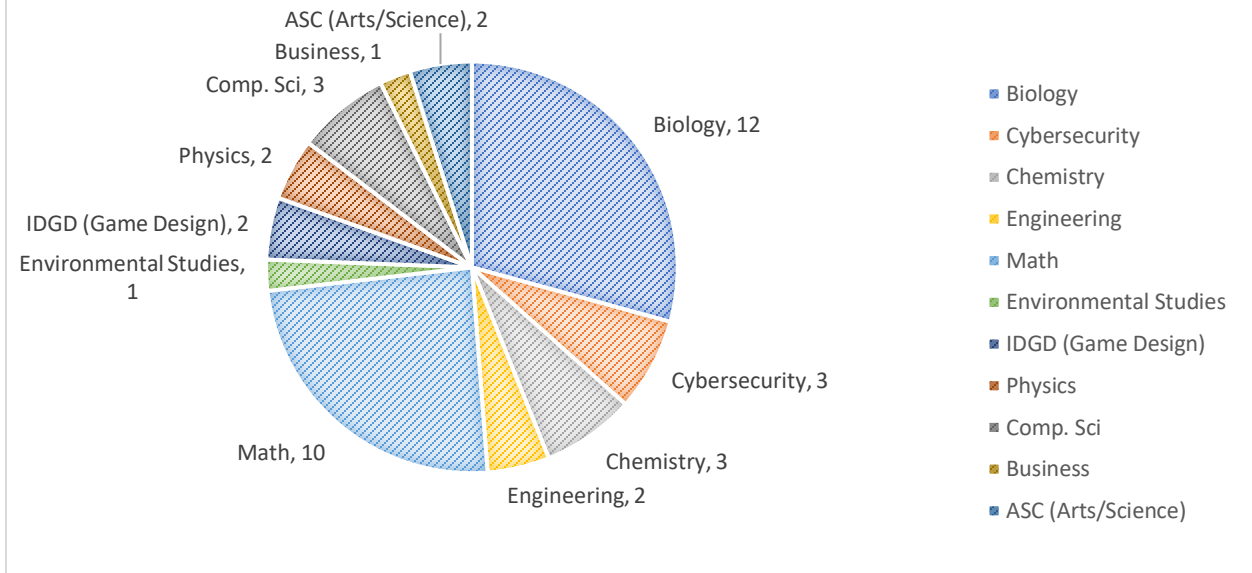
34 students completed their associate degree in the spring of 2023.



2023 Graduates by High School

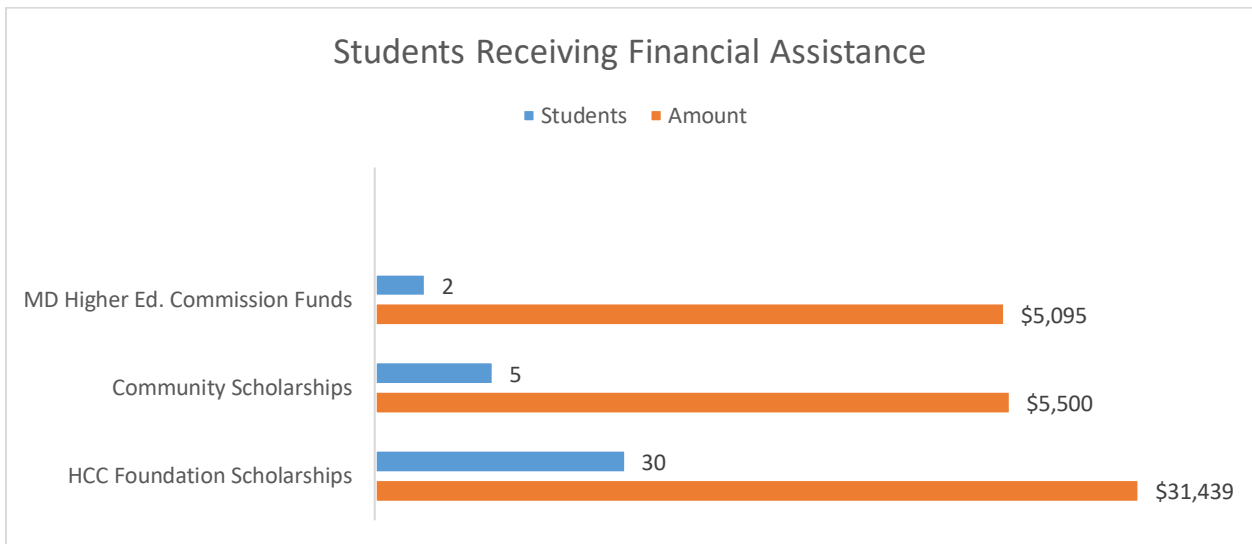
Reaching the primary programmatic goal, 32 students not only graduated from their local high schools, they also earned an associate degree in their chosen Early College Degree Program pathways and have been accepted at universities in pursuit of bachelor's degrees and beyond. Several students pursued multiple concentrations while at HCC.

2023 GRADUATES - ASSOCIATE DEGREES



2023 Graduate Associate Degrees

2022-2023 Students Receiving Financial Assistance



Financial Aid 2022-2023 *Data does not include early college discounts or Free and Reduced Meals (FARM) eligibility

33 students (51.6%) received some type of aid totaling \$42,034. Some received more than one type of aid (for example, a student might have received both an HCC Foundation Scholarship and a community scholarship). The Maryland Blueprint greatly reduced the overall cost for students as the amount of financial assistance distributed in 2021-2022 was \$183,181.

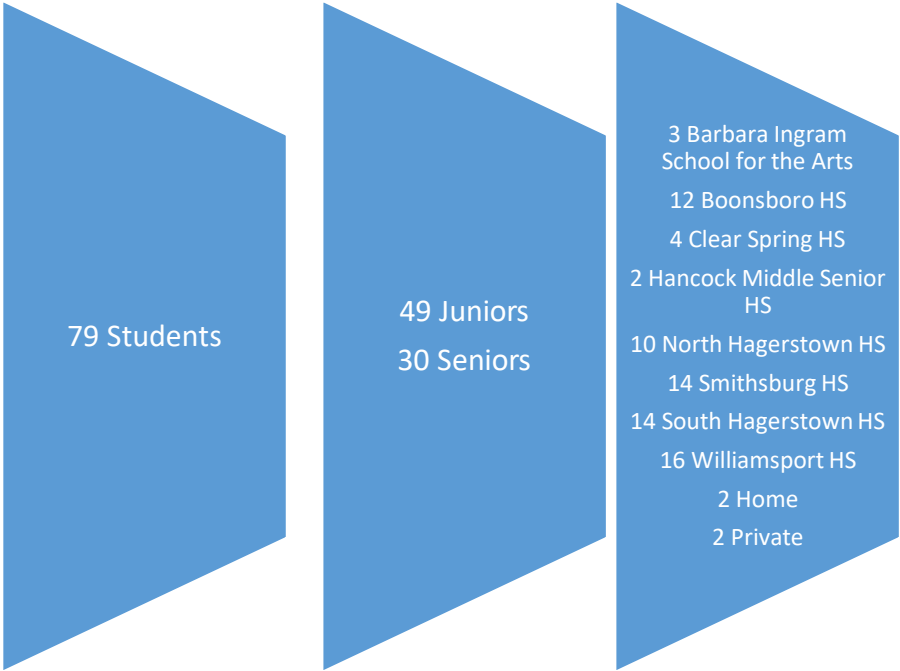
Outcomes

189 students have graduated from the Early College Degree Program since the first graduating class in 2015. Students have been accepted to 63 four-year universities to continue their studies; many of these students have received full scholarships to attend. Approximately nine out of ten Early College Degree Program graduates transfer to a four-year institution. Of those who transfer, 75% graduate within two years and 90% graduate within four years.

The 2023 graduates plan to attend the following universities:

- Capital Technology University
- Frostburg State University
- Liberty University
- Loyola University
- Messiah University
- Mount St. Mary's University
- Notre Dame of Maryland
- Nova Southeastern University
- Salisbury University
- Shepherd University
- St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Stevenson University
- Towson University
- University of California
- University of Florida
- University of Maryland Global Campus
- University of Maryland, College Park
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Washington
- West Virginia University

On Campus Cohort 2023-2024

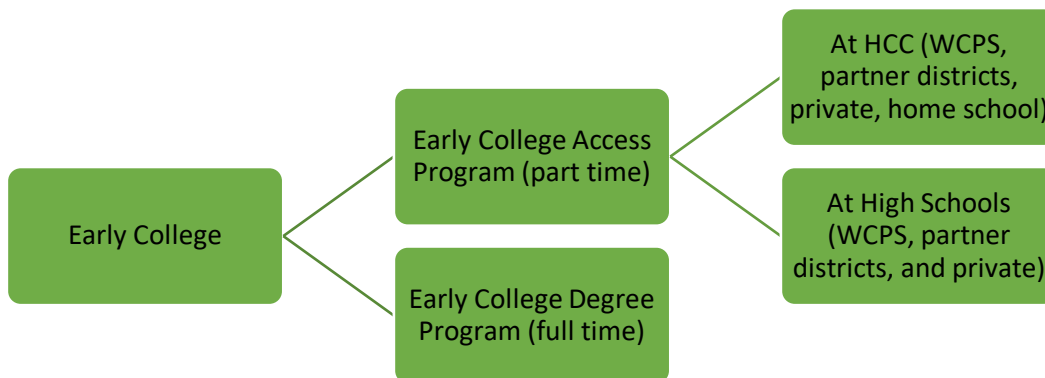


79 students are in the cohort for the 2023-2024 academic year. This is an increase of 63 over last year. 30 returning seniors and 49 incoming juniors make up the cohort. Students are from various high schools across Washington County, two students are from private schools, and two are home-schooled students. 25 students are majoring in biology, 16 are majoring in business, followed by computer science (see following chart).

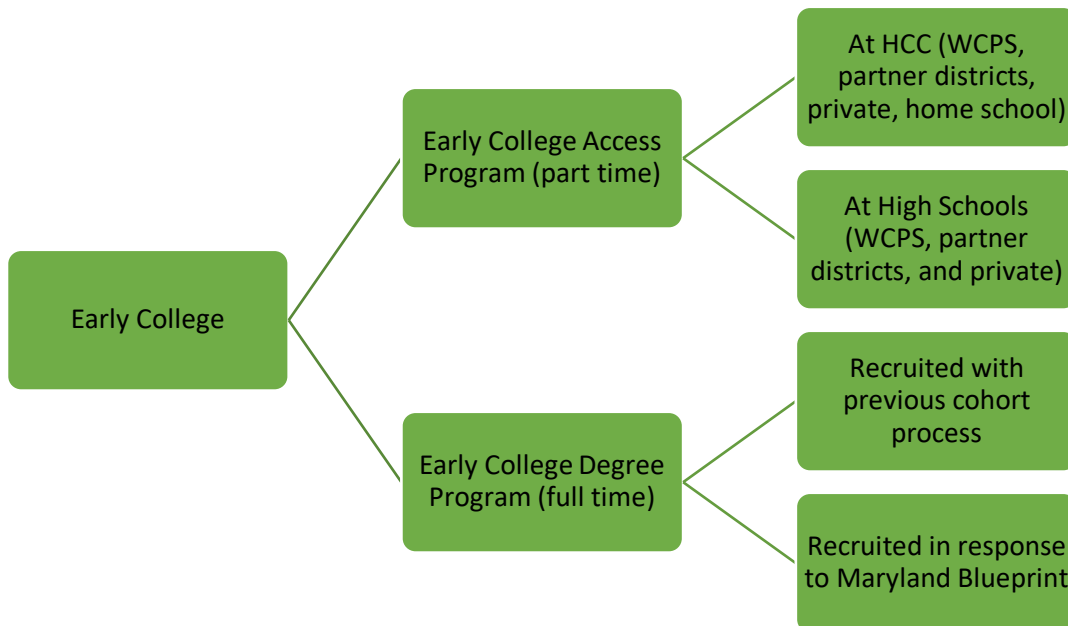
Blueprint for Maryland's Future

Discussions with Washington County Public Schools have been ongoing throughout the year as the implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future legislation has started this fall. For this enactment, students can study a wider selection of majors. Also, program eligibility for full-time students has expanded resulting in an increase of enrollment. As of August 31st, an additional 63 students were recruited bringing the total number of full-time early college students to 143 for Fall 2023.

2022-2023



2023-2024



Program Success Factors

With ten years of program operation completed, it is important to consider and make note of those factors that have no doubt contributed to the success of the Early College Degree Program. Further, with the new Blueprint legislation, flexibility and adaptability are essential. Therefore, program success factors include:

- **Strong partnership between HCC and WCPS**

A strong partnership between HCC and WCPS ensures ongoing communication between the two organizations concerning the Early College Degree Program. There are also regular visits to the middle schools and high schools at which time administrators, counselors, students, and parents have the opportunity to learn about the details of the program.

Parents and school counselors are more aware of foundational coursework required for the ninth and tenth graders to prepare students for the rigors of the Early College Degree Program and are proactively seeking guidance to ensure students are taking the correct academic coursework.

- **Continuing Articulation Agreements with Four-Year Universities**

Many students entering the Early College Degree Program are now pursuing degrees with direct transfer through the articulation agreements between HCC and four-year universities. Students are transferring to programs such as Biology, Biotechnology, Computer Science, Cybersecurity, Environmental Studies, and Nursing.

- **Marketing Materials and Rebranding of the Early College Degree Program**

During the past year, the Early College Degree Program dropped “Middle College” from its name. The rebranding process continues and may include a name change to be even more inclusive of what the program offers and provide more clarity to students, parents, and the community.

Information about the Early College Degree Program is readily available through many sources. The Public Relations and Marketing Office at HCC is very creative in generating a variety of media resources pertaining to the program. Print materials, HCC website links, social media, newspaper, television, and radio have raised awareness about the Early College Degree Program to a great extent in the community and in the surrounding areas. Media coverage highlighting the graduating class and decisions regarding transfer universities has been helpful in showing the success of the program. Parents are seeing firsthand benefits of the program and we have had 16 sibling groups complete the program.

Early College Degree Program Information Sessions have been held for students and parents so interested program prospects can garner pertinent information that will enable appropriate decisions about participation.

- **Early College Office Restructuring**

In July 2023, the Early College Office was restructured to consist of a coordinator and a director. This restructuring is the result of HCC responding to the increasing needs of the Maryland Blueprint's implementation.

Fall 2023 Developments

- **Attendance Protocol**

Attendance reports are shared with WCPS for full-time early college students. To capture this information, students will now use their HCC ID badges to swipe at stations located at four sites on campus.

- **Increase of non-WCPS Partners**

Interest has been expressed by non-WCPS schools to offer an increasing amount of dual enrollment courses at their schools. Plans are being developed to launch these partnerships including the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding.