The Georgia State University Early College program, housed in the College of Education’s Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban Educational Excellence, offers Early College High School students the opportunity to enroll at Georgia State University early to potentially earn up to two years of college credit in an effort to change the face of higher education.
Early college students are outperforming their peers nationwide:

- **90%** retention rate for Early College high school students at Georgia State University

- **100%** percentage of Early College students in the class of 2013 who were accepted into a two- or four-year college/university

- **20** the average number of college credit hours Early College students earn by the time they graduate from high school

- **$10 million** Total amount of scholarship funds Early College students in the class of 2013 recieved

**ABOUT EARLY COLLEGE**

Early College is an intervention strategy for students who may not be well served by traditional high schools. The initiative also seeks to change the face of higher education by targeting those students traditionally underrepresented on college campuses.

Since 2005, Georgia State University has served as the partnering university for its two Early College High Schools in Atlanta Public Schools. Within this model, underrepresented students – first-generation students, students from a lower socioeconomic status, students of color, and black male students – are able to begin their post-secondary tenure early with the assumption that they will continue their college tenure after high school graduation.

Under the guiding mission and philosophy of the national Early College program, the Georgia State Early College program has worked successfully to reduce the achievement gap and introduce the option of college to Early College students through successful programming and strategies focused on high school graduation and college and career readiness. Georgia State has placed itself in a position to lead the state in fulfilling its Complete College Georgia goal of producing an additional 250,000 college graduates by 2020. In doing so, Georgia State will also help to fulfill the White House’s goal of America having the highest proportion of college graduates in the world.

The program has utilized various practices to improve college readiness such as parent orientations, summer enrichment programs, Touch-In’s, study sessions, professional luncheons, supplemental programs, and grade reporting. Early College Designs enable students to experience rigorous high school and college coursework that leads to improved outcomes.

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