



SY23-24 Early College Academy at Coolidge High School: Admissions Process Rubric

For Grades: 9 and 10

About the Early College Academy Admissions Criteria:

The Early College Academy at Coolidge is looking for scholars who want to be **COLTS**:

Committed to achieving their academic goals and will step up to rigor and persist through challenges.

Optimistic about them and their peers' ability to grow.

Leaders who exercise integrity, accountability, and uphold the values of our school community.

Transforming Society by being mindful of their actions and working to have a positive impact in the world.

About Early College Academy (ECA) Admissions Process:

Our admissions process includes the holistic review of each component of the application - report cards, the essay, and teacher recommendations. Each component of the application is evaluated according to the chart below. No one component is the sole determinant of eligibility. Due to the academic rigor of the program, we place a higher emphasis on GPA and prefer to see an upward progression of academic growth. We find the most successful applicants are those whose commitment to challenging work is further demonstrated through their essay, recommendations, and family interview.

The family interview is our first relationship building activity and gives us the opportunity to learn things that may not be highlighted in other aspects of the application. For the interview, a family member can be a parent, legal guardian, or other close family member. It could also be an important figure to the student who regularly supports them like a coach, counselor, or mentor. We hope to leave the interview with a better understanding of who the student is and how their family supports learning.

Each component of the application process is scored and weighted according to the chart below. Applicants who score 85 points out of a possible 100 are eligible, though this number may be adjusted lower annually based on a holistic review of applicants.



Admissions Component	Weight	Notes
Academic Criteria Review (GPA)	40 points	<p>ECA reviews grades (GPA) as part of the academic criteria review. There is no minimum GPA required. Students must submit their final report card for SY21-22 and first term report card for SY22-23. A report card/transcript and scores must be submitted for the application to be considered for admission.</p> <p>Grades from ELA, Science, Math, and Social Science/History are used to calculate the GPA, Typically, students who are successful in the ECA have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.</p>
Recommendations	20 points	<p>ECA requires 2 recommendations. ECA uses teacher recommendations to provide context to a student's academic record, level of effort, and overall experience at school. We strongly encourage students and families to follow up with the individuals submitting recommendations on their behalf to ensure we have the most complete picture of the student. However, students will not be penalized for incomplete or missing recommendations and can be evaluated based on available recommendations.</p>
Writing Sample	25 points	<p>The writing sample is used to assess student interest and skill level. The admissions team will look to the essay to gauge student interest in ECA, commitment to learning, and future goals. The writing sample will also be used as a first sample of a student's grammar, vocabulary, and technical writing level.</p>
Family Interview	15 points	<p>ECA requires students to participate in the interview along with a family member (parent, legal guardian, close family member) or other important figure (coach, counselor, or mentor) who regularly supports them.</p> <p>Based on health guidance and family circumstances, interviews may be conducted virtually for SY23-24. DCPS remains committed to monitoring and following health guidance.</p>