

A Schoolcraft College partnership to provide an Early College opportunity for high school students.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Why should my student join the SC EDGE program?

SC EDGE provides students with the opportunity to earn a college credential at the same time as their high school diploma at little to no cost. Students earn credit, complete college coursework, and develop new skills as part of this program.

# How does Early Middle College (EMC) differ from Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement (AP)?

Early Middle College programs like SC EDGE allow students to complete a credential such as a certificate or an associate degree in a structured model. Dual Enrollment is different than EMC as students take specific courses based on student need and high school counselor approval. Advanced Placement courses are taught at the high school, and the students must take an exam at the conclusion of the course to determine if they will receive college credit.

# What factors should we consider in determining if this is the right fit for our student/family?

Early Middle College students are starting a college degree and their grades will be recorded on a college transcript. Students and family should consider if the college major offered benefits the student's goals. Students should be mature and responsible if considering this form of education.

# What are the programs available?

SC Edge offers majors in General Business, Computer Information Systems-Programming, and Criminal Justice. Credential types are listed below:

#### **Associate Degree Programs:**

- General Business
- Computer Information Systems Programming
- Criminal Justice with Police Academy

#### **Certificate Degree Programs:**

- General Business
- Computer Information Systems Programming

# Where are the classes offered?

The majority of SC EDGE classes are offered completely online, allowing students to learn, study, and complete assignments in either the Online Learning Lab at Northville High School or at home. Some classes in the 13th year may require students to come to the Schoolcraft College campus.



# Will I be able to attend SC Edge during the high school day?

Students will have time allocated as part of their high school schedule to work on Schoolcraft coursework under the supervision of a Northville High School facilitator.

### Will the classes count as both high school and college credit?

Some classes will count for high school credit, and some classes will count for college credit, especially during the 13th year of courses. This information will be communicated to you for each specific class.

#### What classes should my student take?

Admissions, advising, and registration work together to register students for classes each semester. Students take courses in the fall, winter, and spring semesters, usually two classes in the fall and winter and one in the spring. It is important to note that the semester start and end dates for Schoolcraft College and Northville High School do not always line up. Therefore, students should be prepared to work independently for a few weeks each year at the start or end of the semester or during specific break periods.

#### How does my student register for future semesters?

We take care of that for you! Students will not need to register themselves. On the first day that registration opens, we will work with the registration office to sign students up for classes.

#### Can students start in the program at any point?

No. SC EDGE is based on a cohort structure with new students starting in our fall semesters, which begin at the end of August. Students pursuing an associate degree must start the program in 10th grade, meaning they would need to apply while in 9th grade. Students pursuing a certificate would start in 11th grade, so they would need to apply while in 10th grade. Seniors cannot start the SC EDGE program as there would not be enough time for them to complete the required number of classes.

Students can also not start the program in 9th grade as we want to ensure they are ready for college courses. Students interested in starting classes at other points should consider dual enrollment instead of SC EDGE.

#### Will my student be able to graduate with their high school class?

Students pursing a certificate will graduate with their high school class. Students in certificate programs will finish their high school diploma and certificate at the same time at the end of their senior year.

Students pursing an associate degree can walk at graduation ceremonies with their graduating class, but their official graduation date will be a year after their class graduates. This is a requirement of Early Middle College programs in the state of Michigan. Associate degree students will complete a 13th year of courses after participating in graduation. In their 13th year, students take one online high school course in the fall and another in the winter while finishing up their Schoolcraft classes.

#### How do the classes transfer to other colleges?

Schoolcraft has transfer agreements with many colleges and universities. Students in our associate in applied science degree programs complete several widely transferable general education courses. SC EDGE students will meet with a Schoolcraft academic advisor to discuss transfer opportunities for specific schools.



# How will participation in SC EDGE help save money for overall college costs?

Students earn approximately 30-60 credits as part of SC EDGE depending on their program, which would cost about \$4,000 – \$8,000 for families paying out of pocket. The school district covers most if not all of these expenses. Credits earned in SC EDGE can then be transferred to other colleges and universities, decreasing the number of credits students will need to take and dollars of tuition they'll need to pay.

# How will participating in the SC EDGE program impact my student applying to another college or university?

Colleges and universities view Early Middle College students as strong students who have already shown they can successfully complete college-level work. Most colleges and universities will consider Early Middle College students as freshman for scholarships, but we recommend confirming with specific colleges on an individual basis.

# What are the costs to students/families participating in the SC EDGE program?

Classes, textbooks, and routine fees will be covered by Northville High School. Additional fees, such as the course fees for the police academy courses, may be charged to the student/family; however, all families would be notified of any financial obligations in advance.

## Where can my student get academic support during the SC EDGE program?

As Schoolcraft students, SC EDGE participants can utilize our Learning Support Services (LSS). LSS provides peer tutoring and mentoring through the Learning Center in the Bradner Library on the main campus in Livonia and via online resources. Students can also make appointments with academic success coaches who work with students to develop individualized plans for academic success. In addition, the Learning Center offers workshops and final exams review.

A high school instructor is available for support and guidance during seminar hour and via the Online Learning Lab at Northville High School. Students can choose to work at home or at the Online Learning Lab. Students who choose to utilize the Lab can access high school support during the class period.

# Where can my student get technical support during the SC EDGE program?

Students are encouraged to utilize the Northville High School Online Learning Lab for computer access. They can also contact Schoolcraft's Blackboard Support at 734-462-4615.

#### Who are our contacts?

**Dr. Stacey Stover,** Dean, First Year Experience sstover@schoolcraft.edu or 734-462-4540

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