

Learn and Earn Early College High Schools

2010 Tennessee Conference **Straight to the Top!**

*Strategies for achieving economic stability
through educational excellence*



Antonio Jordan, Director
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Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

**Innovative high schools are
growing rapidly across North Carolina:**

Learn and Earn Early College High Schools

- **Students are expected to complete a college prep course of study.**
- **Teaching that stresses inquiry and critical thinking.**
- **They are small by design -- no more than 400 students to allow for a different kind of teaching and learning.**



Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

- **Students in Learn and Earn early college high schools graduate with both a high school diploma and two years of transferable college credit or an associate's degree**
- **In most cases, early college students stay in high school five years to complete those college courses**



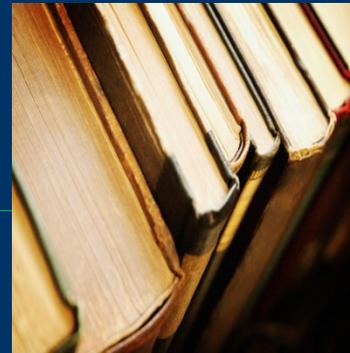


Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

Located on the campuses of two- and four-year colleges and universities

Learn and Earn ECHS are intended to attract students such as:

- **Those under-represented in college**
- **Minority students**
- **Students from low-income families**
- **Students whose parents never attended college**





Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

(former) Governor Mike Easley launched the Learn and Earn initiative in 2004 as a way to,

- **encourage more students to complete high school**
- **and to gain the kind of advanced skills increasingly demanded in the workplace of the 21st century.**



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Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

Early college high schools support students through their first two years of college -- the most vulnerable period for students from low-income families.

The early colleges also lift the financial barrier students and families often face when considering college.

Students get two years of college credit without paying tuition.



Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

North Carolina is now a national leader in developing early colleges.

Since 2005, the number of early college high schools in North Carolina has increased exponentially, from 13 to 71.

Nationally, about 130 early college high schools are open in 24 states.



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Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

Through grants from the Golden LEAF Foundation and funding from the General Assembly, students in seven early college high schools work with one-to-one access to laptop computers.

The pilot is the leading edge of North Carolina's effort to bring the power of technology to bear in improving teaching and learning.



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Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

Meeting the Economy's Demand

North Carolina lost nearly 185,000 manufacturing jobs in the first five years of the 21st century.

The state lost 1,000 farms in 2006 -- the largest decline in any state in the nation.

North Carolina is projected to lose another 20 percent of manufacturing jobs in the next 10 years.



Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

College Ready = Ready for Careers and Life

College may not be for every high school graduate,
but having a good job undeniably is

Being prepared for one in a global, knowledge-based
economy means being prepared for the other as well

Jobs that require some education beyond high school
grew to the majority of the workforce, and that trend
toward training and college has accelerated in the 21st
century.





Learn and Earn Early College High Schools (ECHS)

North Carolina needs to change what it expects from high school students and to demand high schools that can improve learning.

Across the state and across the United States, there are high schools that are transforming teaching and learning.

Students are challenged to master subjects through inquiry and problem solving. They acquire the skills to think deeply and to communicate powerfully.

Graduates will leave these schools ready for college, careers and life.

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Questions



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Source: North Carolina New Schools Project
www.newschoolsproject.org