

preptalk*i*

Advice for Montgomery County Parents and Students on College Preparation • Fall 2018

Early College Program

Montgomery College and Montgomery County Public Schools announce the expansion of the Early College (EC) program.

The EC program is offered at each Montgomery College campus, providing qualified students the opportunity to earn an associate's degree in a specific content area. Participating students will finish their 11th and 12th grade years of high school while simultaneously completing their first two years of college. They will graduate with an associate's degree from MC and a Maryland state high school diploma.

To participate in the program, students must have at least the following at the time of application (additional requirements vary by degree program):

- Be enrolled in 10th grade at an MCPS high school during the current school year;
- Passed mathematics and English state assessments;
- Have an unweighted grade point average of 2.75 or higher at the time of application to the program;
- Met or be near completion of required SSL hours.

The deadline to apply for these programs is Nov. 26, 2018.

Submit Early College interest forms to:
tinyurl.com/MCPS-EC-2020

Early College information sessions will be held at each MC campus for the program specific to that campus. Please review the dates and programs below.

Germantown Campus • Nov. 5, 2018 • 7 p.m.

High Technology and Science Building, Globe Hall
Programs presented:

- Computer Science Area of Concentration, Computer Science and Technologies (AA)
- Cybersecurity (AAS)



Rockville Campus • Nov. 14, 2018 • 7 p.m.

Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center

Programs presented:

- Mathematics Area of Concentration, Science (AS)
- Secondary Education–Mathematics (AA)
- Business (AA)

Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus • Nov. 19, 2018 • 7 p.m.

Cultural Arts Center Theatre

Programs presented:

- Biological Science Area of Concentration, Science (AS)
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography (AAS)
- Nursing (AS)
- Physical Therapist Assistant (AAS)
- Radiologic (X-Ray) Technology (AAS)
- Surgical Technology (AAS)

For additional information on the Early College program, visit montgomerycollege.edu/early-college or email Amy Crowley at amy.crowley@montgomerycollege.edu.

Consider Dual Enrollment

High school students who want to earn college credit at a reduced price may take one to four Montgomery College courses before high school graduation through MC's Dual Enrollment program. For more information or to apply for dual enrollment, visit montgomerycollege.edu/dep.



Are You Wired for Computer Programming?

Take a class with Dr. Alla Webb, whose myriad talents in project management, system development cycle, programming, and database design enable her to teach many courses in the computer science curriculum. Moreover, Dr. Webb is actively involved in her students' progress during their time at the College—and she finds innovative ways to contribute to student success.

This spring, Dr. Webb and several other faculty members mentored a group of students who created a mobile application for their fellow students, the Purple Plan. The app, which helps students develop an academic plan to map their path up through transfer, works directly with the College catalog to offer the most updated information on courses. She also advises the MC Software Engineering Student Club.

In addition to working with students, she has secured grants for the College to implement innovative teaching methods. She frequently presents at regional and national conferences on improving underrepresented student outcomes.

Programs Engineered for Transfer—and Success

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects employment growth for engineers, with nearly 140,000 new jobs expected for engineers over the next decade. And in 2016, engineers had a median annual wage of \$91,010—more than twice the median wage for all workers.

Montgomery College, home to the nation's largest engineering transfer program, has more than 1,500 engineering students. Our students select from 11 engineering concentrations: aerospace, bioengineering, chemical, civil, computer, electrical, fire protection, general, materials science, mechanical, and nuclear. Many of our students transfer to the University of Maryland, Georgia Tech, George Washington University, and Virginia Tech, to name a few.

Most of MC's undergraduate courses are transferable to top-tier four-year institutions. It is important for students pursuing a degree in any field of engineering to refine their

plans at the earliest practical opportunity. Some students will find it in their best interest to complete the associate's degree at MC before attempting to transfer to a four-year college or university; others may be better advised to transfer at some earlier point in order to optimize their progress toward the bachelor's degree.

Students in our engineering courses have numerous academic enhancement opportunities through student clubs, internships, and undergraduate research. Our facilities rival—or are better than—those at four-year colleges and universities. Our academic programs in the Science, Engineering, and Technology (SET) disciplines have grant support exceeding \$2 million. And the College works with industry partners to update our curriculum based on industry needs and changing requirements.

For more information on all of our engineering offerings, visit montgomerycollege.edu/engineering.

Your International Education Starts Here

For more than 20 years, students have studied in countries all over the world through Montgomery College's International Education and Study Abroad program. The College offers students long-term and short-term study abroad programs, as well as service learning opportunities through travel. In addition, study abroad affords summer teaching opportunities and Montgomery College employee development programs.

Students study abroad full time to earn academic credits transferable to Montgomery College and many four-year colleges and universities in the United States. Long-term study abroad may take place for a semester, year, or summer at accredited academic institutions in 30 different countries.

The academic-centered, short-term programs abroad stretch from 10 days to three weeks in length. These discipline-driven programs, tied to course work, bolster the curriculum of the connected course while providing participants improved international competency.

International Ed continued

A service learning activity abroad often serves as the impetus for continued lifelong community service; it is our goal, through guidance from members of the Study Abroad Office, to assist with service learning goals and projects sustained through collegewide events, the local community, or abroad. Groups from the College have completed service projects in Mexico, Germany, and India, to name a few destinations.

For more information on the International Education and Study Abroad program, please visit montgomerycollege.edu/studyabroad or email Dr. Greg Malveaux, collegewide study abroad coordinator, at greg.malveaux@montgomerycollege.edu.



Straight talk

Youness Benmouna is taking a healthy approach to his life's goals. Although he wants to play professional soccer someday, he is studying at Montgomery College for a career as a nurse.

When he graduated from Northwest High School in 2014, Benmouna went to University of Maryland as a preferred walk-on in soccer. When he did not make the team, he stayed to study kinesiology. "I didn't want my dream [to play soccer] to die," he said, leaving after his sophomore year to try out for the MC soccer team and enter the nursing program.

The move proved to be a winning combination for Benmouna. Coming off the 2017 season in which he earned All-American honors in NJCAA Division III men's soccer, the sophomore forward ranks second in the nation in scoring at the Division II level. He leads the team in goals with 22, topping his season-high 21 goals last year. After he traveled to England over winter break last year to play with teams from the conference league, Benmouna believes he can compete at a higher level, but he knows a soccer career will only last a few years.

As a nursing major, Benmouna stars in the classroom, too. He earned a 3.6 grade point average, earning entry to the Alpha Delta Nu nursing honor society at the College. His busy schedule includes nursing classes, a clinical rotation at Medstar Montgomery Medical Center two days a week, and soccer practice and/or games every day. When he finishes his nursing degree, he would like to play Division I NCAA soccer at a college or university with a strong RN to BSN program.

Benmouna, who wants to be a nurse anesthetist some day, has sage advice for athletes who want to play at the next level. "You have to have a backup plan," he said, "and you have to have great time management skills to succeed in the classroom as well as on the field."



DID YOU KNOW ?

Mobile Markets Feed Bodies and Minds

Amid growing concern about student poverty, Montgomery College partners with the Capital Area Food Bank to establish Mobile Markets at all three Montgomery College campuses. The markets provide fresh fruits, vegetables, and other foods to MC and the community at no cost. Each campus designates one day per month for the market. The markets run from September through December and February through May. The Mobile Markets program completed its first full year in 2017–2018, distributing 125,000 pounds of food to more than 3,300 people. Sixty-three percent of recipients were students, twenty-nine percent were faculty or staff, and eight percent were community members. For distribution days, times, and locations, visit montgomerycollege.edu/mobile-market.



A service of the Montgomery College–
Montgomery County Public Schools Partnership.
Rockville, MD 20850

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Suburban, MD
Permit No. 97

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Have a question? Please contact:

Dr. Elena Saenz

elena.saenz@montgomerycollege.edu

Dr. Genevieve Floyd

Genevieve_L_Floyd@mcpsmd.org



IMPORTANT dates and deadlines 2018

December

- Visit the FAFSA website, apply for Federal Student Aid PIN (personal identification number) at pin.ed.gov, which will allow you to electronically apply for your federal student aid and access your US Department of Education record each year.
- Go to collegegoalmaryland.org for information on filling out the FAFSA.
- Stay focused on grades and consider taking on leadership roles/responsibilities.
- Start researching summer internships and jobs related to your career interests.

January

- Sign up for the ACT test by Jan. 11; test will be administered Feb. 9.
- Complete any applications not already due.
- Encourage your parents to gather their tax documents early—tax information is required to complete the FAFSA.
- Check college deadlines for the FAFSA and CSS/Financial Aid Profile—one or both may be required in February or even earlier.
- Remember to look for your Student Aid Report, which will arrive in seven to 10 days when submitted electronically.

February

- Sign up for the SAT test by Feb. 8; test will be administered March 9.
- For free FAFSA assistance, visit collegegoalmaryland.org.
- File the free FAFSA now—some colleges have a February deadline. FAFSA.ed.gov
- March 1 is the state FAFSA deadline. List at least one Maryland college on the FAFSA.

March

- Submit the FAFSA by March 1. March 1 is the Maryland State Office of Financial Aid priority deadline for fall aid. List at least one Maryland college on it to receive state aid: FAFSA.ed.gov.
- March 1 is the priority deadline for fall 2018 financial aid at Montgomery College.
- Sign up for the ACT test by March 8; test will be administered April 13.
- Submit tax forms to college financial aid offices, if they are requested.
- If considering Montgomery College, prepare for fall registration.
- Visit colleges again if you are still wondering where you would like to go.
- Decision letters from colleges begin to arrive. Stay calm and be positive—these are responses to opportunities you have explored, but there are always more opportunities available.
- To transfer from a community college to a Maryland four-year college, you can use ARTSYS to help plan your coursework—artweb.USMD.edu

April

- Sign up for the SAT test by April 5; test will be administered May 4.
- Compare your offers of admission and financial aid; discuss them with family and counselors.
- Research housing choices and meal plans at colleges.

Source: mhcc.state.md.us