

ECA NEWS

Returning Student Newsletter Summer 2024



A Message from Dr. Fischer

Greetings from the ECA offices! I hope that summer has been enjoyable for you all so far. Now, the Admin Team and I are busily getting ready for the coming school year. Please note that this newsletter is one of the few mailings that will come to your mailboxes this year. Be vigilant for the weekly ECA News updates that will be sent electronically to the email addresses we have on file for you in the annual Registration Gateway update. The ECA News is the primary means of communication throughout the school year, so it is absolutely vital that students and family members keep themselves aware. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to ask. We are very excited about all of the opportunities that this new school year will bring, and look forward to seeing you next month.

- Returning Students grades 11 and up and ONE parent/guardian: **MANDATORY Back to School Kickoff on Monday, August 19, 6-8:15pm in the Student Center.**
- ALL Students: CORE Challenge Day on Wednesday, August 21 from 8:30am-12:30pm.
- 10th Graders: CAMP-US Orientation on Thursday, August 22 from 8:30am-12:30pm.
- First day of school for EMU classes: August 26
- First day of school for ECA classes: August 27 (Welcome Day 8:30am in the Student Center Auditorium)
- Curriculum Night for parents/guardians of those in ECA classes (students not required): September 12, 6-8:30pm ON CAMPUS

Registration Update: Included in this mailer is your personalized Registration Update letter. Please complete the online update no later than Wednesday, August 14th. Students not completing this requirement will NOT be enrolled in the Early College Alliance for the 2024-2025 school year.

Upcoming dates to remember

Wednesday, August 14th: Deadline for Registration Update to be completed. See enclosed letter for details.

Monday, August 19th, 6-8:15pm: Back to School Kickoff. **MANDATORY** for Returning Students grades 11 and up and ONE parent/guardian - Student Center Ballroom.

Wednesday, August 21st, 8:30am - 12:30pm: CORE Challenge Day - **MANDATORY** for ALL students. This is an orientation day where students will meet other classmates of all grade levels.

Thursday, August 22nd, 8:30am-12:30pm. CAMP-US Orientation - **MANDATORY for (10th Graders and all New Students ONLY)**. Returning Academy students should bring a backpack/book bag to carry their materials.

Monday, August 26th: First day of EMU classes ONLY -- NO ECA classes. (NOTE: This is before Labor Day)

Tuesday, August 27th: First day of ECA classes - Full day of school. (NOTE: This is before Labor Day).

Friday, August 30th, and Monday, September 2nd: No School (ECA or EMU) for Labor Day.

Friday, September 6th: First Early Release Day for ECA & Academy classes. Early Release for these classes will take place on most Fridays.

Thursday, September 12th, 6pm - 8:30pm: Curriculum Night. Late Start for ECA & Academy Classes to accommodate Curriculum Night; details TBA. Mandatory meeting for parents/guardians of 10th Graders and all New Students.

Saturday, October 19th: ECA PI's Tailgate Party for EMU's Homecoming. Save the date!

ECA Terminology Changes

Sometimes, a way of doing things becomes outdated. After 16 years, there are a few ECA-specific terms that we have found do not fit us well anymore, and we're adding another new term. Please be patient with us as we make these changes in our unique ECA lexicon.

The old term...	...is shifting to this new (and probably more familiar) one:
Returning Academy	10th graders or sophomores
Testers	11th graders or juniors
Walkers	12th graders or seniors
5th Year or Plus One Year	Scholarship Year

New Term:

Scholar: A student who is in their Scholarship Year, taking advantage of the opportunity to gain more free college credit in the 5th year of high school.

We will still use “Completers” to refer to students who are finishing the program in a given calendar year.

Fall '24 ECA Class Schedules/Book Pickup

If you are in 11th grade and up, ECA schedules will be distributed during CORE Challenge Day on 8/21 (as well as books/materials for ECA classes only). If you are a 10th grader, you will receive your ECA schedule (as well as books/materials) on Camp-Ups (8/22). If you have an EMU class, please log in to your **my.emich** account for your class schedule and room locations.

EMU & Hybrid Materials Distribution

PLEASE NOTE: 10th Grade Students will receive their ECA books/materials on Camp-Ups (8/22).

Returning Students (11th grade and up) with ECA classes:

You will pick up your ECA books directly after the CORE Challenge Day event, on August 21st. Please note that you WILL NOT pick up any EMU class books at this time.

All Students in EMU Classes - (Including Hybrid)

Materials distribution for EMU books and materials (including calculator and Chromebook checkout) will be available on Thursday, 8/22 1-3pm, Friday, 8/23 10am-3pm and the week of 8/26 from 9am-3pm and by appointment

If these times do not work for you, you can set up an appointment with Mr. Patel (patel@earlycollegealliance.info). Please let Mr. Patel know if you have any questions or need further assistance.

REC/IM Opt-Out

The Rec/IM Facility offers basketball, volleyball, and racquetball courts, fitness machines, two pools, an indoor track, billiards and gaming, and more. If you have any EMU classes on your fall schedule, EMU will add a **\$80 Rec/IM Fee** to your bill. You are responsible for paying this bill, but you can opt-out if you do not wish to utilize the facilities. The automatic Rec/IM Fee will be removed from the student account of those students enrolled in at least one EMU Course during the Fall 2024 semester IF you complete and submit the form (scan QR code →). Students not enrolled in an EMU course should not complete the form.



Students with EMU classes need to email the completed and signed form to ebill@emich.edu by September 5th.

Technology Needs for Students

All ECA students, enrolled in either ECA and/or EMU classes, should plan to have a laptop computer for use in all of their classes. Students are welcome to bring their own device (i.e. Macbook, PC laptop, or Chromebook; tablets are acceptable but may have some limitations to their use) or to check out a Chromebook from ECA.

There is no cost to check out a school Chromebook, but we do recommend that students purchase insurance to cover accidental damage or replacement of their school Chromebook (not including replacement chargers) for \$30. If students choose not to insure their school devices, they accept responsibility for the cost of any repairs or replacement needed (see this list of common repair costs: <http://bit.ly/DeviceRepairCosts>)

Device checkout:

- 10th graders and all New Students: **Thursday, August 22 during Camp-Us.**
- All other students: During EMU Materials Distribution times, **Thursday, 8/22 1-3pm; Friday, 8/23 10am-3pm; and the week of 8/26 from 9am-3pm and by appointment,** in King 122.
- **Please bring \$30 for insurance payments (cash or check made payable to ECA)**
- If you have any questions about technology or checking out a school Chromebook, or need to make an appointment for a time outside of these time slots, please reach out to Mr. Patel at patel@earlycollegealliance.info

EMU uses Duo Authentication (enhanced sign-in security) to access all online accounts (student email, drive, documents, etc.). The easiest way for students to have consistent access to their student account is by installing the Duo App on the cell phone they will be using on campus in the fall.

EMU Parking Permit

Are you in need of a parking pass for the Fall 2024 semester? Via ParkEMU, the Fall parking permit is \$214 and will be available for sale starting August 19th. Permits can only be purchased online at www.parkemu.com and you will need to log in with your EMU ID. Before you purchase, please read the permit details so you know where you can park without being cited or towed. Questions? Please contact ParkEMU at (734) 217-4890.

2024-2025 Community Directory



**CONNECT WITH
OTHER ECA FAMILIES!**

CLICK to enter your contact info for our
**2024-2025
Community
Directory**



<https://tinyurl.com/4mn97mdx> OR scan the QR code

ECA Parent/Guardian Commitment

Parents and guardians are a vital part of the ECA community. There are many opportunities for parent/guardian involvement, and the expectation is that families will contribute their time, talent, or resources throughout the school year. As a reminder, the following is a guideline for the minimum expected level of commitment:

- 3 hours of volunteering/semester (6 hours/year)
- 3 ECA Pi meetings/semester (6 meetings/year)
- \$25 in check, cash, or donations/semester (\$50/year, payable to ECA PI)

If this commitment burdens your family, please contact your CORE advisor or the Main Office.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS! Mark your calendars for the first ECA PI meeting of the school year on **Thursday, September 19th from 6-7:30pm**, in King Hall's MC Lounge (across from room 221). For more information about ECA PI, please email eca.pi.emu@gmail.com.

Parent/Guardian Volunteers Needed!



Back to School
Volunteer
Opportunities!

For 8/21 & 8/22 Events

- Materials Distribution
- Lunch Helpers

[CLICK HERE](#) or scan the QR
[code to sign up!](#)



Counts toward Parent/Guardian
Commitment!

ECA PI's Tailgate Party - Save the Date!



**ECA Tailgate
at EMU
homecoming
10/19/24**

- Parent involvement Opportunities!
- Chili cookoff, games and more
- More information to come.

Ms. Fountain's Information Station for Sophomores

Hello students! I hope that you're having a great summer thus far! Welcome back to all of my **Returning 10th-grade** students!

Here are just a few reminders regarding C.L.I.C.K (Character-Learning-Involvement-College-Knowledge), our Counseling curriculum:

- You will have C.L.I.C.K every semester while you're a student at ECA
- C.L.I.C.K is a Pass/No credit grade and you must pass each semester to be eligible for graduation
- C.L.I.C.K will consist of online (Canvas)/paper assignments and in-person half days throughout the year

Lastly, I hope you are keeping current on your studies by reading at least 4 times a week, for 30 minutes each day, as well as using Khan Academy for math. Make sure you're having lots of fun, getting rest and getting outdoors/exercising, all things that can help you re-energize for the upcoming Fall semester. I look forward to seeing you all at Core Challenge and CampUs.

We're going to have an awesome year!!

Ms. Squirewell's Counseling Corner

Hello Students! I hope that you are well and enjoying your summer break! I look forward to seeing you all in person at the Back to School Kickoff on August 19th!!

Just a few reminders for Juniors & Seniors...

- Please check out this **College Planning Timeline** (bit.ly/MyCPT) to make sure you are on the right track!
- Have you thought about an ECA student organization/club you may want to join in the fall?
- Are you searching and applying for scholarships? Please create an account with goingmerry.com to get started on your search!
- Are you logging your volunteer and/or employment hours on InnerView? Employment hours must be submitted on the Employment Hours Tracking form.

Just a few reminders for ALL Completers (Seniors and Scholars)...

- **Take a look at the College Planning Timeline** (bit.ly/MyCPT) and **get a head start over the summer!** You can start applying to colleges/universities on August 1st! Remember you are **applying as a freshman** and submitting your weighted GPA.
- Visit Big Future (<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>) to start your college search. You can start applying to colleges on August 1st. However, some Michigan Colleges will waive their application fee during the month of October, which is College Application Month. I strongly advise you to work on your college essays and submit a request for letters of recommendation before the start of school.
- You should be searching and applying for scholarships!!! Please create an account with goingmerry.com to get started on your search! Are you planning on continuing your education in Michigan? Visit MI Student Aid (<https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/programs>) for state grants and scholarships.
- Stay tuned for Fall 2024 Postsecondary Planning Meetings.
- **2025 Completers only**...please sign up for REMIND (www.remind.com/join/hc3998e). This is a CLICK grade 😊
- You can request a "free" copy of your ECA transcript by creating an account on **parchment.com**. Your ECA transcript will display your district, ECA, and EMU classes, along with your weighted GPA. The spelling of your name and birthday must match PowerSchool.
- Are you logging your volunteer hours on InnerView? Employment hours must be submitted on the Employment Hours Tracking form.
- Have you thought about a student organization/club you may want to join in the fall?

New Club Alert

Interested in engineering? The ECA's new Engineering Club is seeking members for next fall! The club will focus on building models, rockets, programming, and working on robotics projects, along with the occasional guest speaker. If interested, please contact Natalia at nchavez4@emich.edu.

Join Student Leaders



Are you gifted with leadership skills (or want to learn them)? Is having a positive impact on the ECA community important to you? If so, ECA Student Leaders is the place for you! Student Leaders is a group that plans many of ECA's social events (Black History Month Showcase, Harvest Hangout, Talent Show, Prom, etc.). We also volunteer in and around our community and are dedicated to enhancing ECA students' well-being, enjoyment, and social productivity.

If you will have at least 3 EMU classes in the Fall semester, join Student Leaders – we'd love to have you! Email Mrs. Jackson (jackson@earlycollegealliance.info) for more details.



Questions? Email Mrs. Jackson at jackson@earlycollegealliance.info.

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