Early College Credit Policy

I. General Requirements

Students must be enrolled with Sequoia Choice, and be in good academic standing. The student must have a recent history of demonstrating academic responsibility and success, whether with our school or coming from another school. Generally, students will need to be at the academic level of a high-school sophomore or beyond. Ongoing attendance delinquencies or other school problems will normally disqualify a student from approval, until a full semester of performance demonstrates readiness.

II. Approval and Course Selection

The Director of Student Services or another delegated counseling staff member have authority to approve which students may take Early College Credit courses, and which classes are approved. This is normally done in agreement with the student's school advisor, who recommends a candidate, and assists in course selection. The student must be progressing each semester in the core subject areas on their Graduation Plan, using either college or distance learning classes. Core subjects have priority over elective classes. These include English, Math, Science, and specific Social Studies classes. The student may take other subjects as well, such as foreign language, the arts, or career specific classes. If the student is behind in a core subject area, they must be registered in a course in that subject (online or college), in order to be approved for other college course subjects.

III. Part-time and Home-School

The student may be enrolled as either full-time or, if enrolled in another school, a "part-time" student. Their enrollment status will correlate to the number of classes and credits they are taking with our school. Part-time students will normally be able to take one college course at a time. Part-time students must be fulfilling their core subject areas with their other school, if not with Sequoia Choice. Transcripts from the other school are required after each semester, to demonstrate the student's ongoing academic progress towards a diploma.

Students coming from a "home-school only" education, lacking official transcript credits from a school, must work toward earning an official diploma through our program. This will include taking core subject areas each semester which are lacking, and recovering missing credits as needed through our "Challenge Exam" option or active college courses. Students who have not been enrolled in an Arizona public high-school (or charter high-school), should meet with a staff member about setting the student's cohort properly, to allow ample time to earn the diploma within a realistic time frame. Normal school requirements of benchmarks and standardized testing must be kept. A student who desires to be with us part-time, not enrolled in another school (home-schooled only), must take the course load that Sequoia Choice deems most appropriate for progress toward timely graduation on an approved Graduation Plan.

IV. Summer

Students in good standing may normally take one college course during a summer session, if recommended by our staff. This includes students who are at another school and come to us only for a summer course. Summer courses are condensed, and therefore full-time attendance must be submitted, according to the amount of weekly time spent related to the course, and other educational activities with our school.

V. Early College Credit Contract

The student and a parent or guardian must agree to our school policies by reading, signing, and returning the *Early College Credit Contract* at the beginning of each new school year or when beginning the program. It must include student's online log-in information, which is used for assistance with accounting and grade/credit verifications.

VI. State Testing

Participation in state standardized testing (i.e. AzMerit and AIMS Science) may be required, depending on the student's grade level and courses being taken at the college. Alternate testing times will be available for college students. College courses may need to be missed to participate in standardized testing.