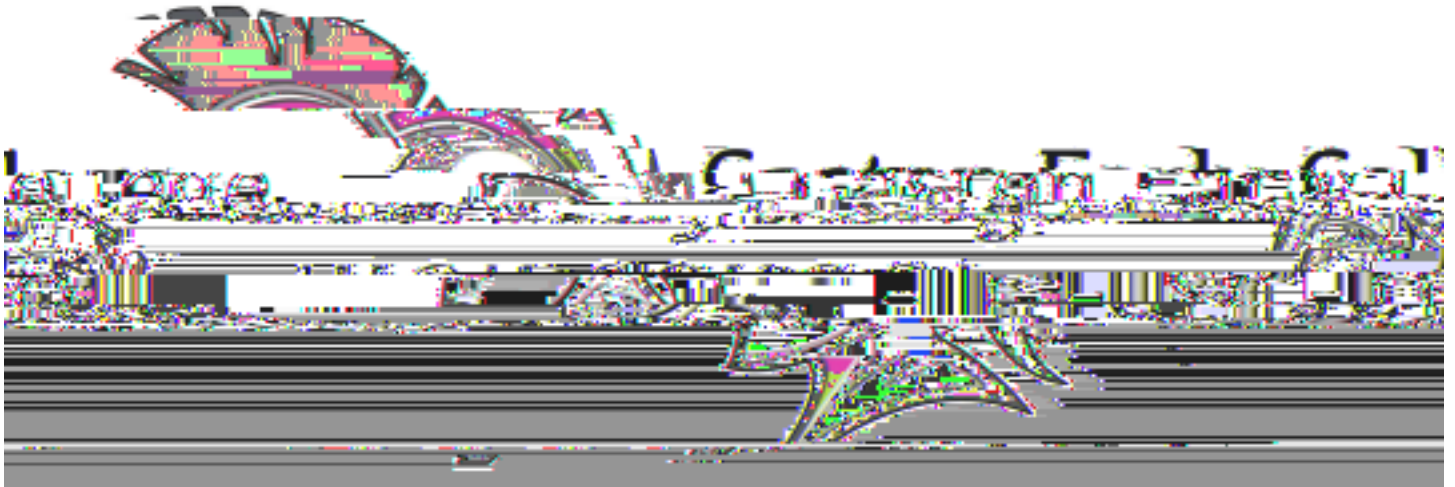


F A Q

Gaston Early College High School (GECHS) is one of the twelve public high schools within Gaston County Schools. As an early college, students who attend GECHS have the opportunity to graduate with their high school diploma and a free Associates Degree from Gaston College.

Gaston Early College is located on the campus of Gaston College in Dallas, NC. We are housed in the Lena Sue Beam building (near the Myers Center).

Gaston offers a small, family atmosphere providing students with the tools necessary for college and future careers, and beyond. Students are placed in small classes with a great student-to-teacher ratio. Small classes allow teachers to better meet the needs of their students. All teachers act as mentors for students, building relationships that allow students to feel safe and accepted at school. We also offer a wide range of opportunities for students to get involved and become part of the culture that GECHS embodies. On Fridays we volunteer, participate in enrichment activities, and our seniors are involved in job shadowing experiences.



F A Q

If your child is selected to attend Gaston Early College High School, you can count on saving money! The average cost to attend a community college and receive an Associates Degree is \$5,056 plus fees and books. After graduating from a traditional high school and enrolling in a public North Carolina university, students would pay an average cost of up to \$9,000+ a year on tuition and fees alone.

GECHS students will take their first college class in the fall semester of their Freshman year.

If you are a current 8th grader that resides in Gaston County, you can apply. GECHS only accepts applications from prospective students during their 8th grade year.

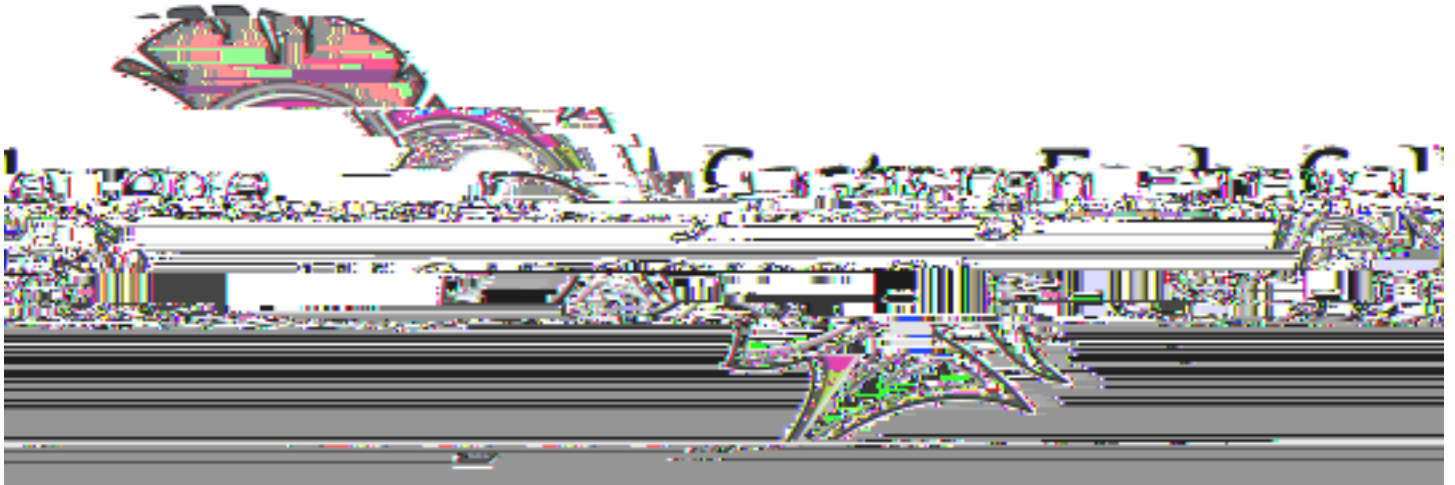
Students are chosen in a lottery. Incoming 9th grade classes are made up of a certain percentage of students from each GCS high school (excluding Highland School of Technology and Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences). Scribbles Software, the company GCS uses for choice-school lotteries, will conduct the lottery and notify students of their initial acceptance into Gaston Early College High School.

Students may enter the building beginning at 8:15 a.m. Classes begin at 9:00 a.m. School dismisses each day at 3:45 p.m.

F A Q

Gaston Early College High School (GECHS) creates its own school calendar based on the GCS and Gaston College calendars. All GECHS students are required to follow the Gaston Early College High School calendar.

Yes. GECHS partners with Highland School of Technology (HST) to manage our own fleet of GCS buses. Students needing bus transportation will be picked up from their home and dropped off at their home each day. Unique to GECHS and HST bus transportation is the fact that our drivers transport students to and from all feeder area schools, so bus transportation usually takes a bit longer in the mornings and afternoons than at the neighborhood ueh upi



F A Q

An application must be completed and [submitted to Scribbles](#) by March 3, 2023. For the 2023 application year, students must:

- reside in Gaston County (along with their parent/legal guardian)*
- have scored a level 3 or higher on the 7th grade Reading EOG assessment*
- have scored a level 3 or higher on the 7th grade Math EOG assessment*
- have a 7th grade overall “C” or 70 minimum average for final grades*
- have an 8th grade overall “C” or 70 minimum average based upon first semester performance*
- have good standing in conduct for the 7th grade*
- have good standing in attendance for the 7th grade (medical exceptions are considered)*

****Non-Gaston County Schools applicants must submit the following:**

- 7th grade final report card*
- 7th grade standardized test scores administered at the applicant’s school*
- 7th grade attendance records*
- 8th grade first semester report card **and** attendance records*
- For acceptance into the lottery, applicants must also complete an 8th grade iReady Diagnostic Assessment (Middle-of-Year Tests) in Reading and Math and be proficient at a “Early Grade Level” or higher score (this assessment will be given at the [Gaston County Schools Teacher Resource Center](#)).*
- Complete and return the [Discipline Information Request](#) to Gaston Early College High School prior to March 3, 2023.*

F A Q

Students must



F A Q

No, you can still apply to other choice schools while also applying to GECHS.