

ZECA Planning Guide | 2026-2027



Overview

The Zachary Early College Academy (ZECA) is a college preparatory program within Zachary High School and the Zachary Community School District designed for students who want to begin their college journey while still in high school.

Students enrolled in ZECA will complete high school graduation requirements while participating in college-level coursework through a partnering college or university.

Participants will be working toward an associate degree or developing an individualized collegiate pathway aligned with their academic and career interests.

ZECA will offer **in-person, hybrid, and virtual learning modalities**, ensuring flexible and accessible learning opportunities for students. All formats include structured support from the ZECA administrator, counselor, and academic assistance partners.

Vision

Our vision is to create an academically rigorous and supportive learning environment where students can accelerate their educational journey through early exposure to college coursework. ZECA empowers students to pursue advanced academic pathways while developing the skills necessary for success in college, careers, and leadership.

Program Highlights

- Opportunity to work toward an **associate degree or individual collegiate pathway** during high school
- Courses aligned with **college and career readiness standards**
- Instruction offered through **in-person, hybrid, and virtual learning environments**
- Access to **college advising and academic support**
- Opportunity to complete **transferable college coursework**
- Strong preparation for **postsecondary education and career opportunities**
- **Small, supportive learning environment** designed to help students succeed in rigorous coursework

Target Audience

- Motivated to pursue college-level coursework while in high school while earning college credit
- Demonstrate strong academic responsibility and time management
- Want to explore career pathways
- Students of Zachary High School

Admission requirements

- 2.5 GPA (minimum)
- Student/parent meeting/interview
- Meet specific dual enrollment requirements
- Teacher recommendation
- Transcript/test scores review

Student Expectations

- Maintain strong academic performance
- Successfully complete college-level coursework
- Demonstrate responsibility and independence
- Attend required advising and support sessions
- Meet both high school and college academic expectations

TOPS Core Curriculum

2027 graduates
2028-2030 graduates
2031 graduates

Student Benefits

- Early exposure to **college-level coursework**
- Opportunity to **earn college credit while in high school**
- Development of strong **college readiness skills**
- **Academic advising and mentoring support**
- **Flexible learning** through in-person, hybrid, and virtual instruction
- Preparation for **college, career, and leadership opportunities**

Information

Applications will open during the **2025–2026 school year** for the inaugural ZECA cohort beginning Fall 2026.

For more information, contact:
ZECA@zacharyschools.org

Program information and application details will be available through the **district website**.