

For Immediate Release

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Colorado Early Colleges to Expand in Douglas County

Colorado Springs, CO (October 16, 2019) – During its October 15th board meeting, the [Colorado Charter School Institute](http://www.csi.state.co.us) (CSI) Board of Directors approved the expansion application for [Colorado Early Colleges \(CEC\) Douglas County](#). This approval will allow the Parker-based school, which has reached capacity, to expand 9th through 12th grade educational programming to Castle Rock and Inverness as well as offer homeschool enrichment programs starting in August 2020.

CEC's Castle Rock campus is strategically located next to Arapahoe Community College's (ACC) new Sturm Collaboration Campus, making it an ideal location to expand CEC's early college model.

CEC's Inverness campus is uniquely positioned in the Inverness Tech area of Englewood and will provide an opportunity to partner with surrounding businesses for student internships and apprenticeships.

"We are very excited to expand our program to families in Douglas County. We are the only Early College option in the county, and I am honored to spearhead this effort," shares Alex Tuel, Head of School at Colorado Early Colleges Douglas County.

"Our early college model has continued to provide exceptional career and college advancement opportunities for high schoolers across the state. With the ongoing success of our Parker campus and the demand for our program within Douglas County, this expansion will support more students as they focus on their future," said Colorado Early Colleges Chief Executive Administrator Sandi Brown. "We continue to be intentional with our college partnerships and with our programming to ensure that our students leave us with more exposure to career options, more opportunity to discover their chosen career path and the right debt-free degree or certification to get them there faster."

"Colorado Early Colleges Douglas County is consistently one of the highest-performing schools in the CSI portfolio as well as one of the top in the Douglas County community," shares CSI Director of Evaluation and Assessment, Ryan Marks, who oversees the CSI expansion process.

According to state assessment results released earlier this fall, CEC Douglas County students received the highest SAT scores in Douglas County. In addition, CEC Douglas County is a multi-year recipient of the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award, John Irwin School of Excellence Award and a CSI School of Distinction.

[The Colorado Early Colleges Network](#) was created in 2007 by former Senator Keith King. The network of early college schools provides students in grades 6-12 the opportunity to begin career exploration in middle school and begin college-level courses as early as 9th grade if they are college ready. As a result, most high school students graduate with a focused career or college path and a debt-free Associate degree, industry certification or more. CEC currently serves students across the state with campuses in Aurora, Colorado Springs, Fort Collins, Fort Collins West, Windsor and Parker. Satellite offices for its College Direct program are available in Westminster and Highlands Ranch.

Colorado Early Colleges Douglas County's current 5-year contract will be amended to include the expansion to the Castle Rock and Inverness locations. For more information on CEC Douglas County and how enroll, visit their [website](#).

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About the Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI)

CSI is a statewide charter public school authorizer in Colorado, currently authorizing 40 schools from Durango to Steamboat Springs, Grand Junction to Colorado Springs and serving over 18,000 PK-12 students. As a charter authorizer, CSI focuses on the outputs—that is, the quantitative evaluation of academic, organizational, and financial school performance—providing schools the flexibility to focus on and make decisions about inputs like instructional strategies, educational programming, internal assessment system, facility selection, and staffing. The focus on outcomes rather than processes allows CSI to be neutral on educational model and maintain a diverse portfolio of school models, which include Classical, Early College, Alternative, and Montessori models. Learn more at www.csi.state.co.us or read our [Media Kit](#), and follow CSI on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).