

Questions and Answers–May 2016



1. What is the DO Partnership program?

The Diversity of Opportunity (DO) Partnership is an effort by leaders of school districts in Monroe County to offer suburban students new opportunities and increase the socioeconomic and cultural diversity of the city schools. This program is an extension of the Urban–Suburban program, which has been in place in this area since 1965. A goal of the DO Partnership is to offer suburban students educational experiences that are unique to the city. The DO Partnership programs take place in a school setting, with opportunities for athletic and extracurricular involvement, and all the benefits of a diverse student population.



2. Who is eligible to participate?

The DO Partnership is open to students who will be entering 9th grade in September 2016 and who currently attend an Urban-Suburban District. Those districts include: Brighton, Brockport, East Irondequoit, East Rochester, Fairport, Hilton, Kendall, Penfield, Pittsford, Spencerport, Webster, West Irondequoit, and Wheatland-Chili.

3. What programs are available at East and Edison to suburban students?

Edison offers full day career and technical pathways to prepare students for college and career. The available pathways include:

- Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering
- Construction, Architecture & Design
- Digital Media, Arts & Communication
- P-TECH Rochester, a program which partners with MCC for a free Associate's Degree in Informational Technology



In addition, the East Campus offers the following pathways:

- Culinary Arts
- Information Technology
- Medical Careers
- Precision Optics
- Teaching and Learning Institute
- Vision Care



4. How will my student benefit from this program?

Suburban students and their families get access to unique work-based education opportunities that address a wide range of interests, preparing them for success in the workplace and college. Students enrolled in these programs will have access to the CTE and CDOS 4+1 graduation pathway options, which allow for alternative options to substitute for one of the Social Studies Regents exams.

Students will receive an extraordinary preparation for the real world – not just in their academic subjects and work-based learning, but as full-day participants in a diverse and well-rounded school community with opportunities for sports and extracurricular activities.

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5. Are these programs offered elsewhere?

While some BOCES programs offer half day, career-based educational options, students in the DO Partnership have access to career and technical pathways and an integrated curriculum, as well as being part of full-day school. This combination is unique in Monroe County.

6. What school will my student receive a diploma from?

Students will receive a Regents diploma from the RCSD school they attend. In most cases, students will also receive certifications, endorsements and college credit relevant to their course of study.

In addition, P-TECH Rochester offers students both a diploma from Edison Career and Technology High School and a free MCC Associate's Degree in Information Technology.

7. How does transportation work?

The suburban district will provide transportation to any student living within 15 miles of the city school. For students living outside that radius, special arrangements will be made.

8. Why are the school districts participating?

In keeping with the goals of the Urban-Suburban Program, this program seeks to increase opportunities for all students. The DO Partnership recognizes:

- There are unique, high-quality programs in city schools that could benefit suburban students.
- This is an opportunity to offer suburban students exposure to a diverse school population.

9. I have heard there are safety issues at Edison Tech and East High. Will my child be safe?

A safe and supportive school environment is a top priority of RCSD. While there were a higher number of incidents than expected at the beginning of this school year, both schools have made changes in policies, procedures, and administrations during the school year that have improved school climates and reduced safety concerns. We encourage you to come for a visit.

10. How many students can enroll in each program?

As these career pathway programs are popular with city school district students, 30 is the maximum number of suburban students that will be accepted this year: 10 students for P-TECH Rochester, 10 students for East High, and 10 students for Edison Tech.

11. Deadline for application:

June 30th is the deadline, but applications will be accepted on a rolling basis – don't wait to apply!

12. How can I learn more?

Visit our website: www.rcsdk12.org/DoPartnership.

For Edison programs, contact Adele Bovard, Deputy Superintendent of Administration at Adele.Bovard@rcsdk12.org or 585.262.8514.

For information about the programs offered at East High, contact Lorna Washington, Special Assistant to the East EPO Superintendent at Lorna.Washington@rcsdk12.org or 585.324.3652.