

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** September 20, 2011  
**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**FROM:** Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON DIPLOMA-TO-DEGREE PROGRAM**  
**ORIGINATOR:** Dr. Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent

**RESOURCE PERSON(S):** Roger Plunkett, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction  
Kathleen McMahon, Executive Director, Special Programs  
Tim Hayden, Acting Coordinator, School Counseling

**INFORMATION**

That the Board of Education will receive an update on the diploma-to-degree program.

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Attachment I – PowerPoint Presentation  
Attachment II – Diploma-to-Degree Brochure

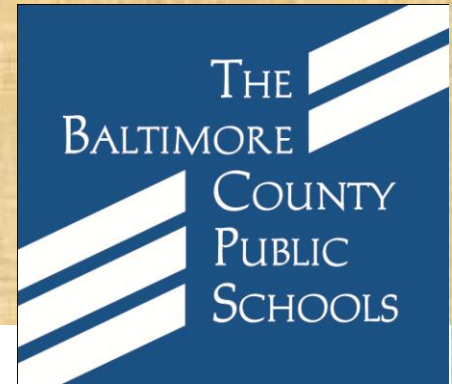
# ***Diploma-to-Degree Program***

## **Executive Summary**

**September 20, 2011**

The *Diploma to Degree* program is a partnership designed for students to graduate from Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) having simultaneously earned an associate of arts degree in general studies from the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) and a high school diploma from BCPS. The course of study focuses on academic rigor and prepares students for the twenty-first century work force allowing students to use their associate of arts degree to pursue further education in a four-year Maryland college or university upon graduation from high school.

This program was envisioned for the state of Maryland by past State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick and Superintendent Dr. Joe A. Hairston. BCPS and CCBC were selected to create a model program as a direct result of the strong partnership forged between the president of the community college, Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis, and Dr. Hairston. Teams of educators, administrators, and advisors from both institutions met to identify courses that were aligned to meet the requirements of the associate of arts degree and to identify resources and procedures to support students' success in this program.

A decorative vertical column on the left side of the page features four orange circles of varying sizes, arranged from top to bottom: a large circle, a medium circle, a small circle, and another medium circle.

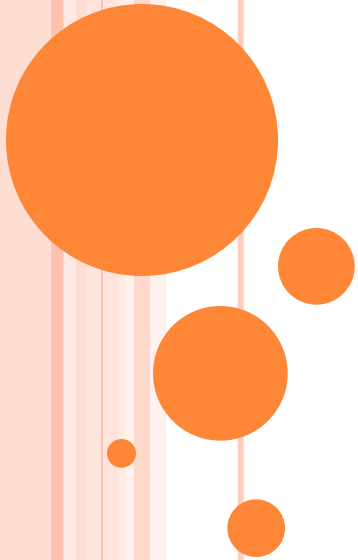
**DD<sub>2</sub>D**

**BCPS-CCBC**

**Diploma to Degree program**



## BCPS-CCBC Diploma to Degree program



# THE DIPLOMA TO DEGREE PROGRAM

A partnership between Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) and The Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC)



# DIPLOMA TO DEGREE

Students will earn an associate of arts degree in general studies while getting their BCPS' high school diploma.



# STANDARDS FOR ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION

- Strong academic grade-point average (3.0 preferred)
- Determination to complete this demanding program
- Scores of at least a 50 on each of the PSAT tests
- Letters of recommendation





BCPS-CCBC  
Diploma to Degree program

# APPLICATION DISTRIBUTION

Applications	School	# Eligible
5	George Washington Carver Ctr Arts Tech	29
7	Catonsville High School	27
0	Chesapeake High School	2
5	Dulaney High School	53
0	Dundalk High School	1
7	Eastern Technical High School	18
1	Franklin High School	10
3	Hereford High School	36
1	Kenwood High School	1
0	Loch Raven High School	13
0	Overlea High School	0
2	Owings Mills High School	3
0	Lansdowne High School	0
0	Milford Mill School	0
0	New Town High School	0
1	Parkville High School	3
3	Patapsco High School Center for the Arts	5
3	Perry Hall High School	29
0	Pikesville High School	14
1	Randallstown High School	1
0	Sparrows Point High School	3
2	Towson High School	47
5	Western School of Technology	14
0	Woodlawn High School	1
<b>46</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>310</b>





# STUDENTS ACCEPTED

<b>School</b>	<b># of Students</b>
Catonsville High School	4
Dulaney High School	3
Eastern Technical High School	3
George Washington Carver Center Arts Tech	2
Hereford High School	1
Kenwood High School	1
Owings Mills High School	1
Perry Hall High School	2
Randallstown High School	1
Western School of Technology	2

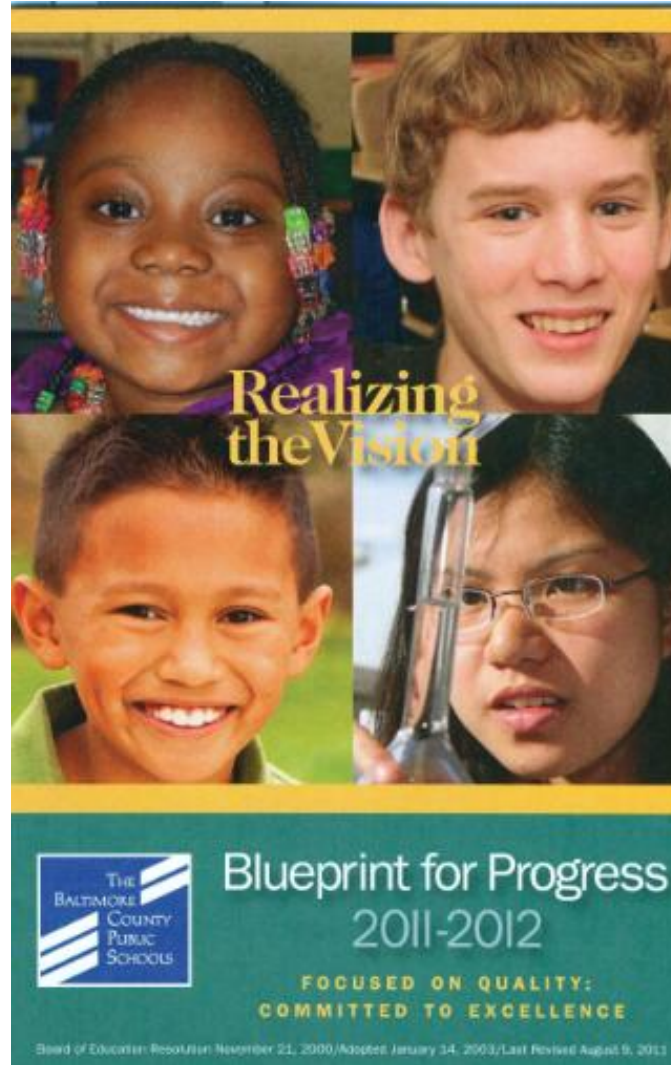


# CCBC ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION

- Parent and Student Orientation
- Registration and Course Advisement
- Classes selected by students were compatible with their BCPS' schedule



# REALIZING THE VISION: D2D



# DD2

BCPS-CCBC

Diploma to Degree Program

## How it works

Students can earn the credits that will allow them to graduate with both a high school diploma and an associate degree through a number of options:

- CCBC coursework** - earn college credits by taking a college course.
- Credit by exam** - earn college credits by achieving a certain score on an exam such as the AP Test.
- Articulation** - receive college credit for approved courses taken in high school.
- Dual credit** - take a college course that awards credit toward both the diploma and the degree.



**CCBC**  
The Community College  
of Baltimore County

[www.ccbcmd.edu](http://www.ccbcmd.edu)



[www.bcps.org](http://www.bcps.org)

The Diploma to Degree program is designed for students who want to graduate from Baltimore County public schools (BCPS) having simultaneously earned an Associate of Arts Degree in General Studies at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) and a high school diploma from BCPS. Focused on academic rigor and preparation for the twenty-first century work force, this program allows students to earn college credit that they can easily transfer to Maryland colleges and universities in pursuit of advanced degrees.

## Standards for Eligibility and Participation

Students who demonstrate college readiness, defined as the intellectual and emotional ability to successfully perform college work at the introductory credit level, will be considered for this program. Recommendations and demonstration of readiness will be determined through teacher, counselor, parent, and student feedback. Additional qualifications include:

- A strong academic grade point average (2.5-3.0 preferred).
- Previous courses completed for credit.
- Student determination to complete this demanding program.
- PSAT subscores of 50 or above.

## General Criteria

- The student should have sophomore status and currently be enrolled in a Baltimore County public school.
- The student must be in good standing as defined by the high school and positioned to earn all graduation requirements with his or her entering class.
  - Previous courses completed for credit prior to sophomore year should include at least one credit of a foreign language and at least Algebra I with completion of Algebra II or Geometry recommended. Honors, GT/IB/AP courses recommended.
  - 2.5 to 3.0+ GPA preferred.
- The student must have permission from the high school and his or her parent/ guardian to participate.
- The student must have recommendations from at least two teachers and his or her school counselor.

- The student must be eligible to enroll at CCBC.
- The student agrees to participate in the program and understands the requirements for successful completion of the program.
- To continue enrollment in subsequent semesters/terms through this program the student must have successfully completed the courses identified in this program with a grade of C or better.
- If the student withdraws/drops from a course in the program, he or she must receive permission from both the high school and college to continue enrollment in the program.
- The student must comply with all requirements of the program.
- The student must maintain good standing at the college as defined by CCBC.
- The student must work with the CCBC college advisors to determine if the credits earned through this program are transferrable to the college of his/her choice.

## College Course Expectations

Students and parents/guardians of students enrolled in the Diploma to Degree program will be advised of college course-level expectations, including, but not limited to the following:

- Expectation of 2 hours study time per 1 hour class time.
- Class attendance is required at all classes and laboratories.
- Students are responsible for any make-up work that may be necessary as a result of absence from class.
- Students must adhere to class assignment deadlines.
- All grades are calculated in a student's GPA and will appear on their college and high school transcript, whenever applicable.
- All grades earned, including "W" for withdrawal, are a permanent part of the student academic record and may impact subsequent college admission.
- Course materials and class discussions may reflect topics not typically included in high school level coursework.
- While appropriate for college level study, courses and/or topics are not modified to accommodate variations in student age and maturity.
- A grade less than "C" will result in a review of the student's eligibility to continue participating in the Diploma to Degree program.
- An overall minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in order to earn an associate degree.
- Grades of "C" or better are expected in all Diploma to Degree coursework.

