THE EARLY COLLEGE MODEL

ITS IMPACTS ON CREDENTIALS

ITS COSTS

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1

WHAT ARE EARLY COLLEGES AND HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT FROM DUAL ENROLLMENT?

Merged high school and college experience

College-level courses added onto regular high school

2

KEY DIFFERENCES IN EARLY COLLEGE AND DUAL ENROLLMENT

Aspect	Small, stand-alone Early Colleges	Dual Enrollment
Structure	Purposefully created small schools of choice	Regular high school
Student population	Target population is students under-represented in college ALL students in school expected to take college courses	Interested academically advanced students/workforce bound students
Ultimate goal relative to credit	Two years of college credit/AA degree	Misc. credit accrual (some emphasis on pathways)
Other changes in the school	College readiness activities, rigorous and relevant instruction, academic and affective supports, teacher collaboration and professional development	No other changes in school
Postsecondary Partnerships	Provide space, courses, student supports; share data	Provide courses

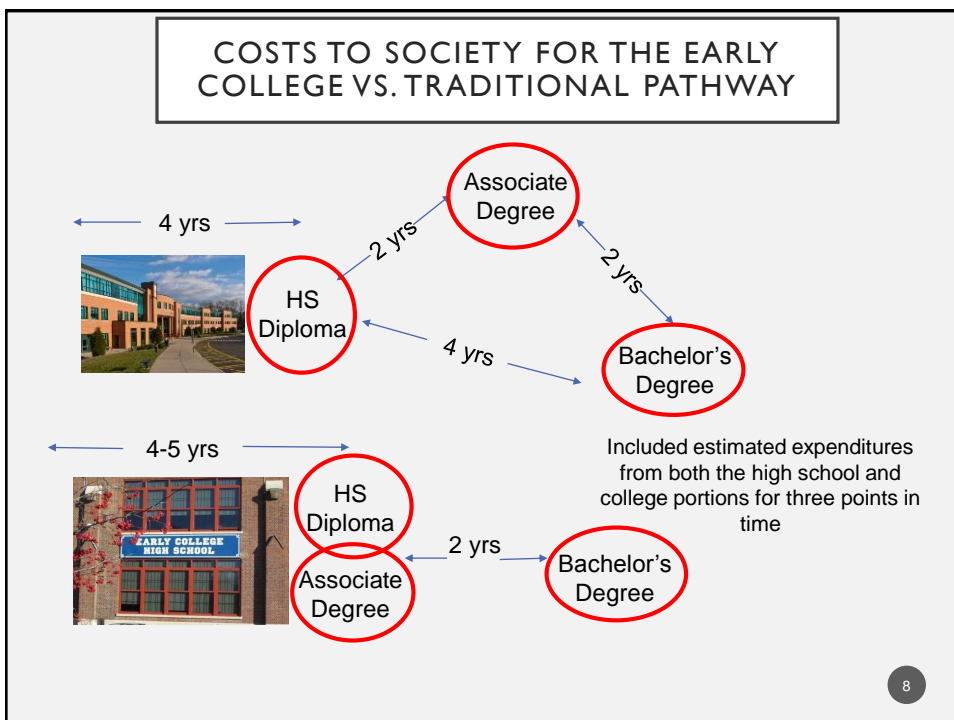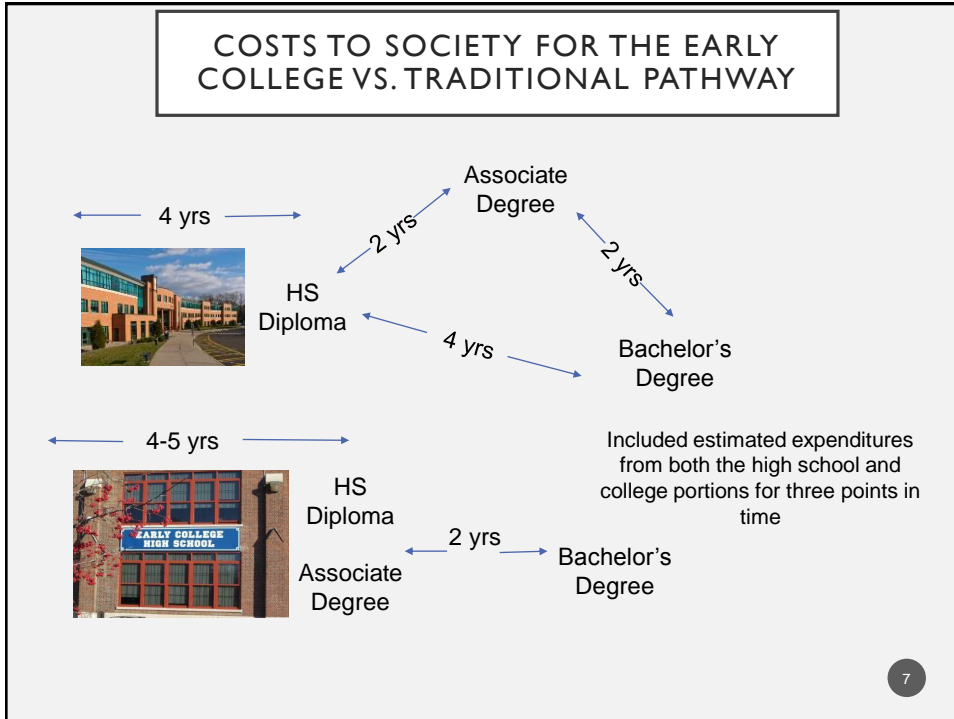## RESULTS FROM 12-YEAR IES-FUNDED EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF NC MODEL

Students apply to early college

Screening

Eligible Students

Lottery

Selected

Not selected

4

RESULTS FROM 12-YEAR EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF NC MODEL

Students apply to early college

Screening

Total Sample: 4,000 students who applied to 19 early colleges

Eligible Students

Lottery

ECHS

Control

5
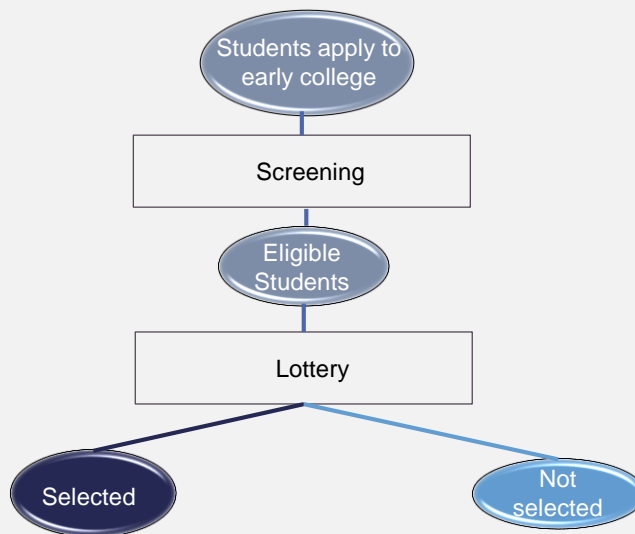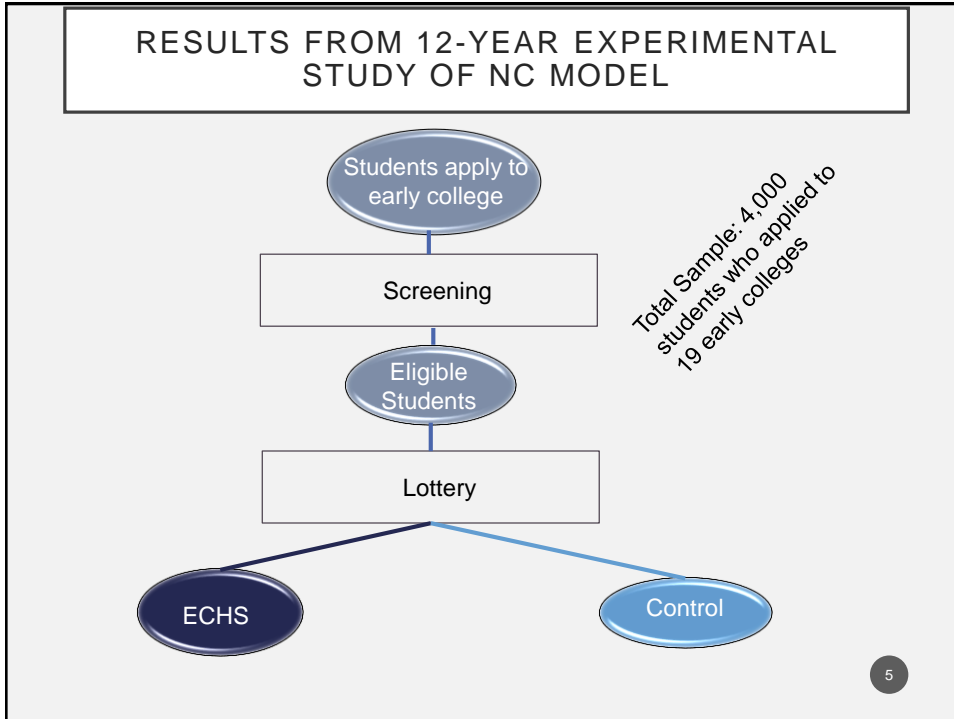
Impact on Postsecondary Credentials

	Adjusted Treatment Mean	Control Mean	Adjusted Impact, ITT estimate
% Attainment of any postsecondary credential by eight years after 9th grade (N=1671 students)	37%	22%	15%*
% Attainment of associate degree	28	9	20*
% Attainment of Bachelor's degree	18	13	5*
% attainment of any credential by sub-group			
Underrepresented minority	25	15	10*
Economically disadvantaged	29	15	14*
First generation college-goers	31	17	14*

*Statistically significant

6

COSTS TO SOCIETY FOR THE EARLY COLLEGE VS. TRADITIONAL PATHWAY

COSTS TO SOCIETY FOR THE EARLY COLLEGE VS. TRADITIONAL PATHWAY

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF COST TO AN
EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIAL
(FROM SOCIETY'S PERSPECTIVE)

Cost to…	Early College Pathway	Traditional High School Pathway
High school diploma	$36,906	$26,656
HS diploma plus a NC Community College two-year degree	$45,762	$48,356
HS diploma plus a UNC system four-year degree	$91,192	$121,626

9