Suffolk County Community College Beacon Program
2019-20 Academic Year
Student-Parent-Guardian Informational Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians of High School Junior and Senior Students:

We are contacting you today with exciting news about the collaboration of a rewarding program at Suffolk County Community College designed with your children in mind. Suffolk's Beacon Program is a concurrent enrollment program designed to provide college credit for those high school [HS] **junior and senior students** enrolled in courses offered through Suffolk's Beacon Program at our HS campus, during their normal schedule hours.

There are many reasons why our students should consider participating in this program, to name a few:
- Students will get a head start on their college studies.
- Courses offered at an affordable reduced Beacon Program tuition ($57/**COLLEGE** credit).
- Convenience of taking college courses during regular HS hours.
- A Suffolk academic transcript is generated and posted electronically on Suffolk's student portal at the culmination of the course. Credits earned are transferable to many colleges and universities. **When requesting transcripts to be sent to an attending college, use the link:** http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/current-students/registrar/official-transcript.jsp
- Visit the Beacon Program website for information on viewing Suffolk's unofficial academic transcripts http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/Beacon

Student Eligibility:
Students become eligible to participate in this program by meeting all HS and Suffolk pre-requisite course criteria, demonstrating readiness to take a college level course and either have a B or better average in the discipline or a letter of recommendation from their principal, teacher, or counselor. Students must be approved by their HS teacher for admission into courses offered through Suffolk's Beacon Program. Incompletes/withdrawals are not acceptable Suffolk Beacon Program grades.

The program is designed to provide curricular opportunity and enhancement of the college experience, but not its replacement. Therefore, students may enroll in no more than a total of 30 college credits earned through the Beacon Program.

Courses Taught:
This year we are partnering with Suffolk to offer *College Precalculus (MAT124, Suffolk CRN#93629, 4 credits)* to your child for college credit.

Tuition:
In an effort to encourage HS **junior and senior students** to participate in this exciting program Suffolk has lowered their tuition rate for students taking courses offered through the Beacon Program to **$57/COLLEGE credit** with no additional fees, for the 2019-20 school year (2-credit course = $114, 3-credit course = $171, 4-credit course = $228). This is less than one-third of the in-county tuition rate per credit hour of campus-based courses at Suffolk, allowing affordability and accessibility for more HS students to get a jump start on their college education. The 2019-20 school year tuition for **campus-based** courses taken at Suffolk is $228 per college credit, where a three credit Suffolk campus-based course would cost Suffolk County residents $684 plus fees. **The Beacon Program saves the student more than *$513* for each three-credit course!**

Enrollment Process:
Beacon Program Brochures are available from the HS; sharing procedures, value and benefits of enrolling in courses offered through the Beacon Program.

Students receive a Student Course Enrollment Application with course information from their HS teacher. A separate Student Course Enrollment Application with tuition attached must be completed and submitted for **EACH** course that the student enrolls. All areas of the Student Course Enrollment Application must be accurate and

complete, with the correct tuition secured, for student enrollment. Complete applications are submitted to the HS teacher/administrator as per HS procedures and are then due, **via the HS at Suffolk's Office of the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs** no later than **September 20, 2019.**

Tuition payment should be remitted in **check or money order** payable to SCCC. No other form of payment can be accepted, including cash. Please ensure checks/money orders are accurate and signed.

Viewing Grades: At the end of the course, students obtain their Suffolk ID number from their HS teacher or may use their social security number to access their Suffolk grades. Official Suffolk academic transcripts are available to send to the student's prospective attending college after July 1st, as explained on Suffolk's Beacon Program website: www.sunysuffolk.edu/Beacon . It is the student's responsibility to review their Suffolk academic transcript at the end of the course and communicate any discrepancies to their HS teacher/counselor.

Changes in student enrollment in the HS course offered through the Beacon Program should be immediately communicated to Suffolk's Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs via the student's HS teacher/administrator. **There is no tuition refund after Student Enrollment Application submission, September 20, 2019,** as all student enrollments are in process at that time.

Please ensure all students/parents/guardians are aware of the timeline, policies, and due dates as applications and checks are binding enrollment and are non-refundable after September 20, 2019. Student enrollment status cannot be changed nor can additional students be enrolled into the course after this date.

Students make a commitment to take the course they **chose** to enroll in through the Beacon Program for college credit. There is no tuition refund or changes in Beacon Program enrollment after the Course Enrollment Application submission date of September 20, 2019 as all student enrollments are processed at that time.

If a student withdraws from a high school course being offered through the Beacon Program, a course withdrawal form (provided by Dean Wolfson) should be completed so that the student receives a W on their academic transcript.

For students who plan to enroll full time [FT] at Suffolk and apply for financial aid [FA]; non-completion (withdrawals) of courses enrolled through the Beacon Program may affect FA. Minimum standard is generally 50% of enrolled courses completed with a minimum 70% average. http://sunysuffolk.edu/apply-enroll/financial-aid/eligibility-requirements.jsp

Additional information and student guidelines are posted on Suffolk's Beacon Program website www.sunysuffolk.edu/Beacon. Submission of a student registration application with tuition is due in the HS office prior to September 20, 2019.

Sincerely,

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Beacon Program Informational Website: www.sunysuffolk.edu/Beacon

Suffolk County Community College Website: www.sunysuffolk.edu

Official Transcript Request: http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/current-students/registrar/official-transcript.jsp