

Early College



OBJECTIVE

Promoting highly gifted and particularly capable students



PROJECT PARTNER

German universities offering STEM courses of study



EVALUATION

Prof. Dr. Claudia Solzbacher
(University of Osnabrück)



DURATION

since 2004

Around three to five per cent of all students are insufficiently challenged in everyday school life because they are particularly gifted or willing to learn. Early College provides these young people with additional intellectual challenges and helps with study or job orientation. With its Early College project, Deutsche Telekom Stiftung supports universities in the introduction of offers such as these.

The participants of Early College are usually high school students who, as an extracurricular activity, attend lectures and exercises at universities, write examinations and collect credits, which can be accumulated for later studies. Around 1,700 young people are currently utilizing the option of Early College at more than 50 universities throughout Germany.

The STEM subjects science, technology, engineering and mathematics are particularly suitable for an offer such as this, with its realization supported by the Telekom Stiftung, whose objective it is to support young talent and promote excellence. The Stiftung's financial commitment allows universities to provide students with tutors, for example, who accompany and support the young people during everyday university life. If necessary, the universities can also reimburse travel costs or compile information material for Early College.

In Rostock, the Foundation has promoted a special approach: students take part in online courses. E-Learning allows young people to participate in Early College irrespective of time and place. Online lectures and seminars make traveling to Rostock obsolete. This also plays a significant role in light of expensive



Photo: Deutsche Telekom AG

Offered to committed students: During Early College, they can familiarize themselves with course contents.

EARLY COLLEGE IS A CONTRIBUTION FOR THE PROMOTION OF EXCELLENCE.

travel costs, especially for a large state like Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. Students can therefore direct their entire attention and energy to the Early College contents. Incidentally, E-Learning also implies that students can

be accompanied during each Early College phase, either personally or supported by media. The positive effects of Early College is proven by a study performed by Professor Claudia Solzbacher at the University of Osnabrück in 2007 (refer to back page). The result: Early College is a success for both the participants and the universities. However, support from the schools leaves something to be desired.

More information:

www.telekom-stiftung.de/en/es

Project partners

- Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen
- Universität Bayreuth
- Freie Universität Berlin
- Universität Bielefeld
- Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn
- Universität Bremen
- Technische Universität Chemnitz
- Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus
- Technische Universität Dortmund
- Technische Universität Dresden
- Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf
- Universität Duisburg-Essen
- Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
- Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main
- Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
- Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
- Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg
- Universität Hamburg
- Technische Universität Hamburg-Harburg
- Leibniz Universität Hannover
- Universität Hildesheim
- Universität Hohenheim
- Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena
- Technische Universität Kaiserslautern
- Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT)
- Universität Kassel
- Christian-Albrecht-Universität zu Kiel
- Universität Koblenz Landau
- Universität zu Köln
- Leuphana Universität Lüneburg
- Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz
- Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
- Universität der Bundeswehr München
- Technische Universität München
- Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg
- Universität Osnabrück
- Universität Paderborn
- Universität Passau
- Universität Potsdam
- Universität Regensburg
- Universität Rostock
- Universität des Saarlandes
- Universität Siegen
- Universität Stuttgart
- Universität Trier
- Universität Ulm
- Bayerische Julius-Maximilian-Universität Würzburg
- Bergische Universität Wuppertal

Publications

Early College – students at the university

For this study, Professor Claudia Solzbacher anonymously questioned 331 students as well as universities, lecturers and school administrators. On average, the young respondents were 18 years old and mostly attended preparatory high schools. In total, 95 percent of students were very satisfied with their Early College. On a school grade scale from 1 (excellent) to 6 (failure), they graded the offer with an average of 1.95. The support by universities and the conditions found there were especially praised. The entire study can be attained free of charge from the Telekom Stiftung (refer to Contact).



Early College

The publication summarizes experience and findings on the topic of Early College. Students, as well as university lecturers and student coordinators, describe their experiences and impressions. The publication is rounded off with tips and practical information and can be ordered free of charge from the Telekom Stiftung (refer to Contact).



DEUTSCHE TELEKOM STIFTUNG

Deutsche Telekom Stiftung was established in 2003 to strengthen Germany's position as an education, research and technology leader. It is one of the country's main corporate foundations with an endowment of EUR 150 million. Deutsche Telekom Stiftung's mission is to improve education in the digital world concentrating on the so called STEM subjects science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It focuses on four core areas: Education Drivers, Education Opportunities, Education Innovations and Education Dialog.

In Education Drivers, the foundation supports people who inspire others to study STEM subjects. Education Opportunities involves projects to prepare children and teenagers to succeed in STEM fields and participate fully in our connected world. In Education Innovations, the foundation invests in researchers and teachers who specialize in STEM subjects. Finally, Education Dialog comprises all the projects in which the foundation works with policymakers and civil society to improve education in a digitized world.

CONTACT

Project Manager Early College

Christiane Frense-Heck

Deutsche Telekom Stiftung

Graurheindorfer Straße 153

53117 Bonn, Germany

Phone: +49 (0)228 181-92017

christiane.frense-heck@telekom-stiftung.de

www.telekom-stiftung.de/en