



KIRKWOOD

EARN COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL



2026 – 2027 Programs of Study
**WASHINGTON COUNTY
REGIONAL CENTER**

www.kirkwood.edu/washingtonregional

Kirkwood
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Kirkwood

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dear Parents and Students:

We are excited to share the 2026–2027 Program of Study for Washington County! Inside, you'll find everything you need to know about how high school students can jump-start their college journey and explore future careers through Kirkwood's College Credit in High School (CCHS) opportunities.

Each year, hundreds of Washington County students take advantage of these programs—and the results are impressive. Through strong partnerships with our local districts—**Highland, Hillcrest Academy, Keota, Lone Tree, Mid-Prairie, WACO, Washington, WRAP, and home school associations**—students are earning both high school and college credit at no cost to families, saving over \$1.1 million in tuition last year alone. Even more importantly, students gained hands-on career exploration, industry-recognized skills, and college-level experience that builds confidence for what comes next.

From Career Academies at the Regional Center to classes at your high school or online, these opportunities allow students to discover career interests early, earn transferable college credit, and get a real sense of life after graduation.

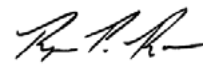
We know that taking college-level coursework in high school is a big step, and we work hard to support students every step of the way. Our team is committed to making sure the CCHS experience is not only manageable but also impactful—helping students build skills, confidence, and momentum for their future. We look forward to working with you as students save money, gain experience, and explore future careers through Kirkwood concurrent credit classes. Here's to an exciting year ahead!



Tera Pickens
Director
Washington County Regional Center



Ryan Ronan
Student and Academic
Support Coordinator (SASC)



78%

of dual-credit
students earn a
grade of C
or better.

3.23

average GPA of
dual-credit
students (over
3 years).

28%

of high school
students in our
region take
dual-credit
classes.

8

high schools
served in
Washington County
region.



NACEP

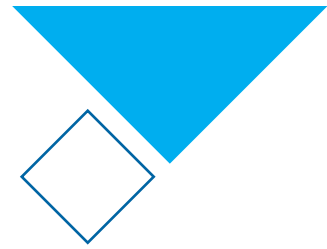


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WHAT IS COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL (CCHS)?

College Credit & Career Exploration: Kirkwood Opportunities for High School Students

The choices you make in high school can open pathways you may not have imagined. Kirkwood's College Credit in High School (CCHS) program and Workplace Learning Connection (WLC) are free, once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that no student should pass up. These programs are designed for every student — whether you're an A-student, not sure what you want to do after graduation, or somewhere in between.

Taking part now means you'll graduate more confident, more prepared, and with fewer "what ifs" down the road.

Why College Credit in High School? (CCHS)

Save Big – Tuition-free college classes + free textbooks. That's hundreds (sometimes thousands) of dollars saved.

Get Ahead – Knock out college credits while you're still in high school, giving you a jumpstart toward a degree or career training.

Figure Out Your Future – Test-drive courses connected to careers so you know what inspires and excites you before you graduate.

Build Confidence – Learn how to handle college-level work now, while you have support, so you're not overwhelmed later.

Workplace Learning Connection (WLC): Explore Careers Beyond the Classroom

With Workplace Learning Connection, you can step out of the classroom and into the real world. WLC connects you directly with local employers so you can see, experience, and explore what careers are really like.

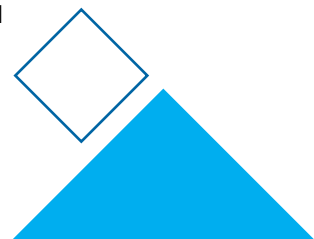
Job Shadows (10th – 12th) – Spend a few hours alongside a professional and see what their career looks like in action.

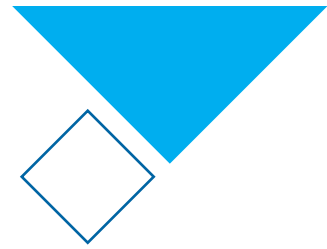
Internships (10th – 12th) – Gain hands-on experience, build your resume, and start your professional network.

Career Speakers & Events (All Grades) – Hear directly from people in careers you might want to pursue.

These experiences help you avoid wasting time and money on a career or major that isn't right for you. You'll graduate with connections, confidence, and a clear direction forward. Learn more and explore opportunities at www.kirkwood.edu/wlc.

The Takeaway – CCHS and WLC are free, one-of-a-kind opportunities that give you an edge for whatever comes next. Every student can benefit — whether you're aiming for college, career training, or just trying to figure out what's possible. High school goes by fast. Don't let these chances pass you by.





REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGE LEVEL CLASSES

Senior Year Plus Requirements

The Iowa Department of Education's Senior Year Plus program is designed to give high school students access to challenging, advanced learning opportunities that help prepare them for life after graduation. As part of this initiative, Kirkwood partners with area school districts to help students build essential skills for their future and earn college credit through concurrent enrollment courses and Career Academies.

Please note that restrictions on participation in Senior Year Plus opportunities cannot be placed by the local school district. Examples include:

- Districts can't restrict a student's access to SYP courses by requiring them to complete the entire district curriculum first.
- Districts can't limit the number of courses a student can take in an academic year; however, Kirkwood does limit to 18 credit hours per semester — anything more requires dean approval.
- Districts may not limit the format in which a class can be taken.

For more details about eligibility and next steps, students and families should connect with their high school counselor.

Arts and Sciences Coursework

To participate in arts and sciences courses, also referred to as liberal arts, students must demonstrate proficiency in each of the three academic areas — math, science, and reading, as indicated by Iowa Assessment Testing or an alternative measure of proficiency adopted by the school board. Alternative measures of proficiency may vary by school district. Students must also satisfy Kirkwood Community College prerequisites as needed.

Career Academy - Career & Technical Education (CTE) Coursework

Participation in career and technical courses is not based on proficiency of Iowa Assessment Testing. Students will need to satisfy Kirkwood Community College's prerequisites as needed.

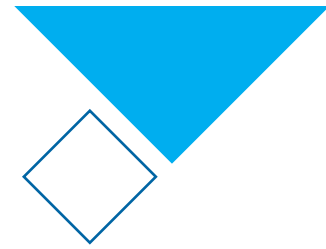
Required Orientation & Onboarding for Students

To help ensure every student starts strong, **all CCHS students are required to complete the College Credit in High School Orientation course in Talon**. This online course includes important modules designed to set students up for success. Topics include navigating Talon, understanding student policies and expectations, and learning about resources and support available through Kirkwood. Completing this required orientation after applying for admission helps students feel prepared and confident as they begin their CCHS journey.

In addition, **students participating in a Career Academy at a Regional Center are expected to attend an Onboarding Night**. This in-person event is designed to give students a head start by introducing them to their academy's expectations, faculty, and Regional Center staff. Students will also meet peers, tour labs and classrooms, and have the chance to get their questions answered before classes begin.

Together, the online orientation and Onboarding Night provide the tools, information, and connections students need to start their college credit experience successfully.

OPTIONS TO EARN CCHS AT KIRKWOOD



1

Career Academy and Regional Center Offerings

These courses are dedicated to high school students and occur at one of four regional centers: Jones County Regional Center in Monticello; Kirkwood Center at the University of Iowa in Coralville, Linn County Regional Center in Hiawatha, or Washington County Regional Center in Washington.

2

Alternative Concurrent Enrollment – Online or at a Kirkwood Location

High school students join an existing college class. These courses are not solely dedicated to high school students, but are college courses high school students are eligible to join along with traditional degree-seeking students; many of these courses are offered online or at Kirkwood's Main Campus. In Alternative Concurrent Enrollment, students will be taking the course with a Kirkwood paid instructor.

3

Onsite at Partnering High Schools

Concurrent enrollment courses at the high school, taught by a Kirkwood-credentialed high school paid instructor. Onsite sections are created and dedicated to high school students.

UNDERSTANDING THE AWARDING OF COLLEGE CREDIT AND TERMS

Concurrent Credit – Term used to define college courses taken while in high school, allowing students to earn both high school and college credits simultaneously. May also be referred as dual enrollment. Students will earn college credit by successfully passing the course.

High School Credit – Students with a passing grade will receive credit from their high school. Individual school districts determine whether the high school credit will be awarded to meet high school core curriculum requirements or elective requirements.

College Credit – Students will receive college credit from Kirkwood Community College. An official college transcript will be created and the grade earned will be reflected on the student's official college transcript. Students will earn college credit by successfully passing the course.

Transferring Credit – Students not planning to attend Kirkwood after high school graduation should plan to include their official Kirkwood college transcript as part of their application to other colleges and universities. Kirkwood strives to ensure that academic level courses transfer to other institutions and has transfer agreements with many state universities and colleges. If a student plans to attend a private college or an institution out-of-state, please contact that college directly to determine how credits earned will transfer.

Advanced Placement (AP) – A program that offers college-level courses and exams to high school students. Scoring well on the AP exam may result in earning college credit for the course, depending on the receiving college's policies. Most colleges require a minimum score of 3 or 4 to earn credit. See specific college websites for more information.

RAI Scores – Iowa's three Regent universities assign a Regent Admission Index (RAI) score based on test scores, class rank, GPA, and the number of core courses you've completed. Some of these classes may factor into your RAI. For more information, visit <http://www.regents.iowa.gov/RAI>.

Weighted High School GPAs – Some high schools use a weighted GPA scale to recognize the extra challenge of advanced courses like AP classes or concurrent enrollment/college credit courses. On a regular GPA scale, grades are measured on a 4.0 scale (with an A = 4.0). However, when a course is considered more rigorous, schools may give it extra weight on a 5.0 scale.

This system rewards students for taking more challenging classes, so strong performance in these courses can boost their overall GPA. Conversely, poor performance can effect them, too. Students should check with their high school counselor to learn how their school calculates GPA and if weighted grades are applied within their school district.

PROFILE OF A COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL (CCHS STUDENT)

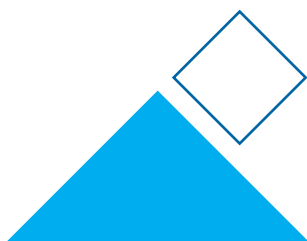
Experience the Kirkwood Advantage

- **75.5% of CCHS students enroll in postsecondary education** the fall semester after their high school graduation – compared to 50.4% of non-CCHS students.
- On average, those CCHS students who do enroll in postsecondary education directly after high school are **15.4% less likely to drop out**.
- CCHS students have **higher GPAs, higher graduation rates, change majors less and add minors and second majors more**, than students without CCHS experience.

Compared to students with no prior CCHS experience, Kirkwood CCHS graduates:

- Earn degrees in less time.
- Experience a higher 3-year graduation rate.
- Have less college debt.

Statistics via internal enrollment data at Kirkwood Community College and research from the Iowa Department of Education.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: SKILLS FOR LIFE AND CAREER

CCHS students benefit from experiences that build confidence and career readiness, including:

- Courses taught by industry-expert instructors.
- Hands-on learning in classrooms and labs.
- Development of professional skills valued by employers.
- Professional training that may include industry-recognized credentials and certifications.
- Earlier entry into the workforce with a stronger skill set.
- Greater confidence and preparation for success in college and career.
- Expanded network of mentors and peers: Students connect with instructors, classmates, and industry professionals who can open doors to future opportunities.

Challenge yourself even further through the [Kirkwood Honors Project](#) — choosing a project based on your career interests or passion, competing for scholarships and cash prizes, showcasing your talents, and standing out to top universities.

Join [Phi Theta Kappa \(PTK\)](#) — the only internationally recognized honor society for two-year college students. Membership gives you a competitive edge through leadership and service opportunities, exclusive scholarships, and connections with other high-achieving students.

CCHS RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

CCHS students have access to a wide range of free personalized study supports and student resources.

Recognizing that each CCHS student's journey is unique, study support options are tailored to your preferences and learning styles.

Some examples of study support services include:

- Live Online 24/7 Study Support through Brainfuse
- Individual Learning Assistants
- Online Tutorials
- Center for Online Writing
- Much More!

Students should contact their local Student and Academic Support Coordinator (SASC) to learn more and determine which study support resource will work best for their needs.

NOTE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF CCHS STUDENTS

As part of Kirkwood's College Credit in High School (CCHS) program, your student is participating in college-level coursework.

It's important to understand a few key points about [FERPA](#) and the college classroom experience.

FERPA and Student Records

Under the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#), colleges are legally required to keep student records confidential. This means that most communication regarding grades, assignments, and course progress will go directly to the student. You are encouraged to maintain open lines of communication with your student and support them in checking their accounts. Some tips for staying informed:

- Most instructors use a class management system called Talon. Your student should be able to log in and show you assignments, grades, and attendance.
- Midterm grades or pass/fail indicators are available each semester through your student's MyHub account.
- If you have a concern, work through your high school counselor. Our partnership with school districts allows us to maintain communication regarding concurrent enrollment courses.
- In certain cases, students may choose to release FERPA information to parents or guardians. Contact our office for guidance on this process.

College Classroom Expectations

College courses are designed to prepare students for higher education and career success by introducing new ideas, developing critical thinking, and building communication skills. Because of this:

- Faculty may present topics that are different from what students typically encounter in high school, encouraging students to think in new ways.
- Students may interact with classmates and instructors who have different experiences, perspectives, or beliefs. College classrooms are intended to be safe spaces for respectful discussion and civil discourse.
- Each course has specific learning outcomes that all students must achieve, no matter the instructor, delivery method, or location. This consistency ensures that:
 - Credits transfer smoothly to Kirkwood's partner institutions,
 - Students are fully prepared for the next course in a sequence, and
 - Students meet prerequisites for college programs and advanced coursework.
- Faculty may use different teaching approaches based on their expertise, but the standards ensure students develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success both in college and beyond.
- Students are expected to actively engage in the learning process by respecting different viewpoints, participating in discussions, practicing critical thinking, and taking responsibility for their own learning and growth.



CAREER ACADEMIES OFFERED AT KIRKWOOD'S WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL CENTER

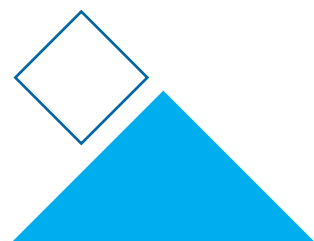
Career Academy programs prepare students for post-secondary education and careers by offering a college-preparatory curriculum focused on a specific career theme.

Career Academy experiences often feature partnerships with employers, community organizations, and local colleges, providing access to resources and experiential learning opportunities.

Academies consist of three or more courses in a career-focused series, where students learn alongside peers with similar career interests.

The following Career Academy experiences are offered at our Washington County Regional Center:

- Advanced Manufacturing and Welding
- Agriculture Science
- Architecture, Construction, and Engineering (ACE)
- Automotive Technology
- Business
- Digital/Visual Arts, Social Media, and Marketing
- Exercise Science and Wellness
- Patient Care Exploration
- Pre-Med, Nursing, and Professional Health Careers
- Arts & Sciences



CAREER ACADEMY

Advanced Manufacturing with Welding

www.kirkwood.edu/manufacturingacademy

MANUFACTURING, TRADES, AND TRANSPORTATION

If you like working with your hands and making real things, this is where it all starts. Manufacturing is booming—machines are getting smarter, products are flying out the door, and people who know how to build and fix things are in serious demand. This academy experience gives you the skills to weld and run the tech that keeps industries moving. You'll learn from people who've been in the field and know what it takes to get the job done right. No fluff—just real skills for a real future.

Note: Includes OSHA-10, NIMS Credentials, and AWS SENSE Certifications.

*Previous completion of Algebra I or Geometry is required. **This academy experience requires a strict attendance policy in order to meet industry standards for certification.** Personal protective equipment requirements outlined at Career Academy Onboarding Night.*



FALL TERM

A.M. (7:45 – 9:35 a.m.) or P.M. (12:20 – 2:10 p.m.) Academy

Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ☒

SPRING TERM

A.M. (7:45 – 9:55 a.m.) or P.M. (12:20 – 2:30 p.m.) Academy

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Introduction to Safety & Health of Welders*	WEL-228	1
CNC Mill Operator*	MFG-173	2
CNC Lathe Operator*	MFG-174	2
Print Reading and Welding Symbol Interpretation*	WEL-233	3
GMAW Processes*	WEL-279	3
Gas Tungsten Arc Welding for Carbon*	WEL-297	3
Introduction to Fabrication*	WEL-208	2

** Hybrid course. Combines face-to-face and online instruction. The amount of online instruction can vary. Students are expected to complete coursework for these classes outside of their planned Kirkwood academy schedule. Students will need access to a laptop and internet outside of their Kirkwood class time.*

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$3,536

CAREER ACADEMY

Agriculture Science

www.kirkwood.edu/agricultureacademy

ANIMALS, FOOD, AND LAND

Some of the most important jobs around aren't happening in an office or behind a computer screen—they're happening in the fields, barns, and labs that make up the backbone of this country. Agriculture isn't just about planting crops and raising animals—it's about feeding the world, solving real problems, and creating the innovations that'll keep us alive tomorrow.

Whether you're into science, technology, mechanics, business, or policy, there's a place for you in the Agriculture Academy. With instructors who've actually been out there, boots on the ground, you're learning from people who have lived what they are teaching. You'll dive into classes like Agronomy, Ag Business, and Survey of the Animal Industry. Agriculture doesn't just offer a job, it offers a future—a future where your work actually matters.



A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:15 a.m.)*

Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ☒

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Principles of Agronomy	AGA-114	3
US History to 1877	HIS-151	3
Introduction to Ag Business	AGB-133	3
Survey of the Animal Industry	AGS-113	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$2,652

* Students may also select an additional fall and/or spring semester companion course to add to their Kirkwood schedule from 9:20 – 10:15 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. The fall semester offering is Statistics (MAT-156). The spring semester offering is Cultural Anthropology (ANT-105).

CAREER ACADEMY

Architecture, Construction, and Engineering (ACE)

www.kirkwood.edu/aceacademy

MANUFACTURING, TRADES, AND TRANSPORTATION

Let's face it, the world doesn't run on apps and hashtags — it runs on the hard work of people who build, fix, and keep things moving. Enrolling in the ACE Academy is your chance to take the lead, turning blueprints into buildings and plans into reality. From stadiums and skyscrapers to homes and highways, careers in the ACE industry aren't just a job, they're a chance to build the world around you. With demand for skilled trades growing fast, the architecture, construction, and engineering industries offer solid career opportunities, great pay, and the chance to build things that last. It's perfect for anyone who enjoys solving problems, working with people, and seeing projects come to life.

Note: Upon completion of the academy, students will earn the Construction Fundamentals Certificate and OSHA 10 Certification. Previous completion of Algebra I or Geometry is strongly encouraged.



A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:15 a.m.)**

Fall Term

☐

Spring Term

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COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Construction Safety*	CON-108	1
Workbase Learning: Industrial Tech*	WBL-148	2
Architectural Plans & Specs	CON-101	3
Structures and MEP	CON-313	3
Construction Lab	CON-190	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$2,652

** Hybrid course. Combines face-to-face and online instruction. The amount of online instruction can vary. Students are expected to complete coursework for these classes outside of their planned Kirkwood academy schedule. Students will need access to a laptop and internet outside of their Kirkwood class time.*

*** Students may also select an additional fall and/or spring semester companion course to add to their Kirkwood schedule from 9:20 – 10:15 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. The fall semester offering is Statistics (MAT-156). The spring semester offering is Cultural Anthropology (ANT-105).*

CAREER ACADEMY

Automotive Technology

www.kirkwood.edu/automotiveacademy

MANUFACTURING, TRADES, AND TRANSPORTATION

If you're serious about getting your hands dirty and making a solid living, then an automotive career is where it's at. Cars aren't going away, and neither are the people who know how to fix, build, and improve them. From high-tech diagnostics to routine engine work, you'll be solving problems every single day. An automotive career doesn't just give you a job – it gives you a skill, something you can take pride in.

In this academy experience, you'll get to work with cutting-edge technology and get under the hood of real cars. It's about knowing what to do when things go wrong and having the skills to make them right. If you're the kind of person who likes working with your hands and seeing the difference you've made at the end of the day, this is your shot.

Note: Upon completion of the academy, students will earn the Fundamentals of Automotive Technology Certificate and several other industry recognized credentials, including ASE G1 certification. This academy experience requires a strict attendance policy in order to meet industry standards for certification. Personal protective equipment requirements outlined at Career Academy Onboarding Night.



A.M. (7:45 – 10:15 a.m.) or P.M. (12:20 – 2:50 p.m.) Academy

Fall Term

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Spring Term

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COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Technical Lab I	AUT-888	4
Industrial Math*	MAT-715	3
Automotive Suspension and Steering*	AUT-402	2
Automotive Brake Systems	AUT-502	2
Automotive Heating and Air Conditioning	AUT-702	2
Technical Lab II	AUT-889	4

** Hybrid course. Combines face-to-face and online instruction. The amount of online instruction can vary. Students are expected to complete coursework for these classes outside of their planned Kirkwood academy schedule. Students will need access to a laptop and internet outside of their Kirkwood class time.*

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$3,757

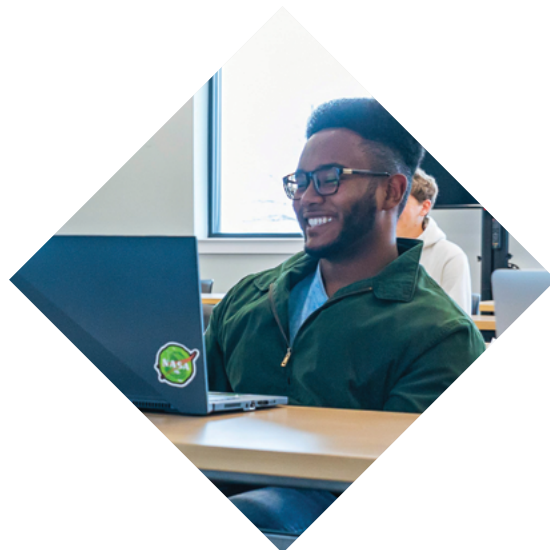
CAREER ACADEMY

Business

www.kirkwood.edu/businessacademy

BUSINESS

Knowledge is power, and with the Business Academy, you'll be ready to crush it in any venture you take on. You'll explore entry-level courses in business, marketing, and management, giving you a broad look into the industry and how it all works. Whether you're into finance, economics, or leading a team, this experience gives you the skills to stand out and get ahead in today's fast-paced business world. You'll gain a competitive edge and walk away ready to learn more! Most Business Academy students continue studying the field after high school so that they are ready to take on anything from launching their own startup to managing a major company. If you're ready to hustle and make moves, this is your ticket to success.



A.M. Academy (9:45 – 11:15 a.m.)

Fall Term

☐

Spring Term

☐

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Introduction to Business	BUS-102	3
Principles of Marketing	MKT-110	3
Human Relations in Management	MGT-145	3
Principles of Macroeconomics	ECN-120	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$2,652

CAREER ACADEMY

Digital/Visual Arts, Social Media and Marketing

www.kirkwood.edu/digitalartsacademy

ARTS AND DESIGN

Why just scroll when you can shape the feed? You are already constantly online, it’s time to learn how to flip the script and use that time to create a career. Explore the world of Social Media, Marketing and the emerging technology tools that influencers and content creators are using. You’ll uncover the strategies behind digital ads, content creation, and branding—all the tricks companies use to get your attention.

These courses give you real, hands-on experience, teaching you how to build and engage with an audience, craft viral content, and create a brand. The best part? You can earn both high school and college credits, giving you a serious head start in the fast-paced, fast-growing world of social media. Turn your screen time into skills that pay.



A.M. Academy (9:45 – 11:15 a.m.)

Fall Term

Spring Term

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Survey of Graphic Communication	GRA-101	3
Principles of Marketing	MKT-110	3
Emerging Tech Trends	BCA-179	3
Social Media in Business	MKT-130	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$2,652

CAREER ACADEMY

Exercise Science and Wellness

www.kirkwood.edu/exercisescienceacademy

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Fuel your passion for sports, fitness, and performance!

If you love staying active, competing, or helping others reach their goals, the Exercise Science and Wellness Academy is the perfect way to turn your interests into a future career.

In this academy, you'll dive into topics like nutrition, psychology, sports management, and communication. You'll explore the science of nutrition, what drives athletes to succeed, and how leadership and teamwork create winning environments. Whether your future includes athletic training, coaching, exercise science, personal fitness, or sports management, the Exercise Science and Wellness Academy gives you a head start on understanding the science behind performance and the power of healthy living.



A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:15 a.m.)*

Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ☒

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Introduction to Psychology	PSY-111	3
Nutrition	BIO-151	3
Public Speaking	SPC-112	3
Principles of Sports Management	PEH-255	3

Total Tuition Cost Savings: \$2,652

* Students may also select an additional fall and/or spring semester companion course to add to their Kirkwood schedule from 9:20 – 10:15 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. The fall semester offering is Statistics (MAT-156). The spring semester offering is Cultural Anthropology (ANT-105).

CAREER ACADEMY

Patient Care Exploration

www.kirkwood.edu/patientcareacademy

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The Patient Care Exploration Academy is perfect for students who are passionate about helping others and want to make a real difference in people’s lives. In this academy, you’ll work toward earning your Nurse Aide (CNA) certification—a crucial role in healthcare. Nurse aides are the backbone of patient care, providing hands-on support to patients and being a vital part of the medical team. You’ll gain real-world experience while exploring a wide range of healthcare careers, and you’ll learn medical terminology, so you’re ready to hit the ground running.

By the end of the academy, you’ll have a strong foundation in patient care that will open doors to endless opportunities in healthcare. Plus, you’ll earn your CPR and CNA certifications, giving you a head start in a rewarding and respected career. If you’re ready to be an essential part of healthcare and start making an impact, this is where it all begins.

Note: Includes CPR and Nurse Aide (CNA) Certifications



A.M. Academy (Fall: 7:45 – 9:15 a.m. | Spring: 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.)* Fall and Spring Term ☐

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Nurse Aide	HSC-168	3.5
Explorations of Healthcare Careers	HSC-205	3

**This is a 1-semester experience. Students have the option to enroll in Exploration of Healthcare Careers and Nurse Aide during either Fall OR Spring semester. Additional coursework of the student’s choice is completed the additional semester.*

*Students must be 16 prior to the first day of their scheduled Nurse Aide course. Completion of high school biology within the last two years, with a grade of C or higher is recommended. Students must obtain 80% or higher in the Nurse Aide course to move on to clinical experience. **There are no excused absences for Nurse Aide, per state regulations.** Students must arrange their own transportation to clinical experience and be prepared for time commitment outside of academy class to complete the clinic requirements. Health immunization requirements (**if applicable) are shared with students at Career Academy Onboarding Night and must be completed prior to the first day of the scheduled Nurse Aide course.*

***Only required for CNA*

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$1,437

CAREER ACADEMY

Pre-Med, Nursing, and Professional Health Careers

www.kirkwood.edu/premedacademy

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Ready to turn your passion for science and helping others into a career? These college credit classes give you a head start on understanding the building blocks of medicine and healthcare. In Kirkwood's Pre-Med, Nursing, and Professional Health Careers Academy, you'll tackle rigorous, hands-on courses like Human Anatomy & Physiology that bring science to life through interactive labs and real-world simulations. If you're passionate about helping others, fascinated by the human body, and ready for an academic challenge, this academy is your first step to exploring diverse college majors in healthcare!

Note: Senior Year Plus (SYP) Arts and Sciences Proficiency required as demonstrated on statewide assessment or through the Jointly Agreed Upon Measures of College Readiness. Recent high school Biology, preferably Anatomy and Physiology if offered, with a grade of B or higher is also strongly recommended.

A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:15 a.m.)* Monday - Thursday
A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:45 a.m.)* Friday

Fall Term

☐

Spring Term

☐

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Nutrition	BIO-151	3
Human Anatomy & Physiology I	BIO-168	4
Human Anatomy & Physiology II	BIO-173	4
Developmental Psychology	PSY-121	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: \$3,094

** Students may also select an additional fall and/or spring semester companion course to add to their Kirkwood schedule from 9:20 – 10:15 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. The fall semester offering is Statistics (MAT-156). The spring semester offering is Cultural Anthropology (ANT-105).*



CAREER ACADEMY

Arts & Sciences

www.kirkwood.edu/programs/career-academies/liberal-arts

Taking Arts & Sciences courses is a smart way to get ahead in college while still in high school. These classes cover essential general education requirements, like composition, math, history, social sciences, and humanities, that transfer smoothly to most two-year and four-year degrees. In these courses students develop skills like time management, critical thinking, and study habits that make you more confident and prepared for college-level work.

Completing Arts & Sciences courses early also gives you a head start on your future: you can pursue a double major, add a minor or certificate program, take a lighter course load, or even study abroad—all while staying on track to graduate college on time. By starting early, you save money, explore career pathways, and build a strong foundation for success in college and beyond.

Colleges require placement scores for English Composition and Math courses to make sure students start in the classes that match their current skills. Being in the right course from the beginning helps you succeed, keeps you from struggling with material that's too advanced, and ensures you're challenged enough to grow. Proper placement sets you up for confidence, better grades, and a smoother path through college.



ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (A.A.) DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AT KIRKWOOD

CORE REQUIREMENTS	CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED
A. Communication – Writing	5
B. Communication – Speech	3
C. History/Cultures	6
D. Humanities	9
E. Social Science	9
F. Mathematics	3
G. Science	6
H. Electives	21
I. Diversity*	One Course
Degree Total	62

* All students seeking an A.A. must take one approved Diversity Course.

Arts & Sciences (continued)

Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ☒ Both ☐

A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:15 a.m. | 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.)

Students may select an additional fall or spring companion course. Options are Statistics (MAT-156) & Cultural Anthropology (ANT-105).

All early morning courses meet from 7:45 - 9:15 a.m. unless otherwise indicated.

* Course is only available from 9:45 - 11:15 a.m.

** Course is available from 7:45 - 9:15 a.m. and 9:45 - 11:15 a.m.

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	DEGREE REQUIREMENT
Exploring Teaching*	EDU-110	3	Social Science
Introduction to Business*	BUS-102	3	Elective
Introduction to Psychology	PSY-111	3	Social Science
Composition I**	ENG-105	3	Communication - Writing
Introduction to Sociology	SOC-110	3	Social Science
Principles of Marketing*	MKT-110	3	Elective
US History to 1877	HIS-151	3	History/Cultures
Environmental Science	ENV-115	3	Science
Film Topics: Disney Animation**	DRA-117	3	Humanities
Human Biology*	BIO-154	3	Science
Public Speaking	SPC-112	3	Communication – Writing
Understanding Cultures: Latin America	CLS-151	3	History/Cultures
Composition II**	ENG-106	3	Communication - Writing
Cultural Anthropology*	ANT-105	3	History/Cultures
Introduction to Criminal Justice	CRJ-100	3	Social Science
Developmental Psychology	PSY-121	3	Social Science
Human Relations in Management*	MGT-145	3	Elective

Arts & Sciences (continued)

A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:15 a.m. | 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.)
Students may select an additional fall or spring companion course. Options are Statistics (MAT-156) & Cultural Anthropology (ANT-105).
All early morning courses meet from 7:45 - 9:15 a.m. unless otherwise indicated.
* Course is only available from 9:45 - 11:15 a.m.
** Course is available from 7:45 - 9:15 a.m. and 9:45 - 11:15 a.m.

A.M. Academy (7:45 – 9:15 a.m. and 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.) Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ☒ Both ☐

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	DEGREE REQUIREMENT
Film Topics: Anime	DRA-117	3	Humanities
Principles of Macroeconomics*	ECN-120	3	Social Science
Emerging Tech Trends*	BCA-179	3	Elective

COMPANION OFFERINGS

Students may select an additional fall or spring companion course to add to their Kirkwood schedule from 9:20 – 10:15 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	DEGREE REQUIREMENT
Statistics	MAT-156	3	Mathematics
Cultural Anthropology	ANT-105	3	History/Cultures

Math Placement
All students fill out a math placement questionnaire. Depending on your answers and the math class you want to take, you might also need test scores from ALEKS or ACT. Test scores are only good for two years.

English Placement (including Composition I)
Placement is based on either your high school GPA or placement test scores. To do well in Composition I, it's recommended that you have at least a 3.0 GPA. You can still qualify for Composition I if you have a 2.8 GPA or higher.



ALTERNATIVE CONCURRENT CCHS OPPORTUNITIES

Online or at a Kirkwood Location

Depending on a student's location, the alternative concurrent enrollment course could be offered at Kirkwood's Main Campus or online.

Why Consider Online Classes?

Online courses offer a flexible and convenient learning option for students with varying schedules and commitments. High school students are busy balancing school, part-time jobs, family, or extracurricular activities and more. Online learning opportunities provides the ability to access coursework from anywhere, at any time. These courses often allow for self-paced study, enabling you to learn at your own speed while still meeting required deadlines.

For students who thrive in independent environments, online courses can be an excellent way to pursue educational goals without the constraints of a traditional classroom schedule.

What Types of Students are Successful in Online Courses?

Success in online courses often comes down to self-discipline, time management, and a proactive approach to learning. Students who excel in online courses tend to be organized, motivated, and comfortable with technology. They are able to set aside dedicated time for studying and consistently manage their workload without needing frequent reminders from instructors. Strong communication skills are also key, as online learners need to engage with their peers and instructors through digital platforms.

If you value flexibility and are self-driven, online courses can be a perfect fit for achieving your academic and career goals.

Course Registration Deadlines:

Fall 2026 Registration Open Dates/Deadlines

Courses available in dual enroll: March 23, 2026

On time registration deadline: Aug. 11, 2026

Late start registration deadline: Sept. 8, 2026

Winter Session Open Date/Deadline

Courses available in dual enroll: Oct. 12, 2026

On time registration deadline: Dec. 1, 2026

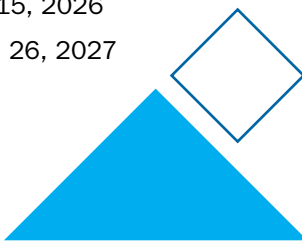
Late start registration deadline: Not applicable

Spring 2027 Registration Open Dates/Deadlines

Courses available in dual enroll: Oct. 12, 2026

On time registration deadline: Dec. 15, 2026

Late start registration deadline: Jan. 26, 2027





CCHS COURSES OFFERED ONSITE AT PARTNERING HIGH SCHOOLS

Washington County high schools offer several Kirkwood CCHS courses to students onsite at their high schools.

These courses are taught by a qualified high school instructor and students receive both college and high school credit. See a full list of these courses below (list is subject to change).

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	ONSITE HIGH SCHOOL LOCATION
Emerging Technology Trends	BCA-179	Lone Tree High School
Human Biology	BIO-154	Washington High School
Introduction to Business	BUS-102	Highland High School Lone Tree High School
Introduction to Early Childhood Education	ECE-103	Lone Tree High School
Child Health, Safety, and Nutrition	ECE-133	Lone Tree High School
Child Growth & Development	ECE-170	Lone Tree High School Mid Prairie High School
Exploring Teaching	EDU-110	Mid Prairie High School
Composition I	ENG-105	Lone Tree High School
Composition II	ENG-106	Lone Tree High School
Personal Finance	FIN-121	Lone Tree High School Washington High School
Elementary Spanish I	FLS-141	Washington High School
Elementary Spanish II	FLS-142	Washington High School
Intermediate Spanish I	FLS-241	Washington High School
Intermediate Spanish II	FLS-242	Washington High School

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	ONSITE HIGH SCHOOL LOCATION
Sanitation & Safety	HCM-100	Mid Prairie High School Washington High School
Introduction to Entrepreneurship	MGT-300	Lone Tree High School
How College Works	SDV-105	Highland High School Washington High School
Public Speaking	SPC-112	Lone Tree High School
Introduction to Welding, Safety & Health of Welders: SENSE1*	WEL-228	Mid Prairie High School
Gas Metal Arc Welding Short Circuit Transfer: SENSE1*	WEL-244	Mid Prairie High School
Practicum/Field Experience	WBL-200	Offered at all Washington County partner schools

* Courses include embedded work-based learning, which includes an industry-recognized credential.

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE PATHWAY: EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

Are you motivated, dedicated, and ready to challenge yourself?

Kirkwood Community College's **Early College Experience Pathway** gives high school students the unique opportunity to earn an **Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree** while still in high school. This option is designed for students who want to accelerate their education and open doors to future college and career opportunities.

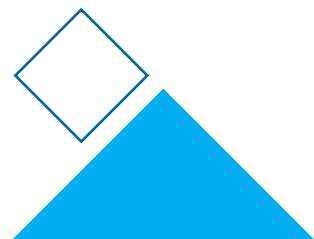
Through a combination of courses offered at your high school, on a Kirkwood campus, and online, you can complete the requirements for an A.A. degree at the same time you're earning your high school diploma.

Planning is key. Because this pathway requires careful coordination, students must meet with an academic advisor to create a personalized degree plan before getting started. Academic advising appointments will also be required at different points along the way to make sure you're meeting both high school and Kirkwood graduation requirements.

Start early. The earlier you plan, the more flexible your schedule can be and the smoother your path toward completing the degree will be.

Is this pathway for everyone? Not necessarily. Earning a college degree while still in high school takes strong commitment, excellent time management, and a willingness to take on challenging coursework. But if you are motivated and dedicated, the payoff is big: you'll graduate high school with a college degree in hand, and a head start on your future.

To learn more and see if this opportunity is right for you, contact your Student and Academic and Support Coordinator (SASC).





KIRKWOOD CCHS

APPLICATION & REGISTRATION

STEP-BY-STEP

1

Meet with your School Counselor or your Kirkwood Student and Academic Support Coordinator.

Review your four-year plan to determine if you are on track for graduation and college credit requirements.

2

Complete a College Credit in High School Application.

www.kirkwood.edu/cchsapply

If you have not already applied, please complete an application. The application link above must be used by high school students.

3

Check the email account you used to apply.

Your email will give you directions on accessing your welcome letter with your k-number.

Delay may occur between Steps 2 and 3.

4

Setup Your K-number and Password.

www.kirkwood.edu/setup

Check your email for directions on accessing your k-number.

Register for Your Classes and Complete Steps.

<https://kirkwood.dualenroll.com>

5

- a. **Registration for Regional Center Career Academy courses** opens in February 2026. Choose the “Regional Center” term and select your Career Academy. Complete all required steps.
- b. **Registration for Alternative Concurrent/Online courses** have strict registration deadlines. Registration deadline for Fall 2026 term is August 11, 2026. Registration deadline for Spring 2027 term is December 15, 2026. Choose “Alternative Credit” term. Complete all required steps.
- c. **Registration for onsite classes** happens on the first day of class at your high school. Choose “At Your High School” term. Complete all required steps.

6

Complete Orientation.

Students must complete CCHS Orientation in Talon.

Log into www.kirkwood.edu/talon to complete the requirement.

Regional Center students and parents are required to attend the **Career Academy Onboarding Night** event that covers expectations and the Regional Center experience. Dates/times for this event will be emailed to your Kirkwood student email.

Kirkwood

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Washington County Regional Center
2192 Lexington Blvd.
Washington, Iowa 52353
www.kirkwood.edu

It is the policy of Kirkwood Community College not to discriminate in its programs, activities, or employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, religion, and actual or potential family, parental or marital status. If you have questions or complaints related to compliance with this policy, please contact the Vice President, Human Resources and Institutional Effectiveness (employees) or the Vice President of Student Services (students), 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, 319-398-5572, equity@kirkwood.edu, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Building, 1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 310, Denver, CO 80204-3582, Telephone: (303) 844-5695 FAX: (303) 844-4303, TDD 800-877-8339 Email: OCR.Denver@ed.gov.