KIRKWOOD

EARN COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL

2026 – 2027 Programs of Study

LINN COUNTY
REGIONAL CENTER

www.kirkwood.edu/linnregional

Kirkwood
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Kirkwood
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Hello from Kirkwood!

Over the past few years, literally millions of dollars in future tuition costs have been saved for students that chose to earn college credit in high school. As a high school junior or senior, you can reduce your future college loan debt by enrolling in college level classes with tuition paid by your school district. Whether you're undecided about a college major and want to explore, or you've narrowed your focus to a specific career or trade, we have options for you to get a jump start on your future!

Our Career Academy programs in Health, IT and Skilled Trades blend hands-on learning and lead to employment, certifications, or required courses in our Kirkwood degree programs and/or future pre-apprenticeship experiences. You'll learn from highly qualified professionals from the field, participate in job shadows and/or connect with guest speakers. Additionally, you'll make connections, be inspired to do your best and build a professional network with employers looking to keep young talent here locally for employment!

We also have programs designed for students seeking more traditional experience in areas such as business, criminal justice, education, social work, or other arts and science majors. Kirkwood's advisors will help you plan a pathway of required courses at Kirkwood that will transfer seamlessly into many of our local public and private institutions. We can help you explore job shadows, internships and find scholarships too! Starting now is a great step in building your future career and college goals!

Take a look at our program of study offerings and tips for getting started within this packet. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Contact our office at 319-398-1052 or email our team at linn.regional@kirkwood.edu.

We look forward to helping you get a jump start on college!

Have a great day,

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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.
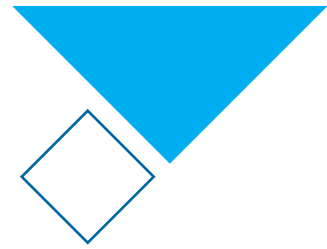
14 high schools served in Linn County region.

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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 and 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.

1 CAREER ACADEMIES OFFERED AT KIRKWOOD'S LINN 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 Linn County Regional Center:

- Advanced Manufacturing and Welding
- Application & Software Development
- Architecture, Construction, and Engineering (ACE)
- Automotive Technology
- Business
- Criminal Justice & Human Services (Social Work)
- Dental
- Digital/Visual Arts, Social Media, and Marketing
- Education
- Emergency Medical Technician: EMT
- Exercise Science & Wellness
- Health
- Patient Care Exploration
- Pre-Med, Nursing, and Professional Health Careers
- Pre-Nursing with Nurse Aide Certification
- Project Management
- 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. (7:30 - 9:20 a.m.) or P.M. (12 - 1:50 p.m.) Academy

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

Spring Term: A.M. (7:30 - 9:40 a.m.) or P.M. (12 - 2:10 p.m.) Academy

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Introduction to Safety & Health of Welders*	WEL-228	1
Print Reading and Welding Symbol Interpretation*	WEL-233	3
CNC Mill Operator*	MFG-173	2
CNC Lathe Operator*	MFG-174	2
GMAW Processes*	WEL-279	3
Gas Tungsten Arc Welding for Carbon*	WEL-251	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

Application and Software Development

www.kirkwood.edu/softwareacademy

STEM AND IT

Technology–specifically as it relates to the world of IT–is a critical part of many industries. This program provides foundational skills that are in high demand and allows students to explore areas of technical expertise into the broad field of IT, covering things such as software development, cloud computing, application development, networking, data analysis, programming, and project management. Coursework helps develop critical thinking and problem solving skills that support a variety of software development and technology-driven careers.

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9:05 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Fundamentals of Web Programming	CIS-207	3
Network +	NET-165	3
Computer Concepts	NET-130	3
Introduction to Programming Logic	CIS-121	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

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

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

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

* 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.
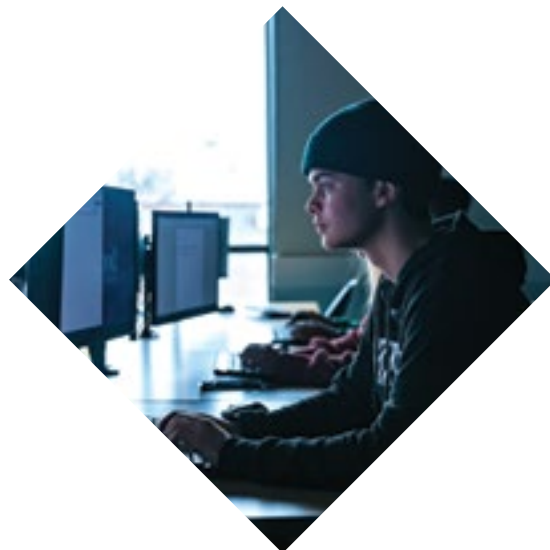
Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

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. (7:30 – 10 a.m.) or P.M. (12 – 2:30 p.m.) Academy

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

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 & 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

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 (7:30 – 9 a.m.)

Fall and Spring Term ☐

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

* Academy is offered in 2 cohorts. Each course is available during the fall and spring term, depending on which cohort a student is in.

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

Criminal Justice and Human Services

www.kirkwood.edu/criminaljusticeacademy

SOCIAL SERVICES, SAFETY, AND EDUCATION

Criminal Justice and Human Services careers are deeply interrelated because they both focus on supporting individuals, ensuring community well-being, and addressing societal challenges. While criminal justice primarily deals with law enforcement, legal processes, and public safety, human services focus on helping individuals and communities overcome social, emotional, and economic barriers. This academy blends the two fields to explore foundational coursework and experiences for students exploring careers for police, probation and corrections, social work, youth and juvenile court-appointed advocacy, counseling, first responder, mental health, domestic violence and homelessness advocacy in our communities. All career paths aim to build a more just, compassionate and supportive community and society, and explore requirements in Criminal Justice, Human Services and Social Work.

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Introduction to Criminal Justice	CRJ-100	3
Introduction to Human Services	HSV-109	3
Police and Society	CRJ-111	3
Health and Psychosocial Rehabilitation	HSV-282	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

CAREER ACADEMY
Dental

www.kirkwood.edu/dentalacademy

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

For a lot of people, going to the dentist can be stressful, but a dental assistant or dental hygienist plays a critical role in helping patients feel at ease. You'll be working with patients of all ages, and using state of the art technology within the office setting. This academy program introduces foundational coursework necessary to jump start your degree and career pathway in the dental field, giving you an edge in a growing healthcare profession!

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9:30 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▧

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Dental Terminology	DEN-110	2
Dental Anatomy	DEN-120	3
Microcomputer Literacy	BCA-189	1
Professionals in Health	HSC-107	2
Head and Neck	DEN-130	1.5
Dental Nutrition	DEN-220	1

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,321

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 (7:30 – 9 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▇

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Digital Photography	ART-186	3
Principles of Marketing	MKT-110	3
Emerging Technology Trends	BCA-179	3
Social Media in Business (MKT-110 prereq or coreq)	MKT-130	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

CAREER ACADEMY
Education

www.kirkwood.edu/educationacademy

SOCIAL SERVICES, SAFETY, AND EDUCATION

Think back—has a teacher ever made a lasting impact on your life? You can be the one that makes an impact on others. This program sets you up to lead, teach, and make a difference. Explore the rewarding world of teaching while developing leadership, patience, and communication skills through hands-on experiences that prepare you to inspire the next generation. Whether you're passionate about working with young children or older students, this program helps you build the foundation for a fulfilling career in education. Start shaping the future today — because great teachers make a lasting impact!

Note: Upon successful completion of the Education Academy, along with 10 hours of supervised experience in a K-12 classroom, students are able to test for the State of Iowa Paraeducator Generalist Certification. Students must be 18 years old to be certified.

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Exploring Teaching	EDU-110	3
Foundations in Education	EDU-210	1
Developmental Psychology	PSY-121	3
Behavior Management	EDU-119	3

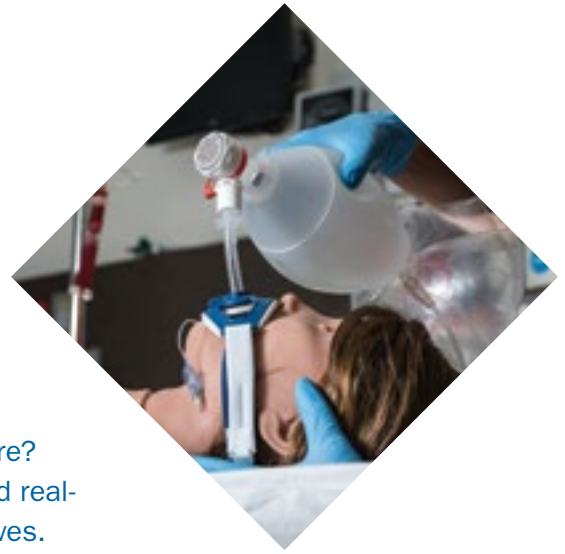## Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,210

Emergency Medical Technician: EMT

www.kirkwood.edu/emtacademy

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Are you ready to step into the fast-paced world of emergency medical care? The Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Academy offers an unparalleled real-world experience for students ready to take on the challenge of saving lives. This program provides foundational knowledge in emergency care systems, medical ethics, infection control, and patient assessment.

Under the supervision of experienced medical professionals, students will practice life-saving skills in simulated and real emergency environments, gaining the confidence and competence to respond effectively under pressure. Students who successfully complete the EMT academy can earn their state and national EMT certification, a key credential for immediate employment and advancement in healthcare.

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9:30 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Emergency Medical Technician I	EMS-345	4.5
Emergency Medical Technician II	EMS-350	3.5
Emergency Medical Technican II Clinical	EMS-365	1

Students must be 17 on the first day of the semester of the year enrolled and must pay $30 fee to the Iowa Department of Public Health for certification. Students must have their own transportation arranged to clinical experience and be prepared for time commitment outside of class to complete clinic requirements. Health immunization requirements are shared with students at orientation and must be completed prior to the beginning of the semester enrolled in the course.

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $1,989

CAREER ACADEMY
Exercise Science & 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 of motivation, 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 (7:30 – 9 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Principles of Sports Management	PEH-255	3
Introduction to Psychology	PSY-111	3
Nutrition	BIO-151	3
Developmental Psychology	PSY-121	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

CAREER ACADEMY
Health

www.kirkwood.edu/healthacademy

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Students will learn about direct patient care roles that help patients' regain mobility, assist with rehabilitation, or manage chronic conditions while working in various settings such as hospitals, clinics, schools, outpatient facilities and private practice. Students will also learn about a variety of careers with indirect patient contact housed within an administrative office setting. Health Careers Academy offers hands-on career exploration, allows students to engage with current healthcare professionals, learn the language of medicine, and earn relevant college credits for a variety of healthcare programs at Kirkwood Community College.

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9:30 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▢

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Medical Terminology	HSC-115	4
Professionals in Health	HSC-107	2
Fundamentals of Oral Communication	SPC-101	3
Basic Anatomy & Physiology	BIO-161	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

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. (7:30 – 9:30 a.m. or 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.) or
P.M. (12:30 – 2:30 p.m.) Academy*

Fall and Spring Term ☐

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

*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% 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

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. (7:30 – 9:30 a.m.) or P.M. (12:30 – 2:30 p.m.)

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
Fundamentals of Oral Communication	SPC-101	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $3,094

Pre-Nursing with Nurse Aide Certification

www.kirkwood.edu/nursingacademy

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Have you already decided on the Nursing Career Pathway? Fast track into required pre-requisite coursework and Nurse Aide certification at Kirkwood Community College. Combine your passion as both helper and healer while gaining hands on experience with clinical hours in a long term care facility. This program is designed for students that have successfully completed prior science coursework at the high school level and are ready for the rigor of Anatomy & Physiology, Nutrition, and clinical hours for Nurse Aide. It offers the opportunity to gain hands-on experience, earn college credits, and develop essential healthcare knowledge that will not only prepare you for nursing school but also give you a head start on your nursing career. This pathway makes it possible to enter the workforce quickly, save on educational costs, and set yourself up for success in an in-demand and rewarding field.

Note: Senior Year Plus (SYP) Arts and Sciences Proficiency required or alternative assessment measures as adopted by student's school district. Recent high school Biology with a grade of B or higher is also strongly recommended.

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9:30 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
Human Anatomy & Physiology I	BIO-168	4
Nutrition	BIO-151	3
Nurse Aide	HSC-168	3.5
Human Anatomy & Physiology II	BIO-173	4

*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 orientation and must be completed prior to the first day of the scheduled Nurse Aide course.*

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $3,205

CAREER ACADEMY
Project Management

www.kirkwood.edu/projectmanagementacademy

BUSINESS

If you like solving problems, leading teams, and seeing your ideas come to life, the Project Management Academy is for you! You'll learn how projects in business and technology actually happen, from the first brainstorm to the final result.

Through hands-on experiences, you'll discover how to plan, organize, and lead real projects from start to finish. You'll work with industry tools like Microsoft Project and Excel, collaborate with local businesses, and see how strong leadership and teamwork make real results possible. You'll even have the opportunity to earn a professional certification.

Whether you dream of running your own company, designing new technology, or leading creative projects, this academy gives you the confidence and experience to make things happen.

A.M. Academy (9:30 – 11 a.m.)

Fall Term ☐   Spring Term ▨

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS
WBL Project Based Learning: PM for Business, Finance, Marketing and Management	WBL-145	3
Project Management Tools	MGT-124	3
Integrated Project Management	MGT-155	3
Workplace Project Based Learning	WBL-146	3

Total Estimated Cost Savings: $2,652

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- 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)

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9 a.m.) or P.M. (12:30 – 2:30 p.m.) Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ▨ Both ☐

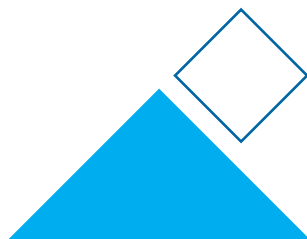| COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	DEGREE REQUIREMENT
Composition I*	ENG-105	3	Communication – Writing
Cultural Anthropology	ANT-105	3	History/Culture
Digital Photography	ART-186	3	Humanities
Exploring Teaching	EDU-110	3	Elective
Foundations in Education	EDU-210	3	Elective
Fundamentals of Oral Communication*	SPC-101	3	Communication – Speech
Fundamentals of Web Programming	CIS-207	3	Elective
Human Relations in Management	MGT-145	3	Elective
Introduction to Business	BUS-102	3	Elective
Introduction to Psychology*	PSY-111	3	Social Science
Introduction to Sociology	SOC-110	3	Social Science
Network +	NET-165	3	Elective

Offered in the A.M. and P.M.

Arts & Sciences (continued)

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9 a.m.) or P.M. (12:30 – 2:30 p.m.) Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ▨ Both ☐

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	DEGREE REQUIREMENT
Principles of Macroeconomics	ECN-120	3	Social Science
Principles of Marketing	MKT-110	3	Elective
Principles of Sports Management	PEH-255	3	Elective
Professionals in Health	HSC-107	2	Elective
Project Management Tools (9:30 – 11 a.m.)	MGT-124	3	Elective
Survey of World Religions	REL-101	3	History/Culture
WBL Project Based Learning: PM for Business, Finance, Marketing and Management (9:30 – 11 a.m.)	WBL-145	3	Elective
WBL Project Based Learning: Information Solutions (9:30 – 11 a.m.)	WBL-146	3	Elective
Basic Anatomy & Physiology	BIO-161	3	Elective
Behavior Management	EDU-119	3	Elective
Composition II*	ENG-106	3	Communication – Writing
Computer Concepts	NET-130	3	Elective
Developmental Psychology	PSY-121	3	Social Science

Offered in the A.M. and P.M.

Arts & Sciences (continued)

A.M. Academy (7:30 – 9 a.m.) or P.M. (12:30 – 2:30 p.m.) Fall Term ☐ Spring Term ☐ Both ☐

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	DEGREE REQUIREMENT
Emerging Technology Trends	BCA-179	3	Elective
Forms of Lit: Fiction (prerequisite Composition I)	LIT-206	3	Humanities – Group 2
Human Biology	BIO-154	3	Science
Integrated Project Management (9:30 – 11 a.m.)	MGT-155	3	Elective
Introduction to Programming Logic	CIS-121	3	Elective
Medical Terminology (7:30 – 9:30 a.m.)	HSC-115	3	Elective
Social Media in Business (co or prereq MKT-110 Marketing)	MKT-130	3	Elective
Statistics (placement score required)	MAT-156	3	Mathematics
US History Since 1877	HIS-152	3	History/Culture
Nutrition	BIO-151	3	Science

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.

2 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

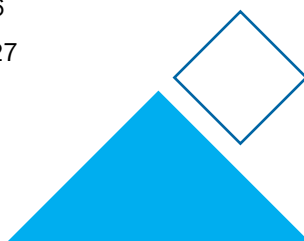**On time registration deadline:** Dec. 1, 2026

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

Linn 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
Introduction to Accounting	ACC-111	CR Washington High School
Principles of Agronomy	AGA-114	Prairie High School
Precision Farming Systems	AGP-333	North Linn High School
Emerging Technology Trends	BCA-179	North Linn High School
Human Biology	BIO-154	Alburnett High School
Introduction to Business	BUS-102	CR Kennedy High School CR Washington High School Marion High School Mount Vernon High School North Linn High School
PLTW: Computer Science Principles	CIS-450	Marion High School
Architectural Plans & Specs	CON-101	North Linn High School Prairie High School
Construction Lab	CON-190	Prairie High School
Architectural Modeling	CON-410	North Linn High School
Child Growth & Development	ECE-170	Linn Mar High School
Environmental Science	ENV-115	Marion High School

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	ONSITE HIGH SCHOOL LOCATION
Exploring Teaching	EDU-110	Linn Mar High School North Linn High School Prairie High School
Behavior Management	EDU-119	Linn Mar High School
PLTW: Introduction to Engineering Design	EGT-400	CR Kennedy High School CR Jefferson High School Linn Mar High School Marion High School Prairie High School Xavier High School
PLTW: Principles of Engineering	EGT-410	CR Kennedy High School Linn Mar High School Marion High School Prairie High School Xavier High School
PLTW: Digital Electronics	EGT-420	Linn Mar High School
PLTW: Civil Engineering and Architecture	EGT-460	CR Jefferson High School Linn Mar High School
Composition I	ENG-105	CR Kennedy High School CR Washington High School CR Jefferson High School Linn Mar High School Marion High School Mount Vernon High School Prairie High School
Composition II	ENG-106	CR Kennedy High School CR Washington High School CR Jefferson High School Linn Mar High School Marion High School Mount Vernon High School Prairie High School

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	ONSITE HIGH SCHOOL LOCATION
Personal Finance	FIN-121	CR Kennedy High School CR Washington High School Marion High School Mount Vernon High School North Linn High School
Intermediate French I	FLF-241	CR Jefferson High School CR Kennedy High School
Intermediate Spanish I	FLS-241	Linn Mar High School Marion High School Mount Vernon High School
Intermediate French II	FLF-242	CR Kennedy High School CR Jefferson High School
Intermediate Spanish II	FLS-242	Linn Mar High School Marion High School Mount Vernon High School
US History to 1877	HIS-151	CR Washington High School CR Jefferson High School Marion High School Prairie High School
US History Since 1877	HIS-152	CR Washington High School CR Jefferson High School Marion High School Prairie High School
Nurse Aide*	HSC-168	Prairie High School
Explorations of Healthcare Careers	HSC-205	CR Washington High School
Forms of Literature: Non-Fiction	LIT-204	Mount Vernon High School
Mathematics and Society	MAT-115	Linn Mar High School Prairie High School

COURSE NAME	COURSE NUMBER	ONSITE HIGH SCHOOL LOCATION
Statistics	MAT-156	Alburnett High School Mount Vernon High School
Survey of Data	MAT-607	CR Jefferson High School
Applied Math	MAT-772	CR Jefferson High School Metro High School Prairie High School
Intro to Entrepreneurship	MGT-300	North Linn High School
Music Appreciation	MUS-100	Marion High School
Weight Training I	PEA-187	Prairie High School
Weight Training I	PEA-287	Prairie High School
Personal Wellness	PEH-111	CR Washington High School
Introduction to Psychology	PSY-111	CR Jefferson High School
How College Works	SDV-105	City View High School CR Kennedy High School CR Washington High School North Linn High School
Fundamentals of Oral Communication	SPC-101	Prairie High School
Public Speaking	SPC-112	Mount Vernon High School
Practicum/Field Experience	WBL-200	Offered at all Linn 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.
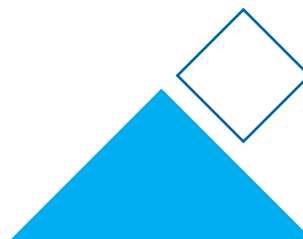
Through a combination of courses offered at your high school, on a Kirkwood campus, and online, you can complete the requirements for an A.A. degree at the same time you're earning your high school diploma.

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 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 March 2026. Choose the "Regional Center" term and select your Career Academy. Complete all required steps.

b. Registration for Alterative Concurrent/Online courses have strict registration deadlines. Registration deadline for Fall 2026 term is Aug. 11, 2026. Registration deadline for Spring 2027 term is Dec. 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.

Complete Orientation.
Students must complete CCHS Orientation in Talon.
Log into www.kirkwood.edu/talon to complete the requirement.

6 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

Linn County Regional Center
1770 Boyson Road
Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

www.kirkwood.edu