

IOWA CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Associates Pathway

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026



**IOWA CITY COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

All In for All Kids

Senior Year Plus

- SYP serves as an umbrella for programs including concurrent enrollment and Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)
 - Concurrent Enrollment - contracted community college courses for both high school and postsecondary credit (Kirkwood CC)
 - PSEO - college/university courses for both high school and postsecondary credit (University of Iowa)
- Joint enrollment allows students to save money, shorten the time to a postsecondary credential, and ease the transition into higher education.
- There is no statutory limit on the number of SYP credits a student may enroll in during an academic year.
- School districts participating in concurrent enrollment agreements are eligible to receive supplementary weighted funding to help offset the cost of the college courses.
- Cost per credit is significantly reduced when taught on-site by ICCSD teachers

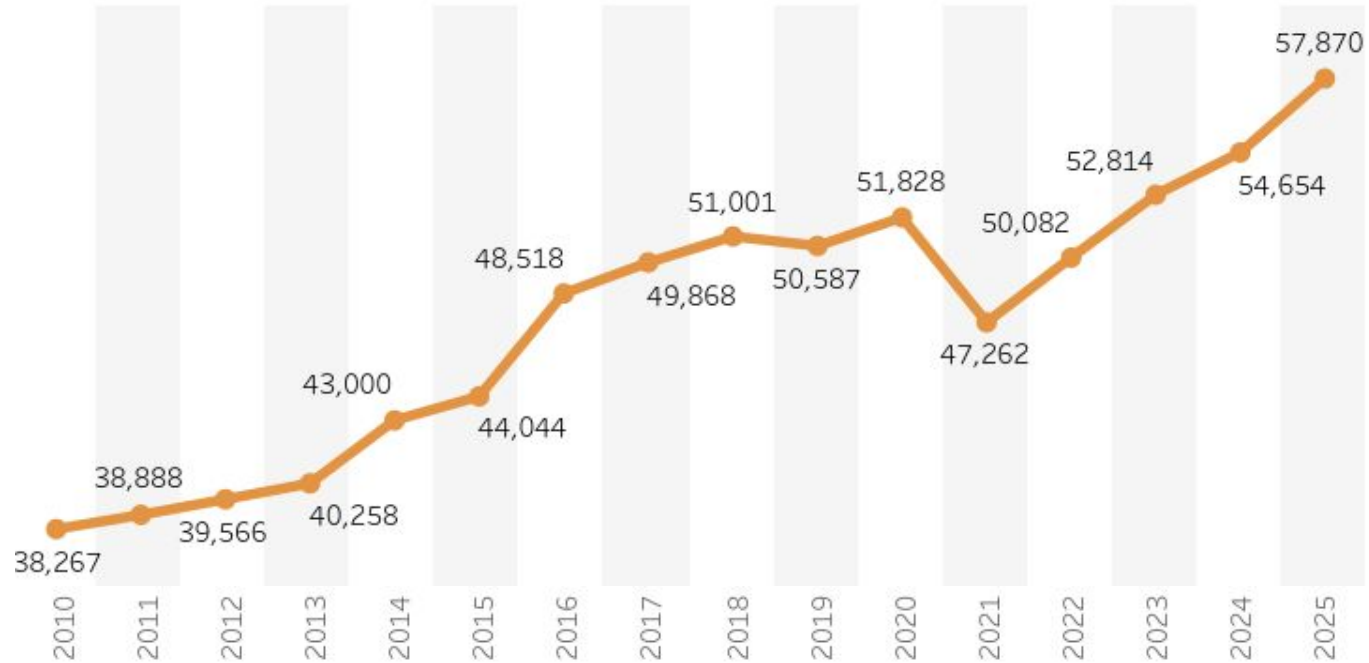
Benefits of College Credits in High School

According to an Iowa State University study, **students entering college with prior college credit have:**

- Higher grade point averages (their first semester and year)
- Higher graduation rates
- Graduate in less time than students without prior college credit
- Change majors less than students without prior college credit
- Add minors and second majors more than students without prior college credit

Fara, K. J. (2010). *The relationship of college credit earned while in high school to first-semester college GPA and persistence to the second college year* [Doctoral dissertation, Iowa State University]. Iowa State University Digital Repository. <https://dr.lib.iastate.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/6ec7d10b-6496-4c84-a1ea-3ca0cbb33f73/content>

Concurrent Enrollment Trends In Iowa



Concurrent Enrollment Trends ICCSD

Academic Year	Unique Students	Participation Rates	Credit Hours	Tuition Savings
2021-2022	812	18.86%	6,154.50	\$1,144,737
2022-2023	815	18.40%	6,186.00	\$1,237,200
2023-2024	1,017	22.60%	6,930.00	\$1,455,300
2024-2025	1,160	25.00%	7,856.50	\$1,704,861
2025-2026	1,294	27.20%	8,095.50	\$1,789,106

59%

**Increase in
unique students
over 5 years**

ICCSO DCAP Features

Iowa HF 316

Individualized career exploration & development: Universal & Student-Specific Planning starting as early as 5th grade

Industry Recognized Credentials

Building/Revising 4 year education plan based on postsecondary goals



CFI Immersive Experiences

Career-related experiences at every level (financial literacy fair, Career Inspire, Career Caravan, job shadows, internships, & apprenticeships)

Career Academies

Partnership with Kirkwood Regional College to provide Career ready learning experiences for all students

CAREER CLUSTER CATEGORIES

Creating & Experiencing

Arts, Entertainment, & Design

- Design & Digital Arts
- Fashion & Interiors
- Fine Arts
- Lighting & Sound Technology
- Media Production & Broadcasting
- Performing Arts

Hospitality, Events, & Tourism

- Accommodations
- Conferences & Events
- Culinary & Food Services
- Travel & Leisure

Cultivating Resources

Agriculture

- Agribusiness
- Agricultural Technology & Automation
- Animal Systems
- Food Science & Processing
- Plant Systems
- Water Systems

Energy & Natural Resources

- Clean & Alternative Energy
- Conservation & Land Management
- Ecological Research & Development
- Environmental Protection
- Resource Extraction
- Utilities

Investing in the Future

Financial Services

- Accounting
- Banking & Credit
- Financial Strategy & Investments
- Insurance
- Real Estate

**Cross-Cutting Clusters

Denote careers that overlap in **all** industries, highlighting the versatile and interconnected nature of today's workforce. These careers can stand on their own or be contextualized in each Cluster and emphasize the need for adaptability in navigating the modern economy.

Notes:

Clusters are listed in alphabetical order. Clusters and Sub-Clusters represent the entire world of work (see definitions).

CAREER CLUSTER CATEGORIES

Caring for Communities

Education

Early Childhood Development
Education Administration & Leadership
Learner Support & Community Engagement
Teaching, Training, & Facilitation

Healthcare & Human Services

Behavioral & Mental Health
Biotechnology Research & Development
Community & Social Services
Health Data & Administration
Personal Care Services
Physical Health

Public Service & Safety

Emergency Response
Judicial Systems
Local, State, & Federal Services
Military & National Security
Public Safety

Building & Moving

Advanced Manufacturing

Engineering
Industrial Machinery
Production & Automation
Robotics
Safety & Quality Assurance

Construction

Architecture & Civil Engineering
Construction Planning & Development
Equipment Operation & Maintenance
Skilled Trades

Supply Chain & Transportation

Air & Space Transportation
Ground & Rail Transportation
Maintenance & Repair
Marine Transportation
Planning & Logistics
Purchasing & Warehousing

Connecting & Supporting Success**

Digital Technology**

Data Science & AI
IT Support & Services
Network Systems & Cybersecurity
Software Solutions
Unmanned Vehicle Technology
Web & Cloud

Management & Entrepreneurship**

Business Information Management
Entrepreneurship & Small Business
Leadership & Operations
Project Management
Regulation

Marketing & Sales**

Market Research, Analytics, & Ethics
Marketing & Advertising
Retail & Customer Experience
Strategic Sales

Concurrent Enrollment Trends ICCSD

- **Liberty High School's Explosive Growth:** Liberty High is the district's primary driver of concurrent enrollment. From 2021 to 2026, its unique student participants nearly doubled from 255 to 485, and its participation rate surged from 22.27% to 36.3%. In 2025-2026 alone, Liberty students earned 3,357.5 credit hours, representing \$742,008 in tuition savings.
- **City High and West High Expansion:** Both City High and West High saw steady, measured growth. City High's unique student participation grew from 258 (16.57%) in 2021-2022 to 396 (24.0%) by 2025-2026. Over the same period, West High increased its unique student enrollment from 284 to 396.
- **Alternative and Online Programs:** Elizabeth Tate High School's numbers remain small, with participant levels fluctuating between a low of 4 unique students (2022-2024) and 15 students in 2021-2022, settling at 12 unique students by 2025-2026. Iowa City CSD Online also added students in 2025-2026, contributing 5 unique students and 27 credit hours.
- **Rise of Alternate Concurrent Offerings:** District-wide registrations for Alternate Concurrent courses expanded dramatically from 208 registrations in 2021-2022 to 724 in 2025-2026. Liberty High accounted for the bulk of this, growing its Alternate Concurrent registrations from 165 to 473 over the five-year span.
- **CTE and Arts & Science Balance:** Career and Technical Education (CTE) registrations climbed from 657 in 2021-2022 to 924 by 2025-2026. Arts & Science registrations fluctuated over the years but remained the most popular overall category, standing at 1,185 in 2021-2022 and reporting 1,125 registrations in 2025-2026.

Most Popular Kirkwood Academies

1. Patient Care Exploration (CFI option)
2. Pre-Med, Nursing, and Professional Health Careers
3. Pre-Nursing with Nurse Aide Certification (CFI option)

Top Regional Center Academies data point is focused on academies beyond that of the Liberal Arts Academy

Total ICCSD
Enrollments 25-26
School Year

1294

% of ICCSD
Students Enrolled

27.2

CFI Career Academies

CFI Career Academies offer our high school students a unique opportunity to explore specific career fields or areas of interest through a structured series of courses. Currently, students can enroll in two specialized Health Care Career Academies: Patient Care and Pre-Nursing, as well as an Education Academy. These academies provide direct access to work-based learning experiences and internships within our local community, allowing students to gain valuable hands-on experience and build connections in the field.



PATIENT CARE EXPLORATION

Duration: Offered in the Fall and Spring Semesters

HSC-168: Nurse Aide

HSC-205: Explorations of Health Careers



PRE-NURSING WITH NURSE AIDE CERTIFICATION

Fall Semester

BIO-168: Human Anatomy

& Physiology I

SPC-112: Public Speaking

Spring Semester

BIO-173: Human Anatomy

& Physiology II

HSC-168: Nurse Aide



EDUCATION

Fall Semester

EDU-110: Exploring Teaching

EDU-255: Technology in the

Classroom

Spring Semester

EDU-110: Behavior Management

EDU-210: Foundations of

Education



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Benefits of Associates Pathway for ICCSD

- Increases accessibility to students
- Can align with students individual career pathway
 - Students seeking A.A.S can still benefit from these courses
- Adds guidance and direction to students concurrent enrollment
- Has to potential to keep students in our buildings while earning college credit
- Increases “Post-secondary readiness index College Credit” on state performance profile
 - ICCSD current score is 65.24. State average is 70.03

Current "Pathway"

Grade 9

	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	AP Social Stud	AP Social Studi	AP Social Studies
2	HS Math	HS Math	HS Math
3	Eng 9	Eng 9	Eng 9
4	HS Science	HS Science	HS Science
5	WL level II	WL level II	WL level II
6	Pers Finance-K	Intro to Bus-KC	Health
7	Elective/Music/PE & SH		

Grade 10

	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	AP Social Stud	AP Social Studies	AP Social Studies
2	HS Math	HS Math	HS Math
3	HS Science	HS Science	HS Science
4	WL Level III	WL Level III	WL Level III
5	Eng 10 H	Eng 10 H	Eng 10 H
6	KCC Elective		KCC Humanities - Online
7	Elective/Music/PE & SH		

Green - ICCSD
teacher delivered

Red - KCC
Offsite/Online

Grade 11

	Fall Semester		Spring Semester
	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	Comp I	Comp II	Public Speaking
2	AP Gov	AP Gov	AP Gov
3	HS Math	HS Math	HS Math
4	HS Science	HS Science	HS Science
5	WL Level IV	WL Level IV	WL Level IV
6	KCC Elective	Winter	KCC Humanities - Online
7	Econ	Elective/Music/PE	

Grade 12

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	
	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	KCC History/Culture	KCC History/Culture	
2	KCC Science	KCC Science	
3	KCC Lit	KCC Math	
4	KCC Elective	KCC Elective	
5	KCC Elective		
6			
7	WL/Elective/Music/PE		

Students are able to achieve an associate's degree however, majority of courses taken outside of the building.

Desired Pathway

Grade 9

	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	AP Social Stud	AP Social Studi	AP Social Studies
2	HS Math	HS Math	HS Math
3	Eng 9	Eng 9	Eng 9
4	HS Science	HS Science	HS Science
5	WL level II	WL level II	WL level II
6	CTE	CTE	How College Works
7	Elective/Music/PE & SH		
	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	

Grade 10

	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	AP Social Stud	AP Social Studies	AP Social Studies
2	HS Math	HS Math	HS Math
3	HS Science	HS Science	HS Science
4	KCC-World Language		
5	Eng 10 H	Eng 10 H	Eng 10 H
6	Pers Finance-k	Intro to Bus-KCC	KCC - Art
7	CTE/Elective/Music/PE & SH		
	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	

Green - ICCSD teacher delivered

Yellow - New ICCSD CE option*

Red - KCC Offsite/Online

Grade 11

	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	Comp I	Comp II	Public Speaking
2	AP Gov	AP Gov	AP Gov
3	HS Math	HS Math	HS Math
4	HS Science	HS Science	HS Science
5	KCC World Language		
6	KCC - Intro to Psych	KCC Elective - Online	
7	Econ	Elective/Music/PE	

Grade 12

	Tri 1	Tri 2	Tri 3
1	KCC - Math	KCC - Math	
2	KCC Literature	KCC Literature	
3	KCC Science	KCC Science	
4	Elective	Elective	Elective
5	Work Base Learning/Internship		
6			
7	WL/Elective/Music/PE		

By offering more courses in the building, we are able to keep students onsite and increase upperclassmen presence and leadership. Additionally, this gives students who may not otherwise have access to participate in concurrent enrollment courses with support from ICCSD teachers.

*Note - new courses listed are options and not specific recommendations at this time

Next Steps

- Survey current ICCSD teachers for credentials and interest in teaching concurrent enrollment
- Work with Kirkwood to identify available courses and approval from departments
- Determine best format for ICCSD Associates Pathway
- Update ICCSD program of studies
- Hold information sessions for students and parents leading up to registration
- Continue to work with Kirkwood regarding implementation and advisement for students