

# The Jackson County Early College Program

The **Jackson County Early College (JCEC)** program represents a transformational shift in education for the children of Jackson County. This shift moves from a traditional K-12 approach to a much more robust **K-14** pathway that will be tailored for every child to find their way from the classroom to a career.



## What is an **Early College** and how does it benefit students?

The JCEC program helps students find their way into post-secondary education working towards a certification, credential, skill set, or associate degree. Partnerships with area colleges guarantee transferability of credits to four-year universities. JCEC is designed as a **Universal Entry/Universal Exit** model whereby students can begin their college education as early as their freshman year and stay all the way through year 13 to a maximum of 60 credits.

- *Earn credentials, certifications or even a degree in just one additional year.*
- *Earn program specific credits.*
- *Six career pathway options and hundreds of major courses to choose from.*
- *No cost to earn college credits.*

Under the guidance of counselors and our program director, students register for and attend classes on the campus of **Jackson College**. The concept of Universal Exit allows students the flexibility to leave the program at any time up to or before the end of their 13<sup>th</sup> year. Students may take just a few exploratory courses or choose a more robust pathway which can yield a certification or even an **Associate Degree** upon completion of year **12** or year **13**.



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## Schedule

College classes are exactly that, they are taught on a college schedule and will look and feel exactly like a college class. While some will take place during the traditional school day, students and parents may sign up for classes that may run in the evening, less than five days per week or could meet on the weekends.

## Transportation

Students may use the JPS transportation system buses to and from the Career Center as a means of getting to the campus, but transportation beyond that will be the responsibility of the student given the flexibility of their schedules.

## Extracurricular Options

Students will be allowed to participate in all sports and extracurricular activities through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, but will not be able to participate during their 13<sup>th</sup> year.

## Commencement Ceremony and Graduation

Students will be able walk with their peer group during commencement exercises, but the official diploma will not be conferred until they have successfully exited the program.

*For more information please contact:*

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