

What are the Academies?

In our rapidly changing 21st century world, students need to be more prepared than ever in order to be successful after high school. Recognizing this, Greater Clark County Schools embarked on a partnership with Ford Next Generation Learning to establish The Academies of Greater Clark to ensure all of our students are college and career ready. The academy model provides small learning communities of students and teachers, organized around labor market demand, that enable students to explore areas of interest; find their passion; and develop their critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration skills.



Academies of Greater Clark



Freshman Academy is for 9th grade students who will spend time discovering career opportunities and their own unique interests before choosing a home academy for their sophomore through senior years. The Freshman Academy will provide additional time to explore courses offered by the four career-themed academies.



Business & Entrepreneurship Academy offers students industry relevant experiences that will allow students creative platforms to produce ideas and products that propel the growth of local, state, national, and global economy.



Health Services Academy provides students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to pursue a variety of health professions that align with their preferred workplace settings, patient interaction preferences, and professional growth plans.



Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing Academy is a high tech, high skill, high demand area that will help students generate their own jobs and opportunities.



Public Service Academy gives students the ability to apply their coursework across an array of academic disciplines. Courses benefit both the community and students while encouraging students to serve others.

Additional Academy Offerings

Advanced Placement & Dual Credit - A.P. and dual credit courses help students develop college-level academic skills within the traditional high school setting.

Indiana College Core - Students complete the first 30 credit hours of their bachelor's degree, which will transfer to any public college/ university in Indiana. These are also the first 30 credit hours that count toward an associate degree in General Studies.

Industry Certifications - These certifications are nationally recognized and valued by industry professionals and lead to quality employment opportunities within the related industry.

How Will The Academies Work?

In 9th grade, students will enter the Freshman Academy, which will provide the necessary skills to transition to high school and provide additional time to explore career interests and opportunities. Students will then select an academy for their sophomore through senior years. Students will select one required Academy course each year and will still have opportunities to take courses in other areas of interest.

Can Students Change Academies?

Our goal is not to have students feel "stuck." Students who believe they are in the wrong academy or find out that their passion lies in another academy will have the opportunity to move to another academy once during their high school career.

What Is Ford Next Generation Learning?

Ford NGL is the philanthropic non-profit arm of Ford Motor Company, which has helped many districts over the past 20 years to successfully transform their high schools. Ford NGL will help us learn from others' experiences and give us access to many resources, including: seminars, workshops and staff development; a proven planning process; and professional development opportunities. We are joining a collaborative network of districts all seeking to make the delivery of high school education more relevant, impactful, and successful. We are fortunate to have been selected to become one of their partners, and their support is funded primarily through business and organization sponsorships.

What Is The Ford Next Generation Learning Framework?

Ford NGL mobilizes educators, employers, and community leaders to prepare a new generation of young people who will graduate from high school ready for college, careers, and life - prepared to compete successfully in the 21st century economy. Three distinct but interconnected strands comprise the Ford NGL Framework, which enables whole communities to design and carry out a long-term plan for revitalizing education.



TRANSFORMING TEACHING & LEARNING

Creating meaningful learning experiences that enable students to learn and apply academic, 21st Century, and technical knowledge and skills to real-world challenges



TRANSFORMING THE SECONDARY SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

Creating and maintaining career and interest themed academies and collaborative culture, structures, and practices



TRANSFORMING BUSINESS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Engaging employers, educators, and community leaders in building and sustaining a transformed secondary school experience



NEXT GENERATION LEARNERS

PRIDE® Program

In Greater Clark, we believe all students need to learn and master the work ethic skills necessary to succeed in school and in life. As a result, we have created a PRIDE® program that teaches and positively reinforces Persistence, Respectfulness, Initiative, Dependability, and Efficiency to all of our students on a daily basis from preschool through 12th grade. The PRIDE® program was developed by a team of educators in cooperation with business and community leaders. The goal of PRIDE® is to build students of strong character who will not only strengthen our school district, but eventually our entire community.



PRIDE[©] describes the fundamental expectations of students at all Greater Clark schools.

- ★ Persistence Persevere Through Challenges, Problem-Solve
- ★ Respectfulness Accept and Serve Others, Possess a Positive Attitude, Communicate Clearly
- ★ Initiative Demonstrate the Ability to Self-Start and to Think Critically
- ★Dependability Academically Ready, Reliable, Demonstrate Responsibility and Teamwork
- ★ Efficiency Organized, Punctual, Self-Managed



Governor's Work Ethic Certificate

As a culminating acknowledgment of PRIDE®, Greater Clark County Schools created the Work Ethic Certificate, which is now the model for the Governor of Indiana's Work Ethic Certificate. The certificate, which can be earned by seniors, is recognized by many area employers and organizations who provide specific benefits to seniors who have earned the certificate.

To earn the certificate, a senior must:

- Possess PRIDE[®] skills
- Have 98 percent attendance
- Have no more than one behavioral referral
- Have six hours of school or community service
- Graduate with at least a "C" grade point average

Portrait of a GCCS Graduate

PATHVAYS to SUCCESS

Students enrolled in Greater Clark County Schools receive a foundation of PRIDE® and work ethic skills on which to build academic achievement and career/experiential learning.

AQUIRE

Learn that strong work ethic skills are essential for success

ACHIEVE

Maximize education to best prepare for college and careers

ASPIRE

Apply work ethic skills and academic achievement to college and career exploration



Roadmap to Graduation

Freshman Year

- Explore self, careers, and colleges
- Develop lifelong, transferable skills
- Participate in co-curricular or extracurricular activities
- Attend career fair through Junior Achievement
- Identify school academies and pathways
- Build the framework of a resume

Sophomore Year

- Explore career pathways in chosen academy
- Complete coursework in selected pathways program of study
- Develop projects that directly connect with future careers
- Visit a local business and discover the various positions available
- Tour career center to explore additional programs of study

• Seek positions of leadership and perform

Junior Year

- Develop post-graduation plan
- Attend 3E (employment, enlistment, enrollment) Fair
- Complete either a one-day job shadow or college visit
- Become a leader in school and extracurricular activities
- Update resume with skills, activities, and work experience
- Plan a summer job, internship, or college camp

Senior Year

- Choose a college or career for after graduation
- Apply for scholarships and financial assistance
- Complete capstone projects and internships
- Pursue the Governor's Work Ethic Certificate
- Request letters of reference and recommendation
- Finalize resume for future employment







Jeffersonville High School New Washington High School Charlestown High School

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