

CMCSS PATHWAYS TO YOUR FUTURE

RISING 9TH GRADER OPTIONS

2021-2022



CLARKSVILLE-MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System believes it is important to provide a variety of college and career preparatory options for high school students. These options have been aligned to both student interests and industry demands in order to prepare our students for their futures. In addition to innovative programs like the Academies of CMCSS, each high school offers traditional early post-secondary options including: dual enrollment, dual credit, Advanced Placement (AP), and Career Technical Education (CTE) courses. Students who take these courses will have the opportunity to earn both high school and college credit simultaneously. This brochure explains the differences between the early post-secondary options available to CMCSS 9th grade students.



Ready Graduate Indicators

The CMCSS Ready Graduate Indicators focus on increasing student postsecondary and career readiness through Early Post-Secondary Opportunities (EPSOs). According to the state of TN, a ready graduate must meet one of the four Ready Graduate Indicators listed below.

21+
ACT

4
EPSOs

2 EPSOs
& INDUSTRY
CERTIFICATION

2 EPSOs
& 31+
ASVAB

CTE PATHWAYS WITH INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS VARY BY SCHOOL

For more information, talk to your school counselor.

EARLY POST-SECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES (EPSOs)

Early post-secondary opportunities (EPSOs) give students the opportunity to obtain post-secondary credit while still in high school. EPSO offerings vary by school, but the basic description of each is listed below.

Advanced Placement (AP) is a rigorous academic program that provides willing and academically prepared high school students with the opportunity to study and learn at the college level. Each AP course is based on a national curriculum that is aligned to the standards of a comparable college course, and college and university faculty play a vital role in ensuring that AP courses align with college-level standards. AP courses culminate with AP exams developed and scored by college and university faculty members as well as experienced AP teachers. AP Exams are an essential part of the AP experience, enabling students to demonstrate their mastery of college-level course work. Strong performance on AP Exams is rewarded by colleges and universities worldwide, granting students credit, placement, or both on the basis of qualifying AP Exam scores.

Dual Enrollment (DE) is a college course option, taught either on a college or university campus or at the high school, by college or university professors. Participation in dual enrollment courses will provide students with the opportunity to earn high school and college credit simultaneously. The curriculum and materials utilized in each dual enrollment course is determined by the university from which the credit is being offered. Students who meet the eligibility and participation requirements for the Dual Enrollment Grant can take a limited number of courses free of charge. Students must qualify for enrollment at the partnering institution in order to register for a dual enrollment course.

Local Dual Credit (LDC) options allow high school teachers to align their high school courses to courses offered at a partnering postsecondary institution. At the end of an LDC course, students who take and pass an exam designed by the partnering postsecondary institution, will earn credit recognized by the college or university that created the exam.

Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) options are college-level courses developed at the state level by high school and college faculty. Students who meet a specified cut score on the challenge exam given at the end of each SDC course will be granted equivalent credit at any public postsecondary institution in TN.

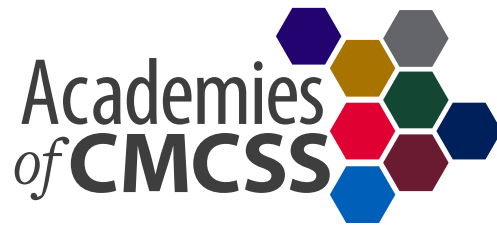
INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

Career Technical Education (CTE) does more than simply prepare students for careers; it provides students with an opportunity to develop the specific academic, intellectual, technical, and 21st century skills necessary to be successful in a career and in life. Rigorous course standards have been intentionally chosen to design CTE programs of study aligned to industry expectations. Students engage in pathway relevant content through experiences such as career & technical student organizations (CTSOs), early postsecondary opportunities (EPSOs), work-based learning (WBL) courses, and industry certifications. **Industry certifications (IC)** can be earned through exams aligned to some secondary and postsecondary career and technical education pathways. Through these CTE courses, students are immersed with industry standard content and technology, solve industry-based problems, meaningfully interact with industry professionals and use/produce industry specific, informational texts.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

ACT - The ACT is an entrance exam used by many colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. It is a multiple-choice, pencil-and-paper test administered by ACT, Inc. The purpose of the ACT test is to measure a high school student's readiness for college and to provide colleges with one common data point that can be used to compare all applicants.

ASVAB - The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple choice test that assesses a student's ability to perform specific tasks and react to a range of different situations. ASVAB score results highlight a student's most effective work-related skills and can be used to explore more than 800 career opportunities, both within and outside of the US Defense Industry.



The Academies of CMCSS are small learning communities within a larger school, whose core and elective classes are aligned around a common career interest. Academy students share many of the same teachers, allowing educators to collaborate in the coordination of lesson planning and classroom activities that align to the Academy theme.

Academies allow for problem-based learning opportunities and real-world work experiences, which can help to improve students' career and college readiness through the integration of subject standards and the addition of a hands-on element to their coursework. Academies partner with local employers and institutions of higher education to help develop curricula, provide guest speakers, and create relevant experiences for students. Many college and career Academies also provide certifications and dual enrollment options to upperclassmen.

Incoming high school freshmen will have the opportunity to apply to any of the eight different college and career Academies across the district. Pathway choices for each of the Academies are listed below.



Academy of Business and Finance (Clarksville HS)

- Business Management
- Banking and Finance



STEM Academy (Kenwood HS)

- STEM Education
- Mechatronics



Academy of Plant and Animal Sciences (Montgomery Central HS)

- Horticulture Production
- Veterinary and Animal Science



Computer Information Technology Academy (Northeast HS)

- Computer Information
- Technology



Academy of Health Sciences (Northwest HS)

- Nursing Services
- Therapeutic Services
- Emergency Services



Academy of Media Arts and Technology (Rossview HS)

- Digital Arts and Design



Academy of Criminal Justice and Homeland Security (West Creek HS)

- Criminal Justice and Correction Services



Academy of Teaching and Learning (West Creek HS)

- Teaching as a Profession K-12

Applications are due by **February 15, 2021**. Please visit www.cmcss.net/academies for more information or to submit an application.