

# HHS Academies Frequently Asked Questions

- What is the purpose of the academies?
  - The mission is to be a value-added program to enhance the high school experience by providing unique electives and events that allow students to explore their career interests. Students will explore various class choices to make a connection between the different content areas.
- Why enroll in an academy?
  - Academy scholars will have opportunities for guest speakers, field trips, internships, and other experiences tailored to their interests. Students continue to receive rigorous academic instruction and are taught how their core classes and electives can be relevant in the real world.
- How is this different from the existing pathways?
  - The existing pathways will still be in place with PLTW Biomedical, PLTW Engineering, Business, and NJROTC courses available starting their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. All other pathways begin in 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Choosing an academy allows students to complete the existing pathways PLUS benefit from the enrichment opportunities and class explorations that the academies have to offer.
- Do I have to enroll in an academy?
  - No, students are not required to choose an academy. The academies are just one of the many ways a student can maximize and enrich their learning experiences during their four years at Huntingtown High School.
- What do I receive for completing an academy?
  - A student may receive a letter of recommendation from the academy lead teacher and a cord at graduation.
- Can I change academies or withdraw?
  - Yes. During registration for the upcoming school year students have the opportunity to submit an academy change form. They will work with the academy lead teacher and their counselor to ensure appropriate placement and choice of electives. Students can also withdraw from the academy program if their interests have changed.
- How are the academies structured?
  - Each academy has an academy lead teacher. The role of the lead teacher is to coordinate experiences and mentor students in the academy. The overall academy program is administered by an academy coordinator.
- What is required to complete an academy?
  - See the catalogue for details on which courses are required for each academy.
- Where can I get more information?
  - For specific questions or comments, contact the academy lead teachers or see your school counselor.