



ELKHART AREA CAREER · CENTER

2025-2026

Course Description Guide



CHOOSE YOUR PATH.

Discover your career passion and get started! The EACC has tools to help you evaluate which of our **30 outstanding programs** would be a good fit. Schools are encouraged to bring students for tours, and families/students are encouraged to attend our annual open house held each January.

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS.

EACC instructors are seasoned industry professionals and supported by industry advisory boards, meaning you can be confident that every EACC student is working toward skills that will prepare them for workplace success. At EACC, our instructors seamlessly blend classroom education with practical, hands-on experiences, spanning **project-based, service-based, and work-based learning**. EACC students will also spend time on **resume-building, interview skills**, and attend **three workplace-focused events** during the year.

MAKE YOUR MARK.

EACC students have the opportunity to earn **free college credits** while completing EACC coursework. EACC students also have the potential to earn **industry certifications, college technical certificates**, and/or an **associate degree** (based on program). Equally significant, EACC students graduate with a robust **professional network** within their industry, paving the way for future opportunities in network building and relationship development.



CHOOSE YOUR PATH

AUDIO/VIDEO

Create concepts, scripts, production, recording, and editing for the audio/video industry

AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION REPAIR

Learn the fundamentals of collision repair, welding, trim and hardware, and exterior panel repair of automobiles and materials

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY

Analyze, diagnose, maintain, and repair basic and advanced automotive systems

BARBERING

Develop the skills necessary for earning the Indiana Barbering license including, but not limited to, craft of cutting, styling, and coloring short hair, as well as shaving or grooming facial hair.

CARDIOLOGY/EMT

Gain the knowledge to obtain certifications in Phlebotomy, EKG, EMR, EMT, and Electronic Medical Records for employment with an ambulance service, emergency department, and other healthcare facilities

CNC MACHINING

Understand the computerized manufacturing processes and equipment used to create and produce objects and goods that are used in everyday life

COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Introduction to the fundamentals of photography, lighting equipment, and studio practices

COMPUTER NETWORKING

Build, modify, and troubleshoot PCs, network cables, configure Cisco routers and switches, and design/ maintain network infrastructures

CONSTRUCTION TRADES

Train in every major construction career area: carpentry, residential wiring and plumbing, concrete, and many others while building a residential home

COSMETOLOGY

Develop the skills necessary for earning the Indiana Cosmetology license including, but not limited to, hair design, hair cutting, hair coloring, nail care, skin care and salon business skills

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Explore specialized hands-on training in law enforcement patrol operations, criminal investigations, corrections, and emergency dispatch communications

CULINARY ARTS & HOSPITALITY

Learn basic sanitation, culinary theory, practical cooking and baking techniques in a fully equipped baking lab and kitchen

DENTAL ASSISTING

Develop dental terminology that will enhance practical skills in dental procedures and expanded functions in dental assisting

DIESEL SERVICE TECHNOLOGY

Experience hands-on training on diesel engines, drive trains, HD brakes, fuel systems, engine electrical systems, steering, and suspension

DRONE TECHNOLOGY/PRECISION AG

Develop the necessary skill to earn a residential and commercial drone license and explore how the Agriculture industry uses drones to improve including conditions of crop, soil, and water structure

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Gain knowledge of child growth and development to create lesson plans for children 0-8 years using play-based approach

EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Provides the foundation for planning instruction, learning environments, and instructional and assessment strategies for the teaching profession

EMT: EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN

Learn to recognize, manage, and apply scene information and patient assessment to guide emergency management of sick/injured patients

EXERCISE SCIENCE CAREERS

Prepares students for health care fields related to athletics: i.e. athletic training, personal training, occupational and physical therapy, exercise science, and physical fitness

FIRE & RESCUE

Develop core skills in firefighting tactics, search and rescue procedures, and perform simulated firefighting training and medical emergency exercises

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Learn the fundamentals of design layout, typography, photo editing, digital illustration, animation, and design for websites and social media

MECHATRONICS

Learn to install, troubleshoot, and repair mechatronic systems such as pneumatics, hydraulics, electrical systems, mechanical systems, electric motors, sensors and industrial computers

MOTORSPORTS

Develop skills that are essential in working with motorcycles, other small engines, and agricultural mechanics

PRE-LAW

Familiarizes students with the foundations of criminal justice, the American legal system, and exposes them to a wide range of career paths within the legal profession

PRE-NURSING

Learn a variety of medical assisting skills, like drawing blood (phlebotomy) and performing ECGs (electrocardiograms) to prepare for a career in a physician's office or clinic

ROBOTICS & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Design and construct large scale projects that incorporate computer control, sensors, electrical circuits, and actuators

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT *(New for 2025!)*

Learn programming, software creation, and database management for computers and mobile devices, gaining real-world, in-demand tech skills

SURGICAL SERVICES

Become knowledgeable of human anatomy, medical terminology, surgical procedures, and sterilization of surgical equipment/tools to facilitate a physician's performance of invasive, therapeutic and diagnostic procedures

VETERINARY CAREERS

Train to provide professional support to veterinarians, such as blood draws, animal restraining, preparing examination rooms for veterinarians, surgical preparation, and grooming

WELDING TECHNOLOGY

Develop the fundamentals of stick arc welding, mig and tig welding, as well as other innovative welding techniques

To learn more about EACC programs, visit our website at www.myeacc.org

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS

Why attend the Elkhart Area Career Center?

EACC programs offer students extraordinary real-world exposure that sets them apart from traditional high school coursework. At EACC, students receive instruction from industry experts and have access to a vast network of professionals in their chosen fields. Emphasizing a “learn by doing” approach, EACC students engage in hands-on laboratories and work-based experiences, including semester-long or year-long internships. Students in every EACC program gain invaluable experience by utilizing industry-standard equipment, tools, and best practices. Moreover, attending EACC opens the door to earning dual credits, industry certifications, and scholarships through participation in Career and Technical Education (CTE) student organizations.

EACC Curriculum and Instruction

The foundation of EACC’s curriculum is Indiana’s Next Level Programs of Study. Each program of study contains a 4-course sequence that progresses from general to specific: Principles Course, Concentrator A, Concentrator B, and Capstone. The principles course sets the foundation for a career pathway and includes content that is applicable to multiple, closely related programs of study. Through the concentrator courses, students acquire the core occupational skills needed for a particular occupation. After completion of the principles and concentrator coursework, students can participate in work-based learning as their capstone. Principle and concentrator courses are embedded into Grade 11 curriculum and instruction, while students in Grade 12 can continue to grow through additional classroom instruction and work-based learning.

Program curriculum is also guided by each program’s Advisory Board - a group of local industry experts who help ensure that programming is applicable to ever-changing local industry needs.

Workplace Readiness

Core to the work of the EACC is teaching students the foundations of workplace readiness, including learning employability skills (soft skills), resume building, and interview skills.

Employability Skills Panels

Employability Skills are the skills necessary for an individual to thrive in a workplace setting. Each fall, the EACC hosts business representatives to speak directly to students within their fields about what employability skills are most important in their industry.

Mock Interviews

During the second semester, students begin working on their resumes, portfolios, and interview skills. In early spring, business representatives will serve as mock interviewers, providing our students with practice for navigating job interviews. Over 1,200 interviews were completed in 2024.

Career Fair

Held in late spring, the career fair assists students with finding meaningful summer employment in their fields, and can be a launching pad for many EACC students to officially begin their post-graduation career.

How does the Elkhart Area Career Center help students meet Indiana graduation requirements?

The Indiana Department of Education has established graduation requirement criteria for all students. Students can complete **two of the three** Graduation Pathway requirements while at the Elkhart Area Career Center.

- **Box 1: High School Diploma** (attained at sending HS)
- **Box 2: Learn and Demonstrate Employability Skills**
 - Project-Based Learning; or
 - Service-Based Learning; or
 - Work-Based Learning
- **Box 3: Complete a Post-Secondary Ready Competency**
 - Academic or Technical Honors Diploma; or
 - Indiana-promoted Industry Certification; or
 - Career & Technical Education Concentrator

What is Work-Based Learning?

Work-Based Learning is an invaluable educational approach that allows students to gain a firsthand understanding of the essential skills and knowledge required for success in the professional world. At the EACC, WBL preparation encompasses a comprehensive range of activities, including participation in employability skills panels, mock interviews, workplace tours, and industry presentations. For students who meet the necessary criteria, the opportunity to engage in job shadows and internships is extended, further enhancing their experiential learning journey.

For most programs, EACC students will traditionally complete a 2-week Job Shadow during their junior year, followed by an Internship during their senior year. Internships can be semester-long or year-long. Training plans for internships are established by instructors and employers to ensure classroom learning and student interest are applied in a work setting.

WBL Hours Completed in 2024 through EACC: 38,000+

MAKE YOUR MARK

A Long History of Local and Global Impact

For over 50 years, the Elkhart Area Career Center has led career-focused education for high school students in Elkhart and beyond. Our programs have evolved, and will continue to evolve to meet the advancing needs of our local and regional economy. What hasn't changed over the years is the **vast impact of EACC students** - EACC graduates are making their mark in businesses and industries locally, regionally, and globally. Successful EACC graduates can be found throughout the area, excelling in their respective industries.

The following opportunities are available for EACC students.

Dual Enrollment/Free College Credits

The majority of EACC instructors are credentialed for teaching college credit-bearing courses through Ivy Tech Community College or Vincennes University. This course-work is embedded into the curriculum at EACC, meaning that students can earn college credits by successfully completing EACC courses. By completing a few additional courses while at the EACC, students have the potential to earn technical certificates or an associate degree.

College Credits Earned in 2024 through EACC: 10,900+
Post-Secondary Certificates Earned in 2024: 180

Industry Certifications

EACC courses are designed to meet the needs of our local economy, exceed state-required high school curriculum, and provide authentic work-based learning. In addition, the majority of EACC programs offer industry certifications specific to the work field.

A few examples include: Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certification, American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welder, Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA), Certified Registered Central Service Technician (CRCST), Child Development Associate (CDA), Comp TIA A+, EKG, Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Telecommunicator Certification, EMT-Basic, Indiana State Board of Cosmetology, Jail Officer Certification, ParaPro, Phlebotomy, and ServSafe.

Industry Certifications Earned in 2024 through EACC: 840

Post-Secondary Partners



National Technical Honor Society

NTHS is a national organization founded to reward excellence in career and technical education, to encourage scholastic excellence and skill development, and to cultivate a stronger, more positive image for career education.

The goal of the National Technical Honor Society is to ensure that deserving career technical education students be recognized and that the local community become aware of the talents and abilities of the people who choose career technical education as a pathway to a successful future.

Students are nominated by their instructors, must have 3 or less absences and tardies, and have an "A" in their Career Technical Education Program at the end of first semester.

NTHS EACC 2024 Inductees: 175 Students

SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA offers materials and programs to help students develop as individuals, employees, and citizens. The program teaches teamwork, leadership and reinforces industry standards within each individual contest category. Students advance through district, regional, state, and national competitions. SkillsUSA provides opportunities to network, potentially meeting future employers.

Winners at the state and national levels can win medallions, scholarships, tools, leadership development materials & other awards. Over \$1 million in scholarships are available through SkillsUSA annually. Every year at the national level a very select few are chosen to compete internationally.

National-Level Qualifiers in 2024 from EACC: 14 Students
State-Level Top 3 Award Winners in 2024: 41 Students
SkillsUSA 2024 Indiana Advisor of the Year: Kenny Helbling, EACC

SPONSORS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Thank you to our generous 2024–2025 sponsors!



*Interested in learning more about our sponsorship program?
Contact EACC Director Brandon Eakins at beakins@elkhart.k12.in.us*

EACC Advisory Boards

At the heart of the Elkhart Area Career Center lie our invaluable advisory boards. Within these boards, local industry professionals play a pivotal role in shaping the direction of each program. These dedicated boards meet biannually to delve into program curriculum, future industry and job trajectories, upcoming events, and student opportunities. Their collective expertise serves as a vital compass, guaranteeing that the EACC's curriculum remains aligned with the demands of our local job market while remaining forward focused, ever-vigilant for emerging technologies and trends.

*Thank you to the hundreds of local and regional businesses and organizations that partner with the EACC!
Your involvement through discussion panels, guest speaking, mentoring, hosting interns, serving on advisory boards,
providing donations, student recognition awards, and sponsorships is invaluable to our students' success.*

Your continued support of our programs and students is incredibly important and much appreciated!

