

HOW TO CHOOSE AN ACADEMY AND PATHWAY

2025-2026



STEP 1

Identify your interests.

Identifying your personal interests will help you choose an academy and pathway that's right for you.

STEP 2

Review your Pathway options.

Read through the Pathway options and determine which best fits your college or career interests.

STEP 3

Complete your application.

Work with your Freshman Seminar teacher and/or school counselor to apply for your top 2 Pathway choices.

I enjoy:

Creativity
Imagination
Working With Others
Communication
Writing
Learning a New Language

I enjoy:

Decision Making
Problem Solving
Leadership
Thinking
Analysis
Focusing on Goals

I enjoy:

Caring For Others
Science
Understanding How The Human Body Works
Attention to Detail
Curious Things

I enjoy:

Problem Solving
Research and Analysis
Building or Fixing Things
Math
Solving Puzzles
Working with Tools

I enjoy:

Community Service
Listening and Encouraging
Being Helpful
Working with Children and Adults
Impacting Society

Academy Theme:

Arts, Media & Communication

Academy Theme:

Business, Marketing, Information Technology

Academy Theme:

Health and Human Services

Academy Theme:

Manufacturing, Engineering and Skilled Trades

Academy Theme:

Public Service

Pathways:

Dance
IT & Interactive Media
Music
Product & Fashion Design
Theatre
Visual Art & Design

Pathways:

Cosmetology
Culinary Arts
Financial Services
Hospitality Careers
IT & Cybersecurity
IT & Game Design
IT & Networking
Marketing & Entrepreneurship

Pathways:

Animal Studies
Biomedical Science
Biotechnology
Healthcare Management
Patient Care
Sports Medicine & Healthcare Professions

Pathways:

Advanced Manufacturing
Automotive Technology
Construction & Masonry
Construction Technology
Engineering & Architecture
Engineering & Aviation
Engineering & Robotics
Energy & Environmental Protection
Environmental Engineering
HVAC/R
Welding Technology

Pathways:

Criminal Justice
Early Childhood Education
Education Professions & Leadership
Fire & EMS Services

Are there other courses you still want to take? Electives can be taken across all academies to enhance your learning experience. Talk to your counselor about your options.

Arts Media & Communication	
Dance	Firestone
IT & Interactive Media	East, Ellet
Music	Firestone
Product & Fashion Design	Firestone
Theatre	Firestone
Visual Art & Design	Firestone
Business, Marketing, Information Technology	
Cosmetology	Buchtel
IT & Game Design	Buchtel, North
Culinary Arts	Buchtel, Garfield
IT & Cybersecurity	Firestone, NIHF STEM
Marketing & Entrepreneurship	Buchtel, East, Firestone, Ellet, Garfield, North
Financial Services	East
Hospitality Careers	East, Ellet
IT Support & Services	North
Marketing	Ellet
Health and Human Services	
Allied Health	North
Animal Studies	Ellet
Biomedical Science	North
Biotechnology	NIHF STEM
Healthcare	East
Healthcare Management	North
Nursing & Patient Care	Garfield
Sports Medicine & Health Care Professions	Buchtel

Manufacturing, Engineering and Skilled Trades	
Advanced Manufacturing	Garfield
Automotive Technology	East, Ellet
Construction & Masonry	Buchtel
Construction Technology	Ellet, Garfield
Energy & Environmental Protection	Garfield
Engineering & Aviation	Firestone
Engineering & Architecture	Firestone
Engineering & Robotics	Ellet, Firestone, Garfield
Environmental Engineering	NIHF STEM
HVAC/R	North
Welding Technology	East
Public Service	
Criminal Justice	Ellet, Garfield
Early Childhood Education	North
Education Professions & Leadership	Firestone
Fire & EMS Services	Ellet

International Baccalaureate Programme is available at Firestone CLC.

Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degree programs are available at Akron Early College.

Need more help?

Your teachers and school counselors will work with you to help you determine which pathway is right for you. If you have questions about the process, reach out to your school counselor.

