OaklandACE

ACCELERATED COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

OAKLANDACE.ORG

EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM



Your guide to starting college early and achieving more

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WELCOME FROM THE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

Dear Students and Families,

I am excited to welcome you to Oakland ACE Early College and to share an incredible opportunity for your future. Beginning in 11th grade, ACE allows students to earn college credits—at no cost—while completing high school. By the end of the program, many students graduate with up to two years of college completed or even an associate degree, saving valuable time and money.

But ACE is about more than earning credits. It's about confidence, growth, and possibility. Through our weekly seminar class, students learn essential skills such as time management, communication, and career planning that prepare them to thrive in both college and life. Our dedicated staff walk alongside students every step of the way, ensuring they are supported academically and personally.

The results speak for themselves. ACE students graduate ready for the next chapter, with a clear vision of their goals, a strong academic foundation, and the experience of already succeeding in a college environment. Colleges and employers see ACE graduates as motivated, capable, and prepared.

I encourage you to explore how ACE can be the right fit for your journey. Together, we can open doors to opportunities that will shape your future.

Warm regards,

Amanda McKay, Ph.D.
Supervisor of Student Programs
Oakland Schools



"Every ACE student is supported, challenged, and prepared for success beyond high school." **-Dr. Amanda McKay**

EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL IN OAKLAND COUNTY



COLLEGE IN HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES IN OAKLAND COUNTY

Across Michigan, students have more ways than ever to earn college credit while still in high school. These options, often called College in High School programs, provide students a powerful head start on their education and career journey. In today's world, where most good-paying jobs require more than a high school diploma, these opportunities can help students save time, save money, and build the confidence to succeed after graduation.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Participating in college credit opportunities during high school helps students:

- Explore careers and interests before graduating
- Save thousands on future tuition costs
- Gain real experience in a college-level classroom
- Build confidence and independence for the transition to college or career

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATHWAY

There are several ways to earn college credit in high school, including:

- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) with postsecondary credit
- Dual Enrollment
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Early Middle College (EMC), including Oakland ACE

Each option has unique strengths. That is why it is important for students and families to carefully consider which pathway best matches their goals, learning style, and personality. The right choice should not only meet today's needs but also prepare students to achieve their long-term college and career aspirations.

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CHOOSING A PATHWAY

- What are my academic and career goals after high school?
- What kind of learning environment helps me succeed?
- How much support do I want as I transition to college-level work?
- Will this option save me time and money in the future?
- How does this pathway connect to the career fields I am interested in?

By reflecting on these questions, students and families can find the best fit – not a "right or wrong" decision, but the pathway that aligns with their future dreams.

College in High School Opportunities Overview

Dual Enrollment

- Take college classes while in high school
- Individual college courses
- Up to 10 college classes
- Schools receive certain amount and remaining costs passed on to families

Early MIddle College (EMC)

- Extends high school into a 5th year
- Earn an associate degree from Oakland Community College and/or up to 62 college credits, which may transfer to a four-year university
- Seminar Support Class
- Complete college credential MTA
- Free

Career Technical Education (CTE)

- Students start in a career field and potentially earn college credit for their high school CTE classes
- Courses may count for college credit depending on articulation agreements
- Free

Advanced Placement (AP)

- High school classes with a college level curriculum focus
- Students pay to take a test at the end of the year to determine if they receive college credit
- Potential college credit if qualifying score earned on AP exam
- AP Exams approx. $100 each

International Baccalaureate (IB)

- Two-year curriculum availble in an IB-approved school
- Students learn a second language and follow an international focus
- Potential college credit based on IB exams and college policies
- Free



ABOUT OAKLAND ACE EARLY COLLEGE



WHAT IS OAKLAND ACE EARLY COLLEGE?

Oakland ACE is a three-year program that lets motivated students start college in 11th grade while finishing their high school diploma. By the end of the 13th Year: Become a full-time college student at OCC or LTU, completing your high school diploma and while working toward an associate degree.

Students take a blend of high school and college classes at Oakland Community College (OCC), with new opportunities at Lawrence Technological University (LTU). Weekly seminar classes provide personalized support in college readiness, career planning, and life skills, so students are never on this journey alone.

Founded in 2012, Oakland ACE is part of Oakland Schools' Early Middle College (EMC) initiative, helping students across the county get a powerful head start on their academic and career goals.

WHY CHOOSE ACE?

Joining ACE means more than just earning credits. It is about building confidence, saving money, and preparing for the future. Here's what makes ACE unique:

- **Start College Early:** Take college courses in 11th grade that count toward both your diploma and degree. Current students take a blend combination of high school classes at their home school and college classes at Oakland Community College (OCC) with plans in place to expand opportunities at Lawrence Technological University (LTU) as well.
- **Save Thousands:** All tuition, fees, and textbooks are covered.
- **Personalized Support:** Weekly seminar sessions and dedicated coordinators help you stay on track.
- **Real College Experience:** Attend classes on a college campus and/or online, work directly with professors, and gain valuable experience navigating college life—all before graduating high school.
- **Flexible Pathways:** Choose from associate degrees in Arts, Business, Science, or Technology—with transfer options available to four-year universities.
- **Career Ready:** Explore career pathways aligned with Michigan's high-demand, high-wage jobs.

YOUR ACE JOURNEY

- **11th Grade:** Split your day between high school and OCC. Start with 2 college courses plus seminar.
- **12th Grade:** Increase your college load with 3 OCC courses and 2 high school classes.
- **13th Year:** Become a full-time college student at OCC or LTU, completing your high school diploma and while working toward an associate degree.

WHERE ACE CAN TAKE YOU

- Transfer seamlessly to a four-year university with up to two years already completed.
- Enter the workforce with a MEMCA credential that employers value.
- Build lifelong confidence by developing skills to succeed in both high school and college.

STAY IN TOUCH

Follow Oakland Schools on social media to keep up with the latest stories and resources in career readiness!

@OaklandSchools facebook.com/OSMichigan @oaklandschools @OaklandSchoolsMI

PROGRAM STRUCTURE: A THREE-YEAR JOURNEY

Oakland ACE is a three-year commitment that begins in 11th grade and continues through a student's 13th year of high school. Each year builds on the last, gradually increasing the number of college courses while providing the support students need to succeed.

Year 1: 11th Grade

- Split time between your high school and Oakland Community College
- Take two college courses each semester
- Participate in the weekly ACE seminar to build skills in time management, study strategies, and career planning

Year 2: 12th Grade

- Continue with a mix of high school and college classes
- Increase to three college courses each semester
- Stay connected with your seminar class for ongoing support and guidance

Year 3: 13th Grade

- Attend college full time at Oakland Community College or Lawrence Technological University
- Finish any remaining high school requirements
- Complete an associate degree or up to 62 transferable college credits, all tuition free

YEAR 1: 11TH GRADE

In the first year, students split their time between high school and OCC, typically taking three high school courses and two OCC courses. Students also participate in the weekly seminar class, which focuses on building college readiness skills, career exploration, and long-term academic planning. During this year, students meet with OCC counselors to develop a three-year academic plan.

- **Classes:** Students split their time between high school and Oakland Community College (OCC), taking at least three high school courses and two OCC courses.
- **Support:** Students attend a weekly seminar class at OCC led by the Oakland ACE Early College Success Coordinator/Counselor. This class focuses on college readiness, career exploration, and skills for success.
- **Participation:** Students continue to engage in high school clubs, sports, and other activities while also beginning their college coursework.
- **Planning:** Students work with their ACE Early College Success Coordinator and OCC counselor to create a three-year academic plan, targeting an associate degree or transferable credits. They also identify one high school course and one math-related course to complete during the 13th year.

YEAR 2: 12TH GRADE

In the second year, students continue balancing high school and college, taking more OCC courses and fewer high school classes. Weekly seminars continue, providing academic support and guidance. Students begin working with the Michigan Early Middle College Association (MEMCA), gaining additional resources and support.

- **Classes:** Students now take two high school courses and three OCC courses.
- **Support:** Weekly seminars continue, providing academic and personal guidance. Students begin working with the Michigan Early Middle College Association (MEMCA), gaining additional resources and support.
- **Participation:** Students remain active in high school activities, including graduation ceremonies and traditional senior events, while continuing their college coursework.

YEAR 3: 13TH GRADE

By their 13th year, students are full-time at OCC, completing their high school diploma requirements alongside college courses. The goal is to finish the year with either an associate degree or a significant number of transferable college credits, positioning students for a smooth transition to a four-year institution.

- **Classes:** Students are full-time at OCC, completing their high school diploma and continuing to earn college credits. They take one high school course and one math course to meet graduation requirements.
- **Support:** Weekly seminars, financial aid information sessions, and personalized guidance help students stay on track to complete their associate degree or transfer to a four-year institution.
- **Completion:** Students complete the requirements for MEMCA certification and participate in Oakland Schools Early Middle College Celebration to receive their certificate.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Year One			
11th Grade	**Semester 1**	**Semester 2**	
High School	English	English	Three high school classes schedule in a.m. and/or that do not conflict with seminar 1/week
High School	Math	Math	
High School			
OCC	ENG/COM	ENG/COM	Count ENG/COM as 12th grade ELA
OCC	Fine Arts/Social Science	Fine Arts/Social Science	6-7 OCC credits per semester. In-person, online or hybrid
Seminar			Attend seminar one day weekly for 90 minutes
Year Two			
12th Grade	**Semester 1**	**Semester 2**	
High School			Two high school classes in a.m. and/or that do not conflict with seminar 1/week
High School			
OCC	Natural Science	Math	
OCC	Elective	Elective	
OCC	Social Science	Fine Arts	9-11 OCC credits per semester. In-person, online or hybrid
Seminar			Attend seminar one day weekly for 90 minutes
Year Three			
13th Grade	**Semester 1**	**Semester 2**	
OCC	Math Related	High School Requirement	High School counselor determines which high school requirements to withold until 13th year
OCC	Natural Science	Elective	At least 12 OCC credits not surpassing 62 total
OCC	Elective	Elective	
OCC	Elective	Elective	
Seminar			Attend seminar one day weekly for 90 minutes



SAMPLE 11TH GRADE SCHEDULES

(A) SIMILAR TO HIGH SCHOOL HOURS

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Study time, high school activities	Composition I OCC*	Introduction to Psychology OCC*	Composition I OCC*	Study Time
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.					
1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	ACE seminar OCC				
2:00 - 2:30 p.m.		Study Time		Study Time	
2:30 - 3:00 p.m.					
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.					

(B) LESS TRAVEL TO AND FROM OCC

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	English Composition I OCC	Study Time	English Composition I OCC	Study time, high school activities	Study time, high school activities
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.					
1:30 - 2:00 p.m.		ACE seminar OCC			
2:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Psychology OCC		Psychology OCC		
2:30 - 3:00 p.m.					
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.					

(C) LEAST DAYTIME TRANSPORTATION REQUIRED

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.	High School	High School	High School	High School	High School
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)	(High School optional)
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive	Lunch/Drive
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Study Time	Study Time	Study Time	Study Time	Study Time
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.	ACE Seminar OCC				
1:30 - 2:00 p.m.					
2:00 - 2:30 p.m.					
2:30 - 6:00 p.m.					
6:00 - 6:30 p.m.	English Composition I OCC*	Psychology OCC*	English Composition I OCC*	Psychology OCC*	
6:30 - 7:00 p.m.					
7:00 - 7:30 p.m.					

*Courses listed are only examples. Actual courses are selected individually.

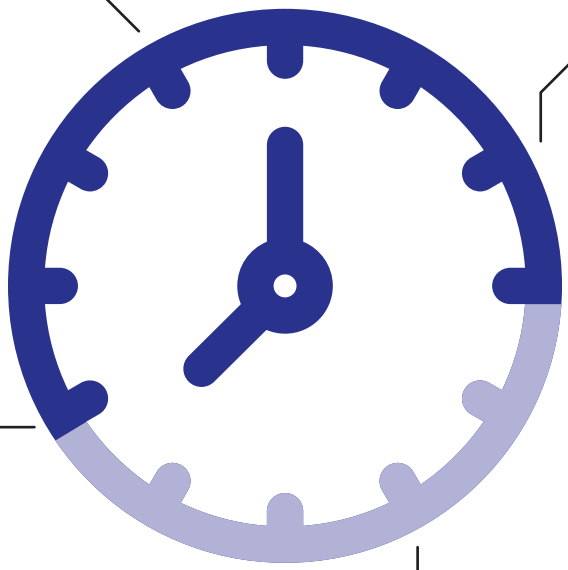
A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN ACE STUDENT

Every ACE student's schedule looks a little different depending on their high school and chosen pathway. Here's an example of what a typical day might feel like in 11th grade:

8:00 AM
Start at High School
Begin the day with core high school classes like English, math, or science. These courses keep you on track for your diploma while building a strong foundation for college.

10:30 AM
Travel to Oakland Community College
Head to the OCC campus, where you'll take your first college-level courses. Students might start with subjects like psychology, computer science, or business.

11:30 AM
College Class
Sit alongside other college students, learn from professors, and get a feel for what college academics are really like.



1:30 PM
ACE seminar
Once a week, you'll attend ACE seminar with your cohort. This class helps you learn time management, study strategies, and career exploration, while also giving you a support system of peers and staff who are on this journey with you.

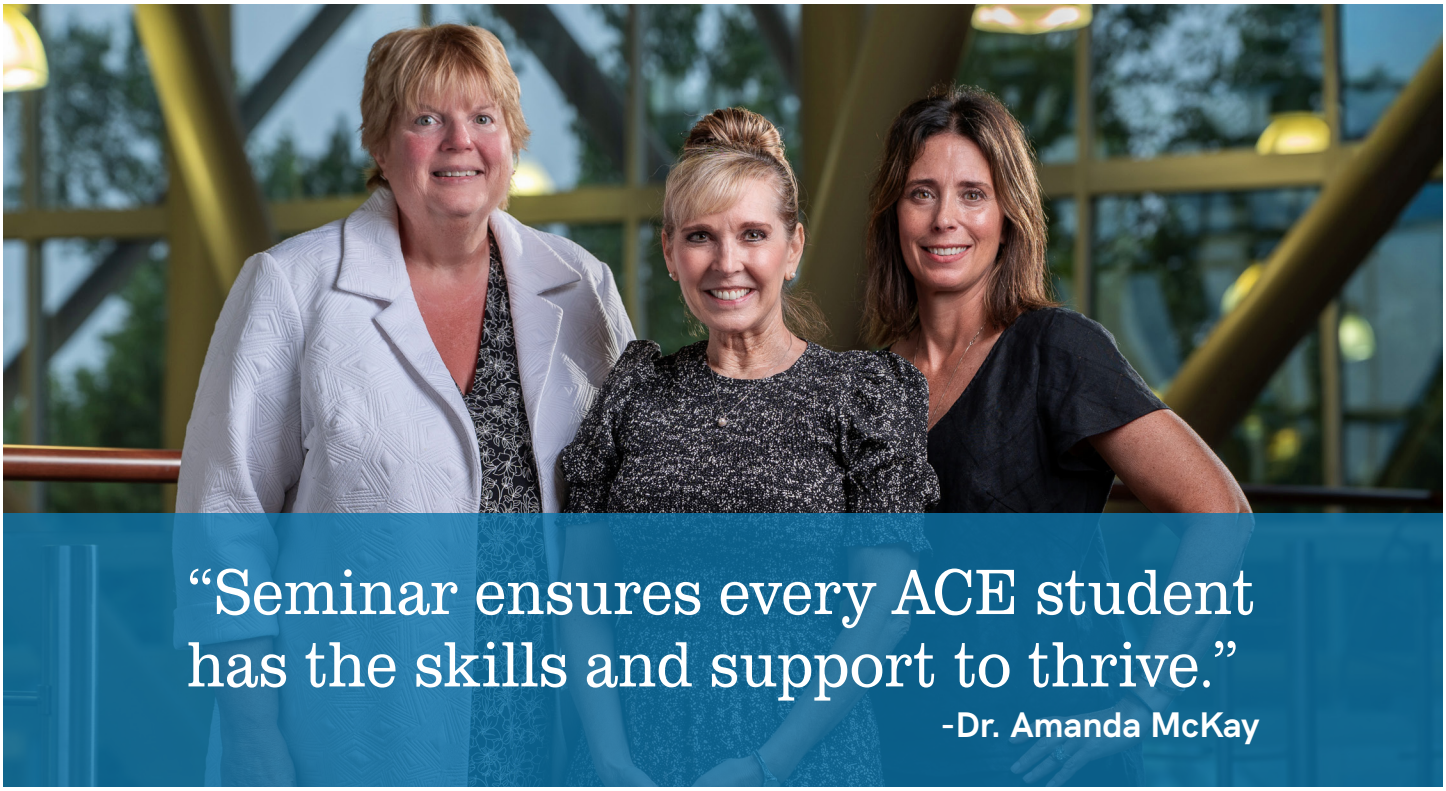
3:00 PM
Independent Study or Homework
Many students use this time to study at OCC's library or return home to complete assignments.

Evening
Sports, Clubs, and Activities
ACE students are still full members of their high schools. That means you can continue to play sports, participate in music or theater, and stay active in your school community.

ENGAGING SEMINARS: THE SECRET TO ACE SUCCESS

SEMINAR: YOUR BUILT-IN SUPPORT SYSTEM

The seminar class is a critical part of the ACE experience. Led by an Early College Success Coordinator, seminar provides weekly dedicated support to help students navigate the transition to college. It is designed to strengthen both academic and personal skills, while offering individualized attention and a strong sense of community. seminar is not another homework-heavy class. Instead, it is a safe and supportive space where students build confidence, plan for the future, and learn how to succeed in college and beyond.



"Seminar ensures every ACE student has the skills and support to thrive."

-Dr. Amanda McKay

WHAT STUDENTS GAIN FROM SEMINAR

- Strategies for executive functioning, time management, and organization
- Stress management and communication skills
- Guidance on scheduling and transferring college credits
- Career and college exploration, including apprenticeships, job shadowing, and internships
- Support with financial aid, FAFSA, and scholarship applications
- A built-in network of peers and staff who understand the ACE journey

SEMINAR YEAR BY YEAR

Year 1 (11th Grade)

- Explore student interests, personalities, and future aspirations
- Learn how to schedule college classes and manage time effectively
- Work on how to communicate effectively with professors, peers, and counselors
- Prepare for college admission tests
- Introduction to the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)

Year 2 (12th Grade)

- Dive deeper into postsecondary planning: college, career, and service opportunities
- Develop a professional portfolio
- Explore career, college, job, and apprenticeship options through the Michigan Early Middle College Association
- Build financial planning skills

Year 3 (13th Year)

- Prepare and submit college applications
- Conduct in-depth research on careers and scholarships
- Complete FAFSA and learn about paying for college
- Participate in job shadowing, clinical experiences, and college/career exploration activities through the Michigan Early Middle College Association

Understanding the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)

The Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) makes it easier for students to continue their education after ACE. Introduced in 2014, the MTA allows students to transfer a block of 30 general education credits from a Michigan community college to participating four-year institutions. These credits cover key areas such as English, math, science, social sciences, and the humanities, ensuring they count toward general education requirements at most Michigan universities.

By completing the MTA, ACE students gain a smoother pathway to a bachelor's degree, saving both time and money. This statewide effort ensures that students who start at community colleges can move forward without losing credits or repeating courses, making the path to a four-year degree more efficient and

DEGREE PATHWAYS AT OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

These degrees are designed to prepare students for future studies or career opportunities. Here's an overview of the four available pathways:





Associate in Arts (AA)

The Associate in Arts (AA) degree offers students flexibility to explore various areas of interest. It serves as a versatile foundation for further study toward a bachelor's degree or can lead to employment in positions requiring a broad college education. The AA degree allows students to concentrate on different academic areas, ensuring a well-rounded education.

Concentrations Include:

- Fine and Performing Arts: Ideal for students interested in visual arts, music, theater, or related fields.
- Humanities: Focuses on literature, philosophy, history, and languages.
- Social and Behavioral Sciences: For those interested in psychology, sociology, or political science.
- Mathematics and Science: A concentration for students with strong interests in STEM subjects.

This degree is a great option for students looking for flexibility in choosing courses that align with their future goals, whether for transfer to a four-year university or personal growth.

Learn more about the Associate in Arts degree at https://www.oaklandcc.edu/programs/aa/

Associate in Business Administration (ABA)

The Associate in Business Administration (ABA) provides students with foundational knowledge in key areas such as accounting, economics, and business mathematics. This degree is ideal for students who want to pursue careers in business or continue their studies in fields like accounting, finance, or business management.

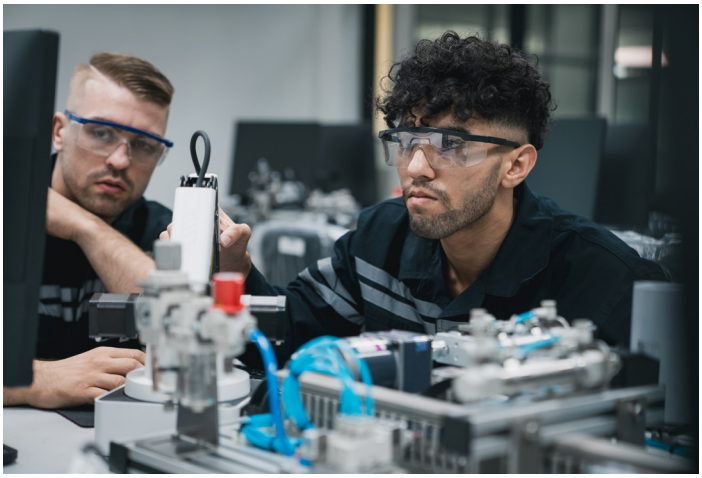
Key Features:

- Prepares students for further study toward a bachelor's degree.
- Offers a strong base for those interested in CPA (Certified Public Accountant) or MBA (Master of Business Administration) programs.
- Graduating from this program qualifies students for the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) endorsement, facilitating the transfer of credits to four-year universities in Michigan.

This pathway is perfect for students aiming to enter the world of business or management, giving them a head start in understanding core business principles.

Learn more about the Associate in Business Administration degree at https://catalog.oaklandcc.edu/programs/business-administration/





Associate in Science (AS)

The Associate in Science (AS) degree provides a strong foundation in the natural and physical sciences. It is ideal for students who wish to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree or complete pre-professional coursework for fields such as engineering, medicine, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, or environmental science.

Areas of Study:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth and Environmental Sciences
- Mathematics
- Physics

This degree is particularly suited for students with a passion for STEM fields, offering the coursework necessary to succeed in science-related careers or higher education. Like the ABA degree, the AS program qualifies for the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA), ensuring credits transfer smoothly to four-year institutions.

Learn more about the Associate in Science degree at https://catalog.oaklandcc.edu/programs/science/

Associate in Technological Sciences (ATS)

The Associate in Technological Sciences degree is focused on providing practical, hands-on skills and theoretical instruction for a specific career path in fields like technology, manufacturing, health, or business. This program is designed to prepare students for specific entry-level technical jobs while also providing a foundation for further education at a four-year institution.

Key Features:

- Requires a minimum of 16 credit hours in a chosen occupational discipline (e.g., automotive technology, engineering, or computer programming).
- Includes 19 credits of general education, allowing students to build foundational skills.
- Offers 27 elective credits, giving students the ability to tailor the degree to their interests.
- Although it doesn't automatically qualify for the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) endorsement, students can work with OCC counselors to identify classes that apply toward MTA and degree requirements, making it a versatile option for those seeking to transfer credits to a four-year institution.

This pathway is perfect for students who want to enter the workforce with specialized skills or transfer to a four-year college to continue their studies in technological or engineering fields.

Learn more about the Associate in Technological Sciences degree at https://catalog.oaklandcc.edu/programs/technological-sciences/technological-sciences-aas/

Each of these degree pathways is designed to prepare students for future success, whether they plan to continue their education at a four-year university or enter the workforce with valuable credentials. Through the Oakland ACE program, students have the opportunity to explore their academic interests while earning credits at no cost, setting them up for long-term achievement.

ACE ENROLLMENT STEPS



OAKLAND ACE ENROLLMENT PROCESS 2026–2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Oakland ACE enrolls up to 150 new students each year on a first-come, first-served basis. Students are strongly encouraged to complete all steps by March 1, 2026 to secure priority enrollment through Oakland Community College. After that date, students may still enroll, but seats are limited and waitlists may apply.

Step 1: Enroll in Oakland ACE (MISTAR)

- Complete the online enrollment form in MISTAR.
- Once submitted, you will receive a confirmation email from Dr. McKay.

Step 2: Submit the Dual Enrollment Authorization Form

- Student and parent/guardian complete Part 1.
- High school counselor/administrator completes Part 2, authorizing "Oakland ACE classes."
- The completed form should be emailed to Dr. McKay.

Step 3: Apply to Oakland Community College (OCC)

- Create an OCC profile and submit the application.
- Students may choose to attend an admissions support meeting with OCC staff.
- Within 24–72 hours, OCC will email a "Congratulations" message. If you do not receive it, contact Dr. McKay.

Step 4: Complete OCC Pre-Registration Requirements

Log into MyOCC and finish the following items:

- New Student Orientation and Title IX training
- English Self-Placement (must place into ENGL 1510/E/S or higher)
- Online Learning Readiness Course
- Set up OCC email for all communications

Once these tasks are complete, your enrollment in both Oakland ACE and OCC is finalized.

Step 5: Register for Fall 2026 Classes

OCC releases the Fall 2026 schedule on March 13, 2026. Students register in one of the following ways:

Option A: Counselor-Guided Registration

- Schedule an OCC counseling appointment between February and March 12, 2026.
- Appointment must take place between March 13–20, 2026.
- Submit your signed OCC Registration/Adjustment Request form to Dr. McKay by March 21, 2026 for priority scheduling.

Option B: ACE Registration Meeting

- Attend the virtual ACE Registration Meeting on March 3, 2026, or watch the recording.
- Complete your OCC Registration/Adjustment Request form and submit to Dr. McKay.



Important Notes for Students and Families

- First-year ACE students typically take 6–7 credits per semester (two courses).
- Choose courses that count toward the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) to ensure transferability.
- Do not register for math or science courses in your first year without approval from Dr. McKay.
- Courses must be in 15-week or 12-week formats (8- or 10-week courses are not allowed for Year 1).
- Students may register for in-person classes at any OCC Campus, online courses, or a combination of in-person and online courses.

Enrollment Timeline

- **December 1, 2025 – March 1, 2026:** Priority enrollment window
- **March 3, 2026:** ACE Registration Meeting (virtual)
- **March 13, 2026:** OCC Fall schedule released
- **March 13–20, 2026:** OCC counseling appointment window
- **March 21, 2026:** Deadline to submit registration forms for priority scheduling
- **March 23 – June 12, 2026:** Standard enrollment continues as space allows

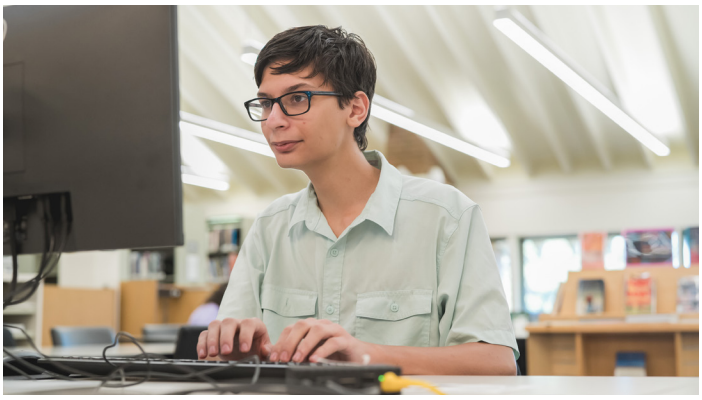


TESTIMONIALS



KYLE KOSIOR
SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

"In high school you are able to take college courses and earn an associate degree. I joined ACE in order to be a step ahead of my peers. I enjoy being in classrooms with professors learning actual college material... It allows me to work when I want to, schedule my classes when it works best for me and I think that is a great advantage. I have grown tremendously. I am a lot more mature. I have learned how to act in a professional setting."



MARK POPKOV
CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

"ACE is a helpful early college program that helps you transition from high school to a more proper college experience without fully jumping into the water of a four year college. ACE is a great experience that helps you get comfortable with how college works. ACE has given me an advantage on understanding how colleges work and admissions and getting a good taste for how colleges work in real life."



VALERIE GRANT
WALLED LAKE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

"I joined ACE because I felt the classes here were more challenging. I joined ACE in order to get ahead of my high school classes and it was more challenging. In ACE we have a seminar class that allows me to work on my time management skills and plan for the future. ACE has allowed me the opportunity to grow through making more connections with people. ACE has allowed me to work on myself and my communication skills when it comes to be able to talk to my professors and other students who are older than me. Other students should join ACE because it is a good stepping stone that will allow you to prepare for your future."



COLLEEN FERRITER
WALLED LAKE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

"I joined ACE so I could take classes that challenge me, that I am more interested in, and that fulfilled my degrees. I am learning about college, my career, what makes a good college student and helps me succeed. ACE has given me the opportunity to really think about what I want to do in my life and make it so it is possible to do my dream."

OAKLANDACE 2025 COHORT OVERVIEW



75%
completed MTA

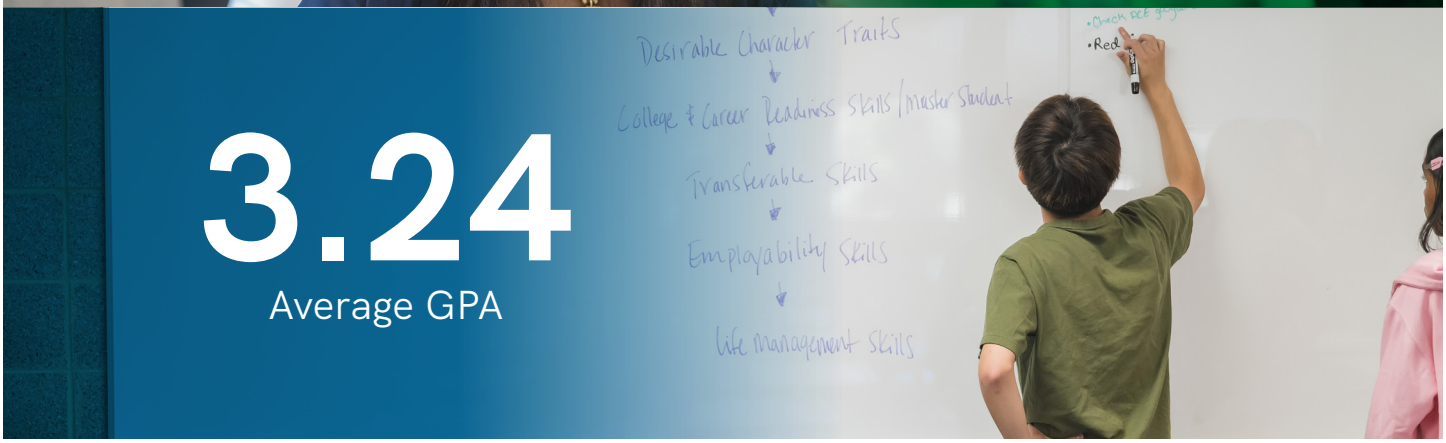
86%
complete degrees





45%
on Dean's list

3.24
Average GPA



MICHIGAN'S 50 HOT JOBS THROUGH 2028

Michigan's High-Demand, High-Wage Careers	Projected Annual Job Openings	Hourly Wage Range	Growth (%) 2018–2028	Typical Education And Training Beyond High School
Accountants and Auditors	3,510	$26–$42	0.7	Bachelor's Degree, License
Administrative Services and Facilities Managers	690	$35–$54	1.0	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Architectural and Engineering Managers	780	$53–$76	1.0	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience, License
Carpenters	3,030	$17–$30	2.8	Apprenticeship, License
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	1,500	$19–$29	2.9	Bachelor's Degree, License
Computer and Information Systems Managers	780	$46–$74	1.9	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Computer User Support Specialists	1,750	$18–$29	2.5	Some College, No Degree
Construction Managers	590	$35–$60	2.7	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Moderate OJT
Cost Estimators	690	$22–$38	3.6	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Moderate OJT
Education Administrators, Kindergarten Through Secondary	530	$38–$54	4.0	Master's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	460	$35–$70	4.3	Master's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	960	$20–$34	8.2	Master's Degree, License
Electrical Engineers	660	$36–$52	2.4	Bachelor's Degree, License
Electricians	3,040	$22–$37	5.5	Apprenticeship, License
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,910	$23–$41	3.5	Bachelor's Degree, License
Financial Managers	1,440	$42–$75	11.0	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
General and Operations Managers	5,460	$30–$73	2.4	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	610	$29–$66	17.6	Doctoral or Professional Degree, Plus Work Experience
Healthcare Social Workers	610	$23–$31	5.8	Master's Degree, Plus Residency, License
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	1,070	$18–$30	8.0	Postsecondary Nondegree Award, Plus Long-Term OJT, License
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,030	$16–$25	2.2	Postsecondary Nondegree Award, Plus Short-Term OJT, License
Industrial Engineers	2,540	$35–$52	8.6	Bachelor's Degree, License
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	2,280	$20–$30	7.0	Long-Term OJT
Industrial Production Managers	1,020	$42–$68	2.8	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Instructional Coordinators	460	$24–$41	3.9	Master's Degree, Plus Work Experience

Michigan's High-Demand, High-Wage Careers	Projected Annual Job Openings	Hourly Wage Range	Growth (%) 2018–2028	Typical Education And Training Beyond High School
Insurance Sales Agents	1,310	$18–$39	2.8	Moderate OJT, License
Lawyers	930	$35–$69	1.4	Doctoral or Professional Degree, License
Loan Officers	900	$23–$46	4.8	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Moderate OJT
Logisticians	900	$28–$48	1.0	Bachelor's Degree
Machinists	2,880	$16–$26	3.1	Long-Term OJT
Management Analysts	1,920	$31–$51	4.6	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	2,500	$22–$41	15.1	Bachelor's Degree
Marketing Managers	430	$46–$78	3.1	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Mechanical Engineers	3,190	$35–$54	2.8	Bachelor's Degree, License
Medical and Health Services Managers	1,110	$34–$60	7.1	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Tech. Ed.	960	$23–$38	3.8	Bachelor's Degree, License
Nurse Practitioners	340	$44–$59	16.1	Master's Degree, License
Occupational Therapists	320	$31–$43	7.9	Master's Degree, License
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	1,000	$21–$30	4.0	Moderate OJT
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	760	$19–$29	9.1	associate degree
Physical Therapist Assistants	520	$22–$30	7.0	associate degree, License
Physical Therapists	450	$36–$49	9.4	Doctoral or Professional Degree, License
Physician Assistants	360	$46–$60	18.0	Master's Degree, License
Physicians	560	$29–$100+	1.4	Doctoral or Professional Degree, Plus Residency, License
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	1,630	$21–$38	7.4	Apprenticeship, License
Registered Nurses	6,620	$30–$40	9.8	Bachelor's Degree, License
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Tech. Ed.	1,740	$23–$37	3.8	Bachelor's Degree, License
Social and Community Service Managers	500	$28–$41	6.6	Bachelor's Degree, Plus Work Experience
Software Developers and Quality Assurance Testers	2,620	$34–$53	12.2	Bachelor's Degree
Speech-Language Pathologists	310	$31–$46	18.0	Master's Degree, Plus Residency, License

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

NOTE: This list includes occupations that show a favorable mix of projected long-term job growth, projected annual job openings, and median wages. It does not necessarily reflect current hiring demand. Hourly wage represents the 25th to 75th percentiles.

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