



College Credit Plus Overview

Background:

The Academy was started to transform the way students are educated, a school that challenges the norms of education. The Academy's curriculum follows best practices in Problem/Project-Based Learning (PBL) and Competency Based Education. Both of these models place the focus on learning over simply teaching. Faculty guide students to work together, apply knowledge, and seek innovative solutions to problems. They develop 21st century skills and competencies that are needed to excel in the whole range of professions—not just those in the sciences and math—and demonstrate academic achievement, curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, inventiveness, strong sense of community, and readiness for their futures. We are challenging our Bio-Med Community to Rethink what they know about High School and explore with us the best practices for tomorrow's generations and workforce.

Ohio has mandated all schools participate in their College Credit Plus (CCP) and while Bio-Med Science Academy wants to be compliant we also want to be true to our students, why we opened our doors and why families chose to educate their students at our Academy. The traditional mindset/way of achieving college credit doesn't meet our objectives and we feel creates gaps in the foundation of a Bio-Med Science Academy student's academics and 21st century skill development. For this reason we have worked hard to keep all of this in mind while we have developed our opportunities and who we have partnered with for our CCP program.

What is College Credit Plus?

College Credit Plus (CCP) is a comprehensive program where 7th-12th grade students are able to earn college credit through partnering institutions. Currently, Bio-Med Science Academy partners with Stark State to offer college courses aligned with our STEM curriculum pathways and mission of our school.

What is paid for by the school?

Bio-Med Science Academy is responsible for the cost of tuition, fees and books (which are returned at the end of the semester). If a student wants to keep the book after the semester is over they can purchase the book (talk to Miss Hammond about purchasing your books). If a student withdraws after the deadline set forth by the college or earns an F in the course, the family is responsible for paying the school for the tuition. If a student does not return course materials they are also then responsible for the cost of the materials.



What is the family responsible for paying?

If the student withdraws after the deadline or earns an F in the course, the family is responsible for reimbursing the school. Any optional fees not required by the institution for the enrolled courses. If a student does not return course materials they are also then responsible for the cost of the materials.

Benefits of CCP?

- Earn College Credit!
- Exposure to a college environment and faculty expectations in a supported setting at Bio-Med. There is a support teacher who is available to help the student when necessary.
- CCP credit, by law must transfer to **all in-state PUBLIC institutions** as at least elective credit. It may not count towards a student major but the credit cannot be “lost”.

Risks of CCP?

- College coursework is MUCH MORE rigorous than high school.
 - **Students are beginning their college transcript.** How they perform in enrolled classes **will impact their transcript** before they even set foot on a college campus.
 - College faculty expect work to be done on time and students are held to strict deadlines. Students should budget approximately 5 hours a week per course additionally to their current workload for CCP classes.
 - Teachers will supplant CCP work where applicable but it is not always a perfect fit between the CCP curriculum and Bio-Med.
- High school calendar and college calendars have conflicts so CCP course deadlines may be during a time Bio-Med is not in session.
 - It is imperative that students keep organized and know when their college work deadlines are
- Financial risk
 - The families are, again, responsible for paying for any courses and books withdrawn from past the deadline or failed
- CCP courses may not transfer to out of state or private institutions.
 - It is important to have a conversation with college advisors to see what courses would be beneficial to take for your specific college interests.

Who should participate in CCP?

Students who are academically strong, self-motivated, good time managers and organized are going to be successful in CCP. It is important that students keep to deadlines, follow directions and deadlines. CCP students are treated as college students so the expectations are extremely high.