

School Partnerships

ARTICULATION

POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

ON SITE CLASSES

CAREER READINESS COUNCIL

COLLEGE TECH PREP AND TECH PREP ACADEMIES



SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

NIACC is currently developing cooperative programs with high schools in our service area to identify career program prerequisites, to reward students for previous learning experiences, to provide a challenging educational experience for each student, and to ensure a smoother transition for students into postsecondary degree programs.

Articulation

Articulation is a process whereby students can receive tuition-free college credits toward graduation for successfully completing certain high school courses identified to have college-level material. NIACC faculty members meet with high school teachers to carefully compare their course offerings and identify areas of content overlap. The result is a savings of time and financial resources for the student interested in a time-shortened degree or increased competence and employment potential for the student interested in an advanced skills degree. Contact your counselor to obtain a list of high school courses that articulate into NIACC Career programs.

Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

The Post Secondary Enrollment Options Act provides high school juniors and seniors with the opportunity to take college courses prior to high school graduation. The Act has a dual purpose: 1) to provide a constant challenge for students by promoting rigorous educational pursuits; and 2) to provide a wider variety of options for students. Students may earn high school and college credit for courses taken. Post secondary credits earned are transferable to other colleges and universities depending on degree requirements at that institution. Contact your high school counselor for further information on Post Secondary Enrollment Options.

On Site Classes

Many school districts offer NIACC classes taught at the high school during the regular school day. High school instructors, who meet NIACC teaching qualifications, teach the courses. NIACC textbooks and course outlines are utilized. The result is a savings of time and resources for the student. Contact your high school counselor for a list of NIACC courses taught in your district.

Career Readiness Council

The Career Readiness Council—a group comprised of representatives from high schools, Workforce Development, business and industry, labor, the Area Education Agency, the Transition Advisory board, and NIACC—has established career education goals for Area 267 - Clear Lake Region:

- Develop shared programs.
- Develop a comprehensive career development system.
- Support local districts in their comprehensive school improvement goals.

- Foster business, industry, and professional connections for our students, teachers, and employers.
- Meet increased needs associated with diversity.

As a member of the Career Readiness Council, NIACC collaborates with the representatives to implement these broad-based career education goals.

College Tech Prep and Tech Prep Academies

College Tech Prep is a partnership between secondary schools, post secondary institutions, business and industry, and other community groups that focuses on providing students with the skills necessary to perform in today's highly technical workforce. A major component of the program is an applied (hands-on) curriculum that recognizes the widely varying learning styles of students. It involves the creation of a carefully designed sequence of high school and college courses leading to an associate degree in a number of fields. Student career exploration and planning, along with a parental community awareness of workforce needs and employment opportunities, are vital components of a Tech Prep program.

In addition to the on-campus Tech Prep programs, Tech Prep Career Academies are located across North Iowa. Students from surrounding high schools travel to the Career Academy where they complete up to one year of college credit during their senior year.

NIACC has established Tech Prep Academies at the following sites:

Automotive Service Technology - Clear Lake High School

Health Careers - West Hancock High School and Hancock County Memorial Hospital; Belmond-Klemme High School and Belmond Medical Center.

Information Technology - Mason City High School and Garner-Hayfield High School

Business and Information Technology - Charles City High School and Hampton-Dumont High School

Tool & Die Technology - Murphy Manufacturing Technology Center on the NIACC main campus

For information about the College Tech Prep programs available at your high school, contact your high school counselor or contact the NIACC School Partnership Coordinators at (641) 422-4177 or (641) 422-4164 or 1-888-GO NIACC, Ext. 4177 or 4164. E-mail: degrofra@niacc.edu or ostrajea@niacc.edu.

