Overview of the Colorado Career Academy YCC Program

Colorado Career Academy (CCA) allows all students enrolled in Colorado High School (grades 9-12) to enroll in dual-credit courses that are academic, technical or both. Students are encouraged to enroll in at least one dual-credit course per semester and must enroll in at least one dual-credit course per year. Students enrolled in the welding course with the technical institute, TSTC, attend in-person classes four days a week. All other dual-credit courses are online.

The program offers career exploration opportunities in a variety of pathways. Students can visit colleges, technical institutions, businesses and industries through real and virtual field trips. They can also hear, either in-person or virtually, guest speakers related to their pathway choices.

CCA provides all CHS students with a laptop and gives them full support and encouragement in expanding their skills and their college and career readiness.

Program Highlight

CCA has had strong success in all dual-credit areas, but especially in health care and welding. Several welding students have gone on to complete an associate degree or certificate program. Students in the health care program have been provided opportunities at our local hospital, which has provided our students with job shadowing, internships, and mentoring.

In addition, we have had numerous students choose the education pathway. To date, four students have graduated with a Child Development certificate from West Texas College. Our education pathway students have also been allowed to work with the Colorado Independent School District After School program in grades PreK-8.

Success Story

CCA’s partnership with West Texas College has enabled three first-generation CHS students to graduate with their Associate Degree and four others to graduate with Child Development certificates. Currently, CCA has three students pursuing Associate Degrees with West Texas College.
The partnership has also increased the number of students enrolled in dual-credit courses, which has been exposing them to college-level work and a variety of career possibilities.

Community Impact
CCA has positively changed the culture of Colorado High School. The students are now more focused on and more informed about life after high school. Students place more value on their high school performance because they recognize how it will affect their futures.

Out of the 240 students at CHS, about 85% have been successfully completing some level of foundational preparation for college, technical school, or work. Prior to CCA, only about 10 students from each grade were selecting dual-credit courses, and this was only in grades 11 and 12. Now, all students in grades 9-12 take at least one dual-credit course per year.

Colorado Career Academy
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