

CAREER & COMMUNITY STUDIES PROGRAM

FAQ SHEET

Contact Person: Dr. Vonnie Michali Phone: 330.672.0725 Email: yhale@kent.edu

CCS is a non-degree program “majoring” in life skills focusing on adulting. It is a place for students to learn what they can do, become more self-determined, and practice adult skills in various settings and environments. The ultimate outcome is for the student to be ready for competitive employment in an entry level position.

CCS provides 3 program options.

Option #1: Four-year CCS program – 120 credits

The four-year program blends inclusive classes, CCS specific courses, and work experiences to assist students in achieving adult roles and a quality of life in a community of their choice. CCS takes a holistic approach in providing opportunities for students to practice self-determination, independent living, personal-social, academic, and career skills. Curriculum aids in students first identifying personal strengths, preferences, interests, and needs and then applying this understanding to realistic career choices.

Career & Community Studies – Four-year program – 120 credits

FRESHMAN YEAR	SOPHOMORE YEAR	JUNIOR YEAR	SENIOR YEAR
(3)Personal Exploration I: Nutrition & Physical Fitness (3) Academic Exp I: Self-Determination (1)Technology Workshop (1)Financial Literacy I: Money Management for a College Student (1)First Year Experience (3)H&W I – Personal/Social Skills (3) Independent Study: Get Out of Your Comfort Zone – Campus & Social Involvement	(3) Career Exploration I (3) Field Experience I (3) Academic Support (3)H&W III: Injury Prevention (3) KSU Intro to Human Com	(3)Career Preparation I (4) Practicum I (3) Academic Success I (3)KSU Career Elective (3)KSU Career Elective	(1-12) Internship I (1) Community Life I (3) Community Life Lab (1)KSU PE Course (3) KSU Career Elective
(1)Intro to Career Exploration (3)Personal Exp II: Independent Living & Leisure Ed (3) Acad Exp II: Disability Aware (1)Technology Workshop II (1) KSU PE course (3) H&W II: Human Sexuality (3) Independent Study: Get out of Your Comfort Zone -Volunteering	(3) Career Exploration II (3) Field Experience II (3) H&W IV: Healthy Living/ Substance Abuse (3) Academic Support Lab (3) KSU Elective	(3) Career Preparation II (4) Practicum II (3) Academic Success II (3) KSU Career Elective (3) KSU Career Elective	(1-12)Internship II (1) Community Life II (3)Community Life Lab (3) KSU Career Elective (1)Financial Literacy II: Money Management for Adult Life
MINIMUM CREDITS 30	MINIMUM CREDITS 30	MINIMUM CREDITS 32	MINIMUM CREDITS 28

Option #2 – Two-Year CCS Employment Readiness Program – 60 credits

Students enrolled in the proposed two-year employment readiness track will complete practicum experiences in jobs of interest to best focus on development of employability and life skills. Each student will have a job coach that works one-on-one to ensure the student is learning necessary skills for obtaining competitive employment upon graduation. The chart below lays out the course plan of study that will be offered to students in this track.

Career & Community Studies - Two-year Employment Readiness – 60 credits

Credits	Year One Fall/Spring	Credits	Year Two Fall/Spring
1	CCS 00005 College Orientation (FYE)	3	CCS 00205 Career Exploration I
3	CCS 00115 Acad Exp: Self-Determination	5	CCS 00692 Internship I
3	CCS 00040 Get Out of Comfort Zone I: Preparing for Success	3	CCS 00235 H&W III: Injury Prevention
1	CCS 00025 Financial Literacy I: Budgeting Personal Expenses in College	1	CCS 00605 Community Life I: Preparing for Employment
3	CCS 00035 H&W I: Social Skills	3	CCS 00606 Community Life I: Lab
3	CCS 00292 Practicum I		
1	CCS 00020 Technology Laboratory I		
3	CCS 00015 Disability Awareness	1	CCS 00125 Financial Lit II: Budgeting Personal Expenses as an Adult
1	CCS 00105 Intro to Career	3	CCS 00305 Career Exploration II
3	CCS 00392 Practicum II	8	CCS00792 Internship II
3	CCS 00140 Comfort Zone II: Volunteering	3	CCS00335 H&W IV: Healthy Living/Substance Abuse
3	CCS 00135 H&W II: Human Sexuality		
1	CCS 00120 Technology Laboratory II		
1	CCS 00030 PE I		
30 credits		30 credits	

Note: Highlights indicate inclusive classrooms

Option #3 – Two-Year CCS College Preparation Program – 60 credits

This two-year program focuses on student development and improvement of academic and social skills in order to prepare for a degree program. Whereas, the four-year program takes a holistic approach in preparing students for all areas in adult life, the proposed two-year program will focus more on preparing the student to move into a more rigorous academic postsecondary degree program. This is accomplished by learning how to identify, advocate, and use available resources, and in developing necessary social skills important in the college setting. During this college experience, students will take KSU classes without modifications so the student can understand the rigorous demands of a degree program. There will be no KSU credits, as this program prepares students for this next step, therefore it is a non-degree program. The chart below lays out the plan of study that will be offered to students in this track.

Career & Community Studies - Two-Year College Preparation – 60 credits

Credits	Year One Fall/Spring	Credits	Year Two Fall/Spring
1	CCS 00005 College Orientation (FYE)	3	CCS 00210 Acad Success I
3	CCS 00115 Acad Exp: Self-Determination	3	CCS 00205 Career Exploration I
3	CCS 00040 Get Out of Comfort Zone I: Preparing for Success	3	CCS 00235 H&W III: Injury Prevention
1	CCS 00025 Financial Literacy I: Budgeting Personal Expenses in College	3	CCS 00495 KSU Special Topic
3	CCS 00035 H&W I: Social Skills	3	CCS 00495 KSU Special Topic
1	CCS 00020 Technology Laboratory I		
3	CCS 00010 Personal Exploration I: Nutrition and Physical Fitness		
1	CCS 00030 PE I		
3	CCS 00015 Disability Awareness	3	CCS 00305 Career Exploration II
1	CCS 00105 Intro to Career Exploration	3	CCS 00310 Acad Success II
3	CCS 00140 Get out of Your Comfort Zone II: Volunteering	3	CCS 00335 H&W IV: Healthy Living/Substance Abuse
3	CCS 00135 H&W II: Human Sexuality	3	CCS 00595 KSU Special Topic
3	CCS 00395 KSU Special Topic	3	CCS 00595 KSU Special Topic
1	CCS 00120 Technology Laboratory II		
30 credits		30 credits	

Note: Highlights indicate inclusive courses

Is the CCS a Comprehensive Transition Program?

Yes, we are a CTP approved program, meaning that even though CCS is a non-degree program, students can still apply for financial aid – Pell Grants only.

Costs: Estimated costs per year based on 2019-2020. The cost per year is the same for any of the program options.

Costs	Resident Per Year	Non-Resident Per Year
Tuition	\$11,131.04	\$20,007.04
Room & Board	11,706.00	11,706.00
Support Fees	4,000.00	4,000.00
Additional costs: Textbooks, Transportation, Independent Living Assessment***, Independent Living Mentor fees, etc.	Depends on coursework/travel, and whether a student wants to live in a dorm	Depends on coursework/travel

****Any student wishing to live on campus must complete a one week-long dorm assessment in order to determine independent living readiness. Estimated costs for this assessment is \$1700.**

*****Students are housed in Manchester dorm the first year they live on campus. Independent Living Instructors (ILIs) provide evening and weekend support to help students learn independent living skills and to socially connect to activities on campus. Parents of residential students share the additional cost of the ILIs.**

Describe financial-aid possibilities

1. Students can apply for FAFSA Pell grants and Work study.
2. FAFSA eligibility is determined by parent income.
3. Parents can apply for Parent Plus Federal Loans.
4. Students are not able to take out student loans.
5. If you would like to talk to someone to receive more information about Financial Aid and to determine what you could plan on for aid contact Alana at the information below.

Alana Thompson

Title: Assoc Dir, Student Fin Aid
Department: Student Financial Aid Office
Campus: Kent Campus
University E-mail Address: abaudo@kent.edu
Personal E-mail Address: abaudo@kent.edu
Business Phone: 330-672-2972
Fax Number: 330-672-4014
Campus Location: Student Financial Aid

6. There are a few scholarships becoming available. We continue to expand and develop more. More information about scholarships under the Resource tab.

What is admission criterion for students?

Students considered for this program must:

- Be identified with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability, or Autism before the age of 18
- Are currently between the ages of 18-26
- Understand their disability
- Be highly motivated to achieve independent, social, academic, and career goals
- Transition goal of exploring postsecondary options in the IEP
- Emotional and behavioral stability
- Cannot get into college through traditional means (e.g. cannot pass ACT)
- Have exited from high school before the first day of the fall semester of the year accepted into the program
- Have a minimum of a 4th-grade reading ability
- Can cross the street safely
- Must manage medications and medical needs independently – especially if living in the dorm
- Demonstrate basic safety skills in an unsupervised setting

Parents of students must:

- Understand the student voice comes first
- Recognize their student is an adult and wants them to be an adult
- Parents understand and support program goals
- Work with CCS to provide opportunities for students to become more independent
- Reduce student dependency on them
- Hold students accountable for decisions they make
- Allow dignity-of-risk

Describe the academic services

1. Students receive **accommodations** through the Office of Student Accessibility Services (SAS) under the American Disabilities Act. Examples of accommodations include extended test time, quiet room for tests, or a reader for tests.
2. Students receive **modifications** through the Career and Community Studies program. Any CCS course is already modified to individual student abilities. Student progress is indicated with a letter grade.
3. Students *sitting in* on KSU courses will facilitate a meeting with KSU faculty and CCS faculty to advocate for any modifications to be made to the KSU course requirements. Students are supported throughout this process. Student progress is indicated with a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.
4. Students will attend Academic Support Labs where tutoring will be provided for all coursework.
5. Academic mentors will initially attend KSU courses with the CCS student. A fading process will occur until the CCS student can attend the course on their own but will then return to the Academic Support Lab for further instruction and tutoring.
6. All students will have CCS Academic Advisors available to provide advice and assistance as they plan academic schedules. Students will also periodically meet with a KSU academic advisor to share information about their courses. No one-to-one support is provided.

Describe employment experiences and outcomes

1. During Sophomore year, students will have a 3 credit (9 hours/week) on-campus work experiences where students will improve work skills and personal-social skills. These work experiences may or may not be in the student's career interest.

2. During Junior year, students will continue to have weekly work experiences (12 hours/week) but with a focus on the identified career specialization. These experiences may or may not be on-campus.
3. During Senior year, students will participate in internships in their career interest (3-36 hours/week). These internships may or may not be on-campus; may or may not be paid internships; and may or may not develop into on-going employment opportunities.
4. All students will have a CCS Career Advisor as they explore and prepare for their careers and work experiences. All CCS students also have access and will use KSU Career Services for things such as career assessments, researching jobs and employment opportunities, and practicing employment readiness skills.

CCS prepares students for employment; however, it does not find summer employment or employment after graduation. This is the responsibility of the student, his/her network, and working with adult service providers if need be.

Describe the independent living and residential services

Students do have the opportunity to live in the dorms the same as other KSU students with the following contingencies:

1. ****All students must complete a week-long independent living assessment in order to determine independent living readiness. This mock college experience will be held in May of each year. If students demonstrate basic independent skills, they may be able to live in the dorm that fall. Should students not demonstrate the necessary basic skills, they will receive a report indicating areas needing improvement, and be unable to live in the dorm that year. They may still attend CCS as a commuter. If the student wishes to live in the dorm the next year, he/she will need to complete the summer assessment again.**
2. The first year a student lives in the dorm, they will live with another CCS student if possible. in Manchester hall which is the EHHS college dorm. This dorm houses education majors and has a wonderful learning environment for our students to gain additional independent and social skills.
3. The first year a CCS student lives in the dorm, he/she will be housed in Manchester Hall which is the College of Education, Health, and Human Services (EHHS) dorm where they are surrounded by other KSU freshman majoring in the education and service fields. Unless there are special circumstances or an uneven number of students, the CCS student will have another CCS student as a roommate this first year of dorm living. In the event there is an uneven pairing, a CCS student will have to purchase the whole room or go through SAS to see if he/she qualifies for a single room. A random roommate will not be assigned the first year. Providing the student demonstrates abilities to manage campus life on their own, the CCS student may be able to choose a different dorm to live in the second year, and have the choice to continue living with a CCS roommate, another KSU student with whom a friendship has formed, or to have a random roommate.
4. It is KSU policy that parents are not permitted to enter their student's room without the student being present. Please remember that the student is now an adult who shares his or her room with someone who is not a family member, so respecting privacy is important. Students living in the dorm are responsible for keeping their bedroom and bathroom clean. Should a room not be clean, dorm staff will address this with the student to give them an opportunity to clean. Should there be an excessive issue; the student may have to pay for cleaning services. This is another excellent independent living learning moment, so parents do not step in to clean the room for the student.
5. RAs and Residential Hall Directors work closely with CCS staff and provide assistance to CCS students for any issues that may arise within the dorm setting.
6. The first year that students live in a dorm, parents will share costs for an Independent Living Mentor(s) (ILM) who will guide students as they navigate campus events and activities in the evenings and on weekends. After the first year, dependent upon student ability, he/she may not need an ILM.

7. Should a student not demonstrate readiness to move out of Manchester Hall into a dorm with less support and structure they may remain in Manchester for one more year. Parents continue to share ILI cost for another year.
8. Students living on campus are highly encouraged to stay as many weekends as possible in order to take advantage of these events and most importantly, to learn from the Independent Living Instructors. How much a student remains on campus and practices the necessary skills in order to move on to a less structured and less supported environment will be heavily considered when making recommendations to Residence Services.

Can students participate in university activities and organizations?

Yes! All students have a chance to become involved on campus, however students living on campus have greater opportunities to fully benefit from social involvement with other KSU students. Although there are some activities that occur during the week, they are not as rich as what is offered on the weekends. While college students are busy during the week with their studies, it is the weekends that have a wide array of events such as: football and basketball games, movie nights, comedy club, karaoke night, hiking, concerts, and much more! Students have over 400 clubs to choose from, join Best Buddies, or work out at the Rec Center to name a few.

Describe the counseling and health supports that are available for your students with ID

CCS students are able to use mental health counseling services that are free to all KSU students, providing that the mental health needs are not beyond the scope of what is provided on campus. Should Counseling Services determine that a student requires more intensive mental health counseling, a recommendation and/or referral will be made to an outside professional. The Health Center provides services to all students for medical issues.

For more information and more in-depth explanations please read the Student Handbook found on the CCS website under Resources.