



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CCAC partners with Northgate School District to offer College in High School program

High school students will have the opportunity to earn college credentials at a greatly reduced cost

PITTSBURGH—The Community College of Allegheny County and the Northgate School District are partnering to offer high school students an opportunity to earn a 30-credit General Education Certificate through the College in High School (CIHS) program, with classes taught onsite at Northgate High School. For an additional cost, students will have the chance to earn a 60-credit associate degree should they wish to pursue more advanced courses.

Beginning with the class of 2021, interested Northgate High School students will take placement exams during the summer between their freshman and sophomore years, ensuring they are prepared for the rigorous expectations of college-level work. Students needing additional support may register for developmental coursework over the summer, re-test at the beginning of their sophomore year and, given satisfactory placement test scores, enroll in CIHS program courses.

Students who are enrolled in the CIHS program and taking classes toward the CCAC General Education Certificate will pay just \$110 per community college course (the cost of one credit) regardless of the number of credits associated with the course. Students will also pay a one-time \$25 matriculation fee. Costs cover all registration fees, as well as access to CCAC's technology and academic support resources.

"This remarkable opportunity has been made possible through the collaborative work of faculty at both Northgate High School and CCAC North Campus," said Dr. Gretchen Mullin-Sawicki, president, North Campus and West Hills Center. "We are very excited to offer CCAC programming to Northgate High School students, who will be able to save a considerable amount of money while getting a great head start on their college careers."

During the 2017–2018 academic year, high school course syllabi were analyzed and re-worked to ensure that Northgate High School students would have the opportunity to engage in coursework that prepares them for college and career readiness.

"We are incredibly excited about this opportunity for our community, as it is important to us that all of our students have multiple academic and career pathways to choose from when they graduate. This unprecedented relationship with CCAC will

afford students the opportunity to realize their potential for post-secondary success in whatever they do,” said Dr. Caroline Johns, superintendent of schools, Northgate School District.

Obtaining a General Education Certificate, or even an associate degree, remains possible for the Classes of 2020 and 2019, with additional non-CIHS coursework completed on campus at one of several CCAC locations.

Credits awarded by CCAC are fully transferable, which could easily save students nearly \$60,000 in tuition and room and board costs over the cost of private colleges and universities. The Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Center, for example, has identified 10 associate degrees that are almost wholly transferable. As such, a Northgate High School student could enter postsecondary study as a junior at one of the 33 colleges or universities participating in the Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Center’s consortium of schools.

For more information, contact Mr. Shaun Tomaszewski, Director of Curriculum and Assessment for Northgate School District at stomaszewski@northgate.k12.pa.us

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Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC)

Since its founding in 1966, CCAC has flourished, becoming the educational powerhouse it is today—a nationally renowned two-year college dedicated to serving all members of the community. From groundbreaking student success initiatives to top-ranked academic and career-based programs, CCAC continues to be the college of choice for nearly one out of three adults in the Greater Pittsburgh metropolitan region.

Every year, more than 25,000 students enroll at CCAC, taking advantage of nearly 160 degree, certificate, diploma and transfer programs while thousands more access noncredit and workforce development courses. Comprising four campuses and four neighborhood centers, as well as other offsite locations, CCAC is honored to have one of the largest veteran student populations in the state and takes pride in ranking among the nation’s top community colleges for the number of individuals graduating in nursing and other health-related professions.

CCAC graduates have transferred to the nation’s most prestigious colleges and universities, have obtained the most academically challenging and competitive degrees and can be found at leading companies, organizations and institutions throughout the country. CCAC alumni are actively engaged in every sector of society, providing leadership to scores of economic, scientific, civic and philanthropic entities both in the Pittsburgh region and around the world. Visit ccac.edu to learn more.

Northgate School District

The mission of the Northgate School System is to provide each student with the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills to the maximum of his or her potential through a challenging comprehensive program administered in a safe, caring environment so that each person will succeed and contribute as an ethical, responsible citizen in a rapidly changing society.