

Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership

collaborating for the future

Presented by Dr Randy Nelson, SENCAP Administrator



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Goals and Purpose

Create career academies

Two career academies based on current occupational trend data will be developed every year for the next three years. The academies will be available to juniors and seniors in all of the sixteen schools in the ESU 6 area.

Truly a Collaboration

Through partnership with higher education, SENCAP will be able to deliver college level courses which will be dual-credit and transferable to other four year institutions within the state of Nebraska.

Methods of Learning

Through various modes of learning, the career academies will prepare students for the future by helping them identify career interests at an earlier age, and by providing opportunities to take college level courses while in high school. Courses will be offered online, via distance learning, at satellite locations, and include job shadowing.



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Fiscal Information

Initial Grant

The SENCAP program was initially approved through a competitive CEPA (Career Education Partnership Act) grant.

- Awarded \$75,000
- Grant funding and support from the SENCAP partners will pay for all program services except college tuition

Additional Funding

Identifying options related to the use of federal Carl Perkins funds to add 3 regional coordinators for the SENCAP program.



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How was it created?

Initiated by Schools

The Southeast Nebraska Career Academies Partnership (SENCAP) was initiated as a request from 5 of ESU 6's school districts.

- Centennial Public Schools, *Utica*
- Heartland Public Schools, *Henderson*
- McCool Junction Public Schools
- Norris Public Schools, *Firth*
- Waverly Public Schools

Available for All

Although only 5 school districts requested that ESU 6 write the initial grant, all 16 school districts in the ESU 6 area are eligible to participate - Crete, Dorchester, Exeter-Milligan, Friend, Malcolm, Milford, Seward, Shickley, Wilber-Clatonia, & York.

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What are the benefits?

Student Benefits

- Focused education & training
- Exploratory opportunities
- Purposeful, practical courses
- Transferable dual credit

Administrative Benefits

Through more efficient use of resources, the SENCAP program represents a significant opportunity for ESU 6 to be instrumental in reforming both high school and vocational/career education as we know it.

ESU 6 has the opportunity to assist its partners in aligning more curriculum and offerings with the "real world" and be more responsive to the learning needs of students.

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What are the requirements?

Basic Requirements

Although the program is still being developed, there are some key requirements.

- Junior or Senior Standing
- Good academic standing
- Parental Involvement & participation

Basic Information

College tuition is the financial responsibility of the student/family.

Regardless of financial ability, every effort will be made to ensure that all students who wish to enroll in dual credit courses have the opportunity.

College tuition rate is \$45 per credit hour.

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Justification & Responsibilities

The Academy Coordinator will

- Take care of day-to-day needs in each of the schools within their region.
- Organize the following components of the Academy: job shadowing, field trips, guest speakers, develop hot topics, transportation, student schedules, attendance, paperwork, etc.
- Serve as teacher of record.
- Work with SCC instructors to coordinate instruction.
- Connect with local and area businesses to secure their support and involvement.

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Next Steps

College Tuition Funding
 SENCAP is working with Futureforce of Nebraska and NDE in another grant to seek funding for college tuition for students participating in the Career Academies.

SENCAP is also working with Nebraska Coordinating Commission to seek college tuition funding for students who qualify under the free and reduced lunch guidelines.

Working with Local Businesses
 SENCAP is working with local businesses to seek their support for additional funding for: materials, equipment, tuition, supplies, books, etc.

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Critical Issues

Dual Credit Classes
 Colleges and universities in Nebraska coming together to improve transferability and acceptance of college credit

Certification
 The Nebraska Department of Education (with the Commissioner's leadership), the Nebraska Teachers Association, Higher Education, and any other pertinent organization, working together to develop a plan to increase flexibility of qualified instructors.

Model to Sustain Program
 Once the Career Academies are developed and operational, there needs to be a plan to sustain these programs into the future.

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Final Thoughts

Increased Achievement

Recent research shows that students who complete some college credits prior to high school graduation have a **70% or greater** chance of actually completing a 4 year post secondary college degree.

A Purposeful Change

Through reallocation of existing resources, the SENCAP program will target a more purposeful and real world curriculum for our secondary students.

Extraordinary Education

The SENCAP program is just one example of how ESU 6's resources are utilized to the utmost in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of our member schools so that the quality of education they provide to their students is extraordinary.

Adapting and Competing in the Real World

The SENCAP program is preparing students for the future by delivering education in a more "hands-on", interactive way which is critical to providing a competitive edge to our young people.

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