

Program Completion Certificate

Students who successfully complete the minimum program requirements will earn the Construction Careers Academy Program Completion Certificate. Students who earn their certificate will have successfully completed, as a minimum, their 10-hour OSHA certification, their NCCER Core certification, 32 service hours, and be on track to graduate high school and receive their diploma.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The program completion certificate does not replace the high school diploma. Students who meet the graduation requirements will receive their diploma but may not receive the program completion certificate. The certificate is a recognition bestowed on those students who successfully complete the minimum required coursework outlined above.

CCA Testimonials

(Read additional testimonials at www.nisd.net/cca/testimonials)

"Coming to Construction Careers was one of the best decisions I ever made. This school has given me real world skills in construction, but also in life. It took hard work, and a lot of stepping out of my comfort zone, but it was so worth it in the end. To finish a project and be able to say "I built that" is a really amazing feeling."

Samantha Dvorak, Construction Management, Class of 2018

"My time here in Construction Careers Academy has given me the edge that I needed in college to get ahead of the game. These individuals here have given me the strength and experience that I needed to truly excel in the field that I have chosen."

Emily Benton, Architecture and Design, Class of 2017

"How has Construction Careers changed my life? Easy, the instructors here have set me on the path needed in order to live my dream. This has been done in more than one way."

Kiara Williams, Class of 2016

Frequently Asked Questions

Is CCA only for students who plan to go to college?

Absolutely not! Although we do prepare students for the rigors of a four-year university and/or a two-year college, we also provide students with the knowledge and skills they will need to go into the workforce post-graduation, including Apprenticeship hours in select strands, approved by the Department of Labor. We are one of the few magnet schools that prepares students for college or a career of their choice immediately after graduation.

I have heard that students in CCA do not have room in their schedule to be in extracurricular activities?

Not true! We encourage all students to be involved in extracurricular activities. However, it is true that the rigor for students in extracurricular activities may be greater. Students who are in extracurricular activities may have to take one or more online classes their freshman and/or sophomore years in order to provide flexibility in their schedule their junior and senior years. This will allow them to participate in extracurricular activities all four years. The CCA counselor monitors the degree plan for all students involved in extracurricular activities to ensure that students remain on track. We will not allow students to be in jeopardy!

Are we a separate campus from Warren?

No! Although we are our own high school, we are in a partnership with Warren High School. The staff at Warren HS plays an integral role in educating CCA students and students take a large portion of their core classes at Warren HS. Students will also be involved in extracurricular activities at Warren HS.

My student is a struggling learner. Is CCA the right fit?

It certainly is. We have found that a number of struggling learners that come to CCA do very well. They like the hands-on experiences they receive.

Do students get any kind of certifications while attending CCA?

Yes. Students will have the opportunity to earn industry-recognized certifications that will make them more competitive in the job market. Students can earn certifications through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). Students will also be given the opportunity to earn additional certifications that they can use in the workplace.

I have heard that students at CCA get to go into the field and gain real-world experience. Is this true?

It absolutely is true. Students not only gain experience in the classroom and shop, they are given the opportunity to gain work experience. Students can take advantage of internships, shadowing, and practicums.

Is CCA hard to get into?

This is one of those yes and no questions. Each year we receive about 500 applications requesting entrance into CCA as a freshman. We select approximately 150 to 160 students each year. The remaining applicants are placed on a waiting list. It is important to know that each student goes through a screening process. Not all applicants are qualified. However, all students interested should apply.

I have heard that if a student does not gain entrance into CCA as a freshman they will never gain entrance. Is this correct?

No! Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, we allowed students entrance into CCA who have completed their freshman year and will be sophomores. Students who are not selected their freshman year will have another opportunity as they enter into their sophomore year. Freshmen students who enroll in and successfully complete Principles of Construction on their home campus will be re-evaluated and qualified based on the CCA admission criteria. These applicants will be entered into a lottery pool and students will be selected to fill potential openings based on attrition. Selected students will be enrolled in CCA at the start of their sophomore year.

When will CCA begin the application process for students interested in applying?

Students will have an opportunity, starting in January of their eighth grade year, to evaluate each of Northside's magnet schools and determine which school is the best fit for them. CCA representatives visit each of the middle schools during this time. Applications will also be handed out. Interested students will turn in their applications to their school counselor by the February deadline. A copy of the application can be downloaded on our campus website, www.nisd.net/cca.

It is the policy of Northside Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.



CONSTRUCTION CAREERS ACADEMY

Construction Careers Academy

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Our Mission

Construction Careers Academy (CCA) is the premier magnet school in Northside Independent School District that prepares students for careers in the construction industry. The mission of CCA is to provide an advanced and rigorous curriculum with a focus on construction technology, construction management, architectural design, applied engineering, and real-world experience that will prepare students for higher education and/or a career in a construction-related industry.



Why CCA?

CCA offers a wide variety of opportunities for students. Whether a student plans to attend a four-year university, get a two-year associate degree, or enter the workforce after high school, CCA will provide them with the skills necessary to achieve their goals.

Receive a Top Flight Education

While at CCA, students can expect to receive a "top flight" education from one of the most prestigious academies in Texas. Students will have the opportunity to select from one of six core strands - **Architectural Design, Construction Management, Applied Engineering, Carpentry, Electrical/HVAC or Plumbing/Pipe Fitting/Welding**. Students who choose to attend CCA are guaranteed a challenging, rigorous, and enjoyable education experience. CCA graduates earn a diploma they will always be proud of and become alumni of one of the most-recognized schools in Texas. Graduates are prepared for the national and global job market.

Career Training and Apprenticeship Hours

Students who enter CCA with aspirations of starting a career after graduation will receive necessary training. CCA has the distinction of being a nationally registered Department of Labor full Student to Apprenticeship Program. Students in Plumbing, Electrical, Carpentry or Construction Management can earn full apprenticeship hours that align with our curriculum while in classes at CCA.

College Readiness

For CCA students who plan to attend a college or university after graduation, the Academy's college readiness strands prepare them for a post-secondary education and careers in:

1. Architecture and Design
2. Applied Engineering (Civil and Structural Engineering)
3. Construction Management

Credentials and Certifications

CCA students will have the opportunity to gain credentials and certifications for their resume and portfolio. Students can complete a practicum (Capstone Project), participate in internships and shadowing programs, and may receive the following certifications:

1. OSHA 10-Hour Construction Certification
2. NCCER Core and Level 1 certifications by strand
3. CPR, First Aid and AED certification
4. Equipment certificates
5. Autodesk certification

Earn College Credit

CCA students can earn 24-30 hours of college credit toward their degree and/or trade certification.

Enrichment Opportunities

CCA students can take advantage of numerous enrichment opportunities designed to give them additional experience:

1. Tutoring
2. Field Trips
3. Site Visits
4. Service Hours
5. Leadership Opportunities
6. Clubs
7. Student Recognition
8. Competitions
9. College Visits
10. Scholarships
11. Student Organizations
12. Dual Credit
13. Advanced Placement
14. Earn Apprenticeship Hours

Job Placement Program

CCA graduates will be a step ahead of the competition and they are highly sought after by the business community. Each month, the Academy receives numerous requests from businesses eager to hire CCA graduates and CCA Alumni. Students are entered in the CCA Job Placement Databank. Based on student goals, career interest, and training and skills, CCA provides the business community with highly-qualified applicants.

The Application Process/How To Apply

Where To Get The Application

A copy of the application can be found on the Construction Careers Academy (CCA) website at www.nisd.net/cca under the "Admissions" tab. Applicants can also contact their school counselor or the Academy's front office for a copy of the application.

Who Can Attend CCA?

All **Northside Independent School District** students who meet the minimum requirements are eligible to attend the Academy. CCA provides opportunities for students interested in going to college or straight into the workforce after graduation.

Eligibility Requirements and Criteria

Admission to CCA is based on the following criteria: career interest, satisfactory attendance, satisfactory conduct (citizenship marks on report cards and referrals to the vice principal's office are considered), satisfactory standardized test scores, and at least a "C" average in core subjects (English, math, science, and social studies) in middle school. Please note: copies of middle school discipline records will be reviewed by Construction Careers Academy administrators.

Student Selection Process

Students who meet the criteria will be admitted to a lottery pool. Lottery selections from the qualified applications are at random. At the end of each semester, grades, conduct, attendance, and test scores will be reviewed and admission may be revoked if not all are satisfactory. Students included in the lottery pool, but not initially selected, will remain in the pool and be used to fill additional spots as openings occur.

Students Not Selected

Students who are not selected during their freshman year will have another opportunity as they enter into their sophomore year. Freshmen students who enroll in and successfully complete Principles of Construction at their home campus will be re-evaluated and qualified based on the CCA admission criteria. These applicants will be entered into a lottery pool and students will be selected to fill potential openings based on attrition. Selected students will be enrolled at CCA at the start of their sophomore year.

Picking a Major/Strand

When Do I Pick My Major/Strand?

Students will have the opportunity to pick their major/strand during the application process. This step is crucial to the success of any student attending a magnet school. During the application process we recommend the parent/guardian and student spend time researching and evaluating each of the career strands offered at the Academy. This will help the student and parent/guardian make an educated decision on whether or not the Academy is the best fit for them.

Incoming Freshman

During their freshmen year all students take Principles of Construction. This course serves as a prerequisite and provides students with foundation experience for each of the six strands. Freshmen students will earn their 10-Hour OSHA Construction Certification and NCCER Core Certification. The class also provides training in hand and power tools, blueprint reading, as well as construction math, interviewing and communication techniques used in the construction business. Students begin to understand the process of construction with several shop projects.

What Are My Choices?

During their sophomore year all students will enter into one of six strands. The **Architectural Design** strand will provide students entry-level skills as they work towards obtaining a degree in architecture and interior design. Students who select the **Construction Management** strand will receive the necessary skills to be competitive at any university that offers a degree in Construction Management/Science. Students that select the **Applied Engineering** strand will obtain the basic skills needed to enter any university's engineering program. The **Plumbing, Pipe Fitting and Welding** strand students will gain valuable knowledge and experience in each trade as well as have the opportunity to accumulate DOL apprenticeship hours towards earning Journeyman status. Those who choose **Electrical and HVAC** will get top notch classroom instruction and real world hands on experience as well as DOL apprenticeship hours. Our **Carpentry** strand students are also eligible for DOL apprenticeship hours toward a Journeyman license and will receive valuable life skills that they can take to work or use at their own home.

Graduation Plan Endorsements

Students who attend Construction Careers Academy have the opportunity to earn an endorsement in Business and Industry or STEM. Students who complete the course requirements for Engineering will earn a STEM endorsement. Those students who complete the course requirements for Architecture, Construction Management, Carpentry, Electrical/HVAC or Plumbing/Pipe Fitting/Welding will earn an endorsement in Business and Industry. Students also have the opportunity to earn additional endorsements based on course selections.

Extracurricular Activities

Students who apply and get accepted into the Academy can participate in extracurricular activities. In fact, we encourage it. Students should know that participating in extracurricular activities, no matter which high school they attend, requires more demands on their time and greater sacrifice. We encourage students to partner with their parents, teachers, counselor, and administrators to develop quality time management skills.

CCA is in a partnership with our host-campus Warren High School. Students attending CCA participate in extracurricular activities at Warren HS. This includes athletics, fine arts, ROTC, AVID, clubs, and events.

IMPORTANT NOTE: According to UIL policy, once enrolled in a magnet program, if the student leaves the magnet school to attend the school of the parents' residence or any other high school, the student is not eligible for varsity athletic competition for one calendar year.