



Academies and Career Pathways

At Elk Grove Unified, our goal goes beyond the classroom and reaches into the future of our students. We strive to guide each student toward a college or career. Through small learning academies and career pathways, we offer our students the ability to specialize in a number of career fields – including public service, business, health, engineering, technology, ag-science, auto-technology, education and media. These career learning opportunities are possible as a result of relationships Elk Grove Unified has with local businesses and community members who provide our students with real world training.

Career academies and pathways share many components. They are small learning communities that encompass a broad-based industry area, which includes all careers from technical learning through professional levels. They serve to promote student/employer engagement through workplace experience and provide industry certifications (when applicable). Most importantly, they prepare students for post-secondary pursuits, both for college and the workplace.

Specifically, a career pathway is a recommended sequence of general and career technical courses related to a career focus area. Career pathways include an introductory and an intermediate career technical education course. Additionally, enrollment in a related Regional Occupation Program (ROP) is encouraged for students who participate in a career pathway.

Career academies require additional criteria. Students in career academies are assigned to a team of teachers and participate in integrated academic and career/technical courses related to a career focus area. A career academic sequence includes progressive exposure to the world of work learning to a certificate recognized by businesses and industry. A career academy is flexible, but it is structured with a 9-12 grade sequenced, integrated course of study. Employers are engaged in the academy process through mentoring, job shadowing, and participation in advisory meetings.

If you would like to participate in our career pathways and academies, please contact Christy Moustris, director of alternative education, at (916) 686-7709.

The following Career and Academy Pathways are offered at different high schools throughout our district:

Elk Grove High School

AGRICULTURE SALES & SERVICE ACADEMY

This academy is designed for students interested in agricultural sales and service. Students learn the fundamental concepts of agriculture, including sales, purchasing, inventory and delivery of merchandise, advertising, animal nutrition and health.

AUTO TECHNOLOGY CAREER PATHWAY

Students learn skills to obtain an entry-level job in the automotive services industry. Topics discussed include: engine operation, electrical systems, fuel injection, computer systems, brakes, and basic engine repair.

TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL ARTS ACADEMY

Students interested in media advertising and entertainment industries can learn filmmaking, photography and digital design in the Technology and Digital Arts Academy.

Florin High School

AG TECH ACADEMY

The Ag TECH Academy provides students with training in floriculture, agriculture technology, and related sciences. This academy also has a four-year academic curriculum that combines graduation requirements, on-site laboratory experiences, workplace partnerships, study programs, and a two-plus-two college opportunity. This is a district-certified academy.

AUTO TECHNOLOGY CAREER PATHWAY

Students learn skills to obtain an entry-level job in the automotive services industry. Topics discussed include: engine operation, electrical systems, fuel injection, computer systems, brakes, and basic engine repair.

BUSINESS EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

Through this three-year academy, students learn valuable job skills related to computer technology. They also work with adult mentors from business and professional communities. This is a district certified academy.

Franklin High School

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MEDIA ACADEMY

The School of Technology, Engineering and Media allows students to explore computer technology, industrial engineering, and media communications careers. This is a district certified academy.

Laguna Creek High School

MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

The Manufacturing Production Technology Academy specializes in training students with hands-on mastery of virtually every aspect of modern-day production and manufacturing. Students will be prepared to enter college and/or in careers in manufacturing, engineering, and skilled trades. This is a Connect Ed: The California Center for College and Career Model Program and district certified academy.

BUSINESS CAREERS ACADEMY

Students interested in careers in banking, finance, and related financial industries have the opportunity to explore these fields in depth through the Business Careers Academy.

GREEN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

The Green Energy Technology Academy is designed for students interested in the energy industry. They will learn about the solar energy, wind turbines, photovoltaics, biodiesel, hydroelectricity, and hydrogen fuel cells.

SPORTS CAREERS ACADEMY

Students learn skills in athletic training, physical therapy, sports media and fitness instruction. They will receive a background in sports medicine, leadership and kinesiology.

Monterey Trail High School

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

The Design and Technology Academy provides students the chance to learn about computers and engineering, transportation technology and agriscience. This is a district certified academy.

Pleasant Grove High School

CADD/COMM ACADEMY

The CADD/COMM Academy is a cutting-edge technology academy with a dual focus of engineering and digital communication. Students will learn the fundamentals of both architectural and mechanical CADD, experience a hands-on engineering lab with electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic and construction elements, and create 3-dimensional (3D) designs in both mechanical and architectural AutoCAD.

PUBLIC SERVICE ACADEMY

The Public Service Academy gives students an opportunity to study and prepare for careers related to fire science, criminal justice, and health fields.

Sheldon High School

ARTSWORK CAREER PATHWAY

With courses designed to be applicable to many professions, the Visual/Performing Arts Career Pathway prepares students for careers in graphic design, publicity, radio, movies, television, music, dancing, drama and more.

BIOTECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

The Biotech Academy is designed for students who have the desire to explore fundamental concepts of biotechnology. The academy offers a biotechnology lab used in the advanced study of the environment, human health and medicine, forensics, criminology and agriculture.

ENGINEERING CAREER PATHWAY

The Engineering/Building Trades Career Pathway combines theoretical training with hands-on projects. It prepares students for careers in architecture, engineering and city planning.

EQUITAS (Government/Public Policy) CAREER PATHWAY

The EQUITAS Career Pathway prepares students to enter many government related careers in justice, political campaigns, law, federal investigations, intelligence agencies, public assistance programs, teaching and paralegal service.

Valley High School

HEALTH TECH ACADEMY

Health TECH (Tomorrow's Employees in Careers in Health) is an innovative four-year program that combines advanced technology, student work place experience, and direct contact with local health officials to create a unique educational experience for all students interested in any health-related occupation. This is a district certified academy.

CAREERS IN EDUCATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

This program prepares and inspires students to successfully pursue educational careers in early childhood, elementary/secondary learning, recreation/coaching, instructional aide, counseling/guidance and school librarian. This is a district certified academy.