

Noncredit Vocational Education Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the difference between credit and noncredit?

- A. In general, credit courses are designed for students who are interested in earning college units towards a degree or certificate. Students who take credit courses receive a letter grade (A, B, C, D or F) at the end of the semester.

Noncredit courses are classes offered through the Workforce and Economic Development Division. They are intended for students who want to gain general knowledge, learn a new skill, upgrade existing skills, or enrich their understanding about a wide range of topics. Upon completion of a course, students will receive a grade of pass or no pass. Noncredit classes are NOT applicable toward a degree. Upon completion of a series of required classes, students can earn a noncredit vocational certificate.

Q. Who may attend a Continuing Education noncredit course?

- A. Anyone 18 years of age or older.

Q. Do I need to apply for admission to the college?

- A. For noncredit courses, admission to the college as a credit student is not required. There is a short form for noncredit admission.

Q. When do I sign up for a class?

- A. Register early. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis: You may register by mail, in person, or by phone during predetermined hours. You can register up until the day before the first class begins, although this increases your chances of your desired class being closed.

Q. Can I get Financial Aid?

- A. No. Federal Financial Aid is not available for noncredit classes. Students are responsible for the purchase of books and supplies. Financial aid is not available for these materials. Students may use various scholarship money awarded through the College.

Q. How much does a noncredit certificate cost?

- A. Tuition varies based on the course. A few courses include a fee for materials provided to students. Students are also responsible for the purchase of books and supplies.

Q. Which specific classes do I need to earn a vocational certificate?

- A. Many different career certificate programs are available. Each certificate program is different and requires a specific sequence of classes. See the Workforce and Economic Development Division website for details.

Q. Do I need a parking permit?

- A. No. Parking is free.

Q. Can I repeat a course?

- A. Repeating a course is determined on individual basis and is at the discretion of management.

Q. How many courses can I take?

- A. Take as many courses as you like. Some courses are required to be taken in a particular sequence.

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Q. Are there any prerequisites for these courses?

A. Some courses will have prerequisites.

Q. Do I need to take a placement or assessment test before starting class?

A. For most vocational courses, there is no assessment required prior to registration. However, our health occupations programs have many courses that require TABE testing and a short medical readiness course.

Q. Can these classes be transferred to another college?

A. No.

Q. Are noncredit vocational certificates recognized in the industry?

A. Yes.

Q. How long will it take for me finish a noncredit vocational certificate?

A. It depends on your availability and the availability of the classes being offered. Not all classes are offered each term.

Q. Do I have to purchase books?

A. Yes, most courses require textbooks.

Q. Do I get units for noncredit classes?

A. Some courses, not all award CEU.

Q. Do I get grades for noncredit classes?

A. Yes. Upon completion of a course, students will receive a grade of pass or no pass.

Q. Can I enroll in a noncredit class and later transfer that course towards a credit certificate?

A. No.

Q. I still have a question. Who can I contact?

A. Call the WEDD Healthcare Office at 216-987-2925.