



Gaston County Schools

Career

Academy

Career Academy at Southwest Middle School

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the purpose of the Career Academy at Southwest Middle School?

The Career Academy at Southwest Middle School focuses on student exploration in the areas of Family and Human Services, which includes: Foods, Health and Public Service, and Business and Information Technology.

2. What are the requirements for admissions to the Academy?

Students must be in good standing including appropriate attendance, behavior, and academics. Parents/legal guardians must be residents of Gaston County.

3. Who can apply to the Career Academy at Southwest Middle School?

Incoming sixth grade students may apply. Seventh and eighth grade students may also apply and be accepted depending on availability.

4. What are the requirements for continued enrollment?

Parents/legal guardians must maintain residency in Gaston County. Students must be in good standing including appropriate attendance, behavior, and academics.

5. What will my child gain from this program?

Students will have the opportunity to take prerequisites for the courses offered at the Career Academy at Hunter Huss. They will gain a deeper knowledge of which pathway they are most interested in. At the Career Academy, students will have multiple opportunities to gain hands-on experience in their pathway.

6. What happens after I complete the Career Academy at Southwest Middle School?

You may apply to the Career Academy at Hunter Huss, which offers these programs: Firefighter Technology, Manufacturing, Health Sciences, Foods, Early Childhood, EMT, Public Service, Construction, Business, Information Technologies, Sports Marketing, and STEM.



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7. What options are available at the middle school level for the Career Academy at Southwest Middle School?

Students that participate in some of the prerequisite courses such as year long Art and Foods in the Career Academy at Southwest Middle School will be able to take Honors level Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses on the High School level.

8. What opportunities will be available because of my enrollment in the Career Academy at Southwest Middle School?

Academy students will work with the Hunter Huss Foods program which includes Food Truck Friday and catering events. Participants will also work with the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Fire Safety pathways at Hunter Huss.

9. Are there any additional requirements for students in the Career Academy at Southwest Middle School?

Students must be willing to commit to the Academy's Objectives and extra curricular activities as well as all other school expectations.

10. What is the earliest I can drop my child off and the latest I can pick up my child?

7:30 a.m. Drop Off and 4:00 p.m. Pick Up