

NEWS RELEASE

May be published when received.



603 West Park Street, Sheldon, Iowa 51201
Phone 712-324-5061 or toll free 1-800-352-4907, Ext. 105

April 26, 2016

Northwest Iowa Community College is Listed as one of the 50 Great Schools in the Nation for High School Students to Earn College Credit

CareerCounselorServices.com, an online resource that connects parents and students with trained college admissions counselors, has named Northwest Iowa Community College as one of its *50 Great Schools in Which High School Students Can Earn College Credit*.

According to their website, "This list pulls together 50 excellent schools that offer high school students the ability to earn college credit. The list is divided by 2 year institutions, 4 year institutions, and summer programs. A point based system was developed and institutions scoring a "6" or above made the list. All institutions included in this list have current accreditation with appropriate accreditation bodies and offer coursework for college credit. Institutions are listed in alphabetical order."

"NCC has a strong history of working with school districts to provide opportunities for high school students to earn college credit while still in high school," said Dr. Alethea Stubbe, NCC President. "We value these partnerships with the students and local high schools, and believe that these courses are a true benefit to students. Students can begin to explore the rigor of college academics while they are still in the secure atmosphere. All of this will help them to be successful when they graduate and pursue further academic opportunities."

CareerCounselorServices.com website states, "By starting their college career early, students acquire less educational debt, graduate sooner, integrate with the college system sooner and are better equipped to handle the transition to college life."

Some other benefits of high schools students taking college classes are:

- Get a head start on college
- Save time - shortens the time to attain a college degree
- Save money – joint enrollment classes are generally free to the student

- Gain college experience while in the secure environment
- Use the NCC Library, computer labs and other support services
- Enjoy a small faculty to student ratio
- Provide students with college credit that may be transferable to a 4-year institution
- Career exploration

Laura Kilmartin, Online Relations – Career Counselor Services, stated in an email, “The mission of College Counselor Services is to help potential college students navigate the college application and admission processes. Our website offers information about preparing for college, strategies for preparing applications, tips about affording college, and much more.”

The complete list (in alphabetical order) of top 50 two and four-year schools can be found at - <http://www.collegecounselorservices.com/features/50-great-schools-where-high-school-students-can-get-college-credit/>.

NCC has been the recipient of several national awards over the past several years. In 2016, 2014, 2012 and 2011 NCC was recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of the Best 150 Community Colleges in the nation. 2016 - Best Two Year College in Iowa, *BestColleges.com*; 2015 - 3rd Best Online College in the U.S., *BestColleges.com*; 2015 - Top 45 Colleges in the Nation, *College Scorecard, U.S. Department of Education*.

Quick facts about NCC:

- 11,500+ College Alumni since 1966, of which over 7,614 live in Iowa
- 100% Placement Rate for College Alumni in 2014
- Average first-time wage of our 2014 graduates was \$16.49/hour
- 40+ Programs of study including career & transfer and applied technology
- NCC offered 486 scholarships totaling \$369,745 to our students last year.
- Have served 800,000 + students taught through the Continuing Education and Business & Industry Departments
- Spending by NCC and its students adds an estimated \$24.2 million in economic output to the region, 372 jobs and increased tax revenues of \$1.4 million

To find out more about Joint Enrollment opportunities call 800-352-4907, email studentservices@nwicc.edu, or visit our website at nwicc.edu. At NCC – Your Success is Our Story!