



**DUAL CREDIT COLLEGE EXPRESS**

DACC’s College Express initiative began in 2005 fall as a cooperative Career and Technical Education opportunity for Vermilion County high school juniors and seniors as a result of the local area vocational center, formerly known as VOTEC (Vermilion Occupational Technical Education Center), closing. At that time, the college and VVEDS (Vermilion Vocational Education Delivery System) collaborated to offer high school students dual credit career and technical classes on the DACC campus. School districts provide bus transportation to the college.

Over the course of ten years, the program has grown to include fourteen Vermilion and Iroquois County schools from its start with nine. The number of students served has grown by more than one hundred, to just over 400 in the 2014 fall semester, and widened to include 18 programs offered from a start of 15. The programs range from health to manufacturing. Four courses now lead to Level 1 certification by NIMS (National Institute for Metalworking Skills). Since the inception of NIMS certification for College Express, over one year ago, eighteen students have participated in coursework leading to the certification. In addition to NIMS certifications, students are afforded paid internships with various manufacturers and logistics companies in the community. There is also a paid youth apprenticeship program with a major manufacturer. Coursework in logistics and industrial technology has been added as a reflection of the needs described by the local market and manufacturing community.

Manufacturing Days have been held three times during the past few years. These recruitment events were hosted by local manufacturers, DACC faculty, VVEDS staff, and College Express students with over 1500 middle/junior high school students in attendance. This year tours of industries have been arranged for area high school students to build awareness of career opportunities in area manufacturing.

When high school students are in session, but college classes are not, the junior College Express students enroll in college credit for Foundations in Personal Finance (INST 118) and seniors enroll in Success in College (INST 101). These courses further the College Express program’s “bridge to college” purpose.

Students receive benefits including the opportunity to obtain cost-free college credit, to meet and work with students from other area high schools and to participate in a smooth transition to DACC. Over 91% of student enrollments are successful, with students earning grades of C or better, to take back to their high school and start their college transcripts. Almost two-thirds of the students continue their education at DACC after their high school graduation.

**College Express and Transfer/Dual Credit**

**Tuition and Fee Savings**

High school students and their families saved \$764,752.50 during fiscal year 2014-15 in college tuition and fee costs as a result of the collaboration between DACC and area high schools. Savings do not include textbooks.

**DACC Dual Credit Snapshot,  
Including College Express and Transfer/Dual Credit**

|         | Total Credit Hours | Headcount, Unduplicated | Number of Courses Taken | College Express |               | Traditional Dual Credit |               |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
|         |                    |                         |                         | Credit Hours    | Courses Taken | Credit Hours            | Courses Taken |
| 2014-15 | 5300.5             | 757                     | 1858                    | 2825.5          | 1067          | 2375                    | 790           |
| 2013-14 | 5333.5             | 746                     | 2023                    | 3146.5          | 1294          | 2187                    | 729           |
| 2012-13 | 5338               | 807                     | 2038                    | 3120            | 1321          | 2153                    | 717           |
| 2011-12 | 5492               | 811                     | 2096                    | 3647            | 1476          | 1845                    | 620           |
| 2010-11 | 6039               | 817                     | 2205                    | 3387            | 1321          | 2652                    | 884           |
| 2009-10 | 5508               | 792                     | 1962                    | 2997            | 1120          | 2511                    | 842           |
| 2008-09 | 4417               | 653                     | 1593                    | 2137            | 822           | 2280                    | 771           |



## College Express Programs and High Schools

|         | Programs Offered | Schools Participating |
|---------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 2014-15 | 18               | 14                    |
| 2013-14 | 18               | 14                    |
| 2012-13 | 16               | 14                    |
| 2011-12 | 17               | 16                    |
| 2010-11 | 16               | 15                    |
| 2009-10 | 14               | 15                    |
| 2008-09 | 15               | 14                    |
| 2007-08 | 15               | 13                    |
| 2006-07 | 15               | 10                    |
| 2005-06 | 15               | 9                     |

### DACC MIDDLE COLLEGE

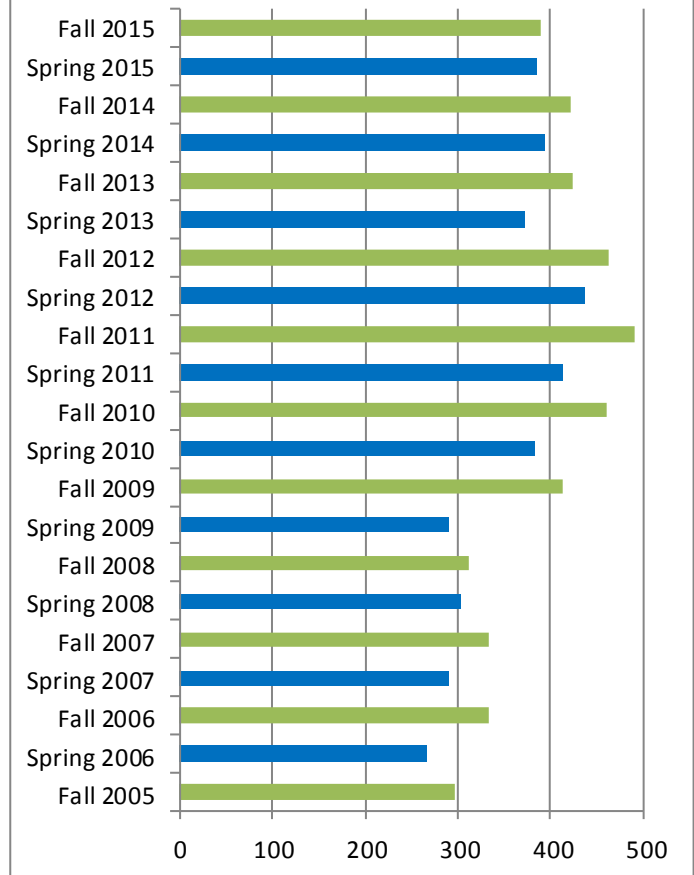
Middle College at DACC is a high school completion program designed for Vermilion County high school juniors and seniors with a history of academic success who may have run into barriers to high school completion and are at-risk of not graduating.

The goal of Middle College is to support the development of strong, successful students who are actively engaged in their studies in order to improve graduation rates in Vermilion County. Students accepted into Middle College take classes on campus instead of at their home high school. Much like other college students, each student in Middle College is registered for classes that meet his or her own graduation requirements. Classes may be a mix of developmental, online, credit recovery, and/or college level. Students are required to be involved in a minimum of five hours of learning each school day and must attend the daily Core Class as a cohort. Additionally, each Middle College student is assigned a Case Manager who works hand-in-hand with the student to overcome barriers.

Students who are recommended for the program must have the consent of their home school. Once a Middle College student completes their home school graduation requirements, they can graduate from that school. If a student completes college level coursework as part of Middle College, the credit becomes dual credit and becomes part of their DACC academic transcript.

The DACC Middle College program was built as a partnership with the support of the Vermilion Healthcare Foundation, high

## College Express Student Enrollment, Unduplicated



school administrators, Regional Superintendent, Vermilion Advantage, and DACC.

To date, more than eighty students have been enrolled in Middle College. Fifty-five of those students have graduated from high school (46 Middle College graduates/9 GED completers). Seventy-five percent of the students have either completed or are currently still engaged in education rather than dropping out of school. Additionally, more than sixty other students have taken summer credit recovery classes (these students are other county high school students who needed to make up credits to graduate).

The success of this program can be attributed to several factors; chiefly being there are caring adults in the students' lives who don't believe failure is an option and who are willing to work outside the box and as a team to find practical solutions. The team consists of a director, program coordinator, a case manager, core class teacher, credit-recovery lab monitor and two other DACC faculty and staff.