



Northwood
Technical College

High School Relations Report



High school students who participated in transcribed credit and/or Start College Now courses in the 2024-2025 academic year earned a total of **9591** credits—at no cost to them—valued at **\$1,575,000.**

Career Prep

Career Prep is designed to enhance the technical and academic skills of high school students and to provide expanded opportunities for transition into post-secondary education.

The framework for this initiative has been the federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-270).

Please visit Northwood Tech's Career Prep website for further information at **NorthwoodTech.edu/careerprep**.



Dear Partners in Education

In this edition of the High School Relations Report, we're pleased to highlight the incredible impact of our collaborative efforts to expand dual enrollment and career exploration opportunities for students across our region. Your dedication continues to make a difference in preparing students for college and career success.

Together, we achieved remarkable results once again. During the 2024-25 academic year, high school students earned 6,700 transcribed credits, representing an estimated savings of \$1,100,207 in future college costs. Through Start College Now, with the generous support of participating school districts, students earned an additional 2,891 credits—a value of \$474,731. Altogether, that's more than \$1.5 million in college credit value earned before graduation—an extraordinary accomplishment that gives students a strong start on their post-secondary paths.

The 2024-25 academic year marked the 10th anniversary of the first Northwood Tech dual enrollment academy. In that time, we have expanded these credential-bearing programs to nine additional high schools and have also run them on two of our campuses. Altogether, these programs have allowed students to earn 666 technical diplomas in Welding, Construction Essentials, Mechatronics Basics, CNC Technician, Automotive Service Technician, or Financial Customer Service Representative.

These successes are a direct result of your continued collaboration and commitment to student opportunities. As we look to the year ahead, we remain focused on expanding access to college credit, hands-on learning, and industry-recognized credentials for every high school student in the Northwood Tech region.

Thank you for being a vital partner in this important work. Your partnership empowers students to dream bigger, achieve more, and enter the future with confidence.

With appreciation,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Will".

John Will
President
Northwood Technical College



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanne Germain".

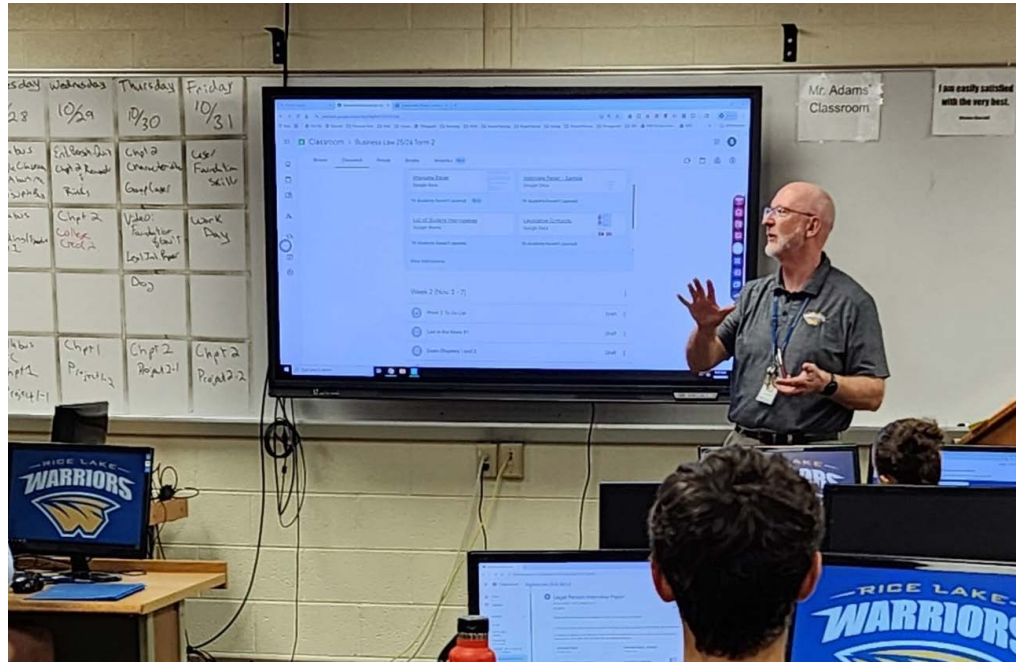
Jeanne Germain
Dean, Manufacturing,
Apprenticeships & K12 Relations
Northwood Technical College

Articulation Agreements

Free college credits for high school students!

The Joint Curriculum Review Process for curriculum alignment, advanced standing, and/or transcribed credit is one component of the Career Prep/School-to-Work initiative. This annual process assures that students are acquiring the skills and knowledge to be successful at the post-secondary level and, when appropriate, are granted credit for high school coursework that covers technical college competencies.

Additional information on the joint curriculum review process can be found at **NorthwoodTech.edu/careerprep**.



Rice Lake high school teacher Steve Adams has articulated numerous classes throughout his tenure, including this Business Law course.

As part of an agreement between the state's sixteen technical college districts, advanced standing and transcribed credit courses will be transferable to other Wisconsin technical colleges provided they offer similar coursework. Coursework may transfer to other post-secondary institutions; students should contact any college they are planning to attend for verification.

Transcribed Credit (TC)

Transcribed credit agreements are developed when a technical college course is taught in a high school setting by a certified high school instructor using 100% of technical college competencies and grading policies. The agreement details the conditions students must meet to successfully complete the course. College credits are awarded and recorded on a technical college transcript upon successful completion of the course.

Advanced Standing (AS)

Advanced standing courses contain competencies that are recognized as equivalent to those in a technical college course. Students earn high school credit and, if the conditions identified in the advanced standing agreement are met, will be granted technical college credit after enrolling in a program requiring the course at the college. To receive credit for advanced standing, students present their high school transcript documenting advanced standing during the admission process. Students will not have to repeat the coursework, will receive technical college credit, and will save money on college tuition.

360

Total high school agreements with Northwood Tech

158

Advanced Standing

202

Transcribed Credit

115

High School Teachers

Articulation Agreements

By the numbers

For the 2024-2025 academic year, Northwood Tech offered district high schools 60 courses for articulation. All career clusters (excluding General Education) may be available in both the transcribed credit (TC) and advanced standing (AS) capacity. General Education courses may be articulated at the TC level only.

These courses fall under the following categories:

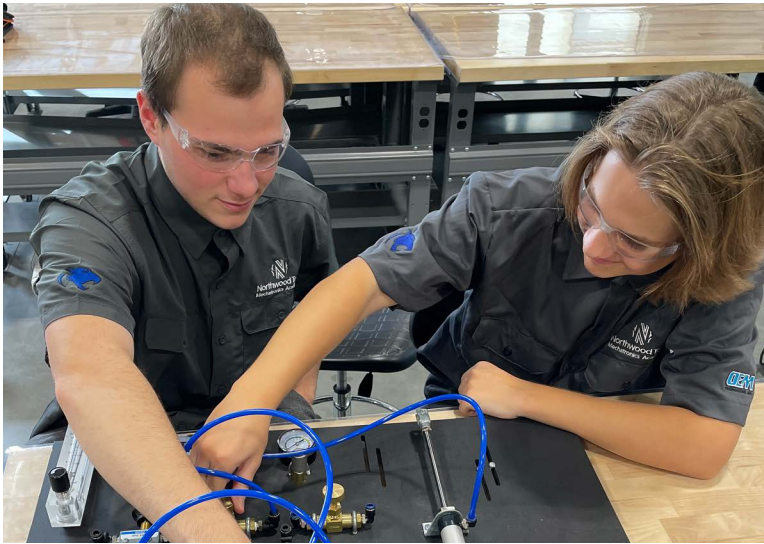
- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Business Management
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Health Sciences
- Information Technology
- General Education
- Manufacturing
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics

Of the **46 school districts** in the Northwood Tech region, **43** provided articulation options to their students, resulting in **360 available courses**.

High School	AS	TC	Total Articulations
Amery	21	15	36
Ashland	3	6	9
Baldwin-Woodville	3	1	4
Barron	4	2	6
Bayfield	0	2	2
Birchwood	1	0	1
Bruce	4	2	6
Cameron	1	5	6
Chetek-Weyerhaeuser	5	4	9
Clayton	0	3	3
Clear Lake	1	0	1
Cumberland	5	2	7
Eau Claire Memorial	0	1	1
Eau Claire North	1	0	1
Flambeau	1	4	5
Frederic	3	5	8
Glenwood City	6	1	7
Grantsburg	0	1	1
Hayward	10	17	27
Hudson	11	22	33
Hurley	1	1	2
iForward Wisconsin	0	2	2
Ladysmith	5	1	6
Luck	1	1	2
Mellen	6	3	9
New Richmond	11	17	28
Northwestern (Maple)	3	5	8
Osceola	6	4	10
Prairie Lake	3	2	5
Rice Lake	10	24	34
Shell Lake	2	0	2
Siren	2	2	4
Solon Springs	0	2	2
Somerset	1	6	7
Spooner	6	0	6
St. Croix Central	0	9	9
St. Croix Falls	3	1	4
Superior	3	18	21
Turtle Lake	1	10	11
Unity	3	1	4
Washburn	6	0	6
Webster	3	0	3
Winter	2	0	2
TOTALS	158	202	360

Dual Enrollment Academies

Student Focused & Industry Driven



High School Academy Statistics

High School Academies	High School	Credits	# Of Grads
Construction Essentials	Clayton	9	5
Construction Essentials	Hayward	9	3
Construction Essentials	Luck	9	5
Construction Essentials	Superior	9	9
Financial Services Customer Representative	Hayward	14	6
Mechatronics Basics	St. Croix Central	14	17
Welding (2 technical diplomas)	Ashland	10	1
Welding (2 technical diplomas)	New Richmond*	10	28
Total			74

- Construction Essentials and Financial Services Customer Representative academies have pathways to an associate degree or a two-year technical diploma.
- The Mechatronics Basics academy has a pathway to a two-year technical diploma.
- The Welding academy has two embedded technical diplomas and can be applied towards the 32-credit Welding technical diploma.

*The New Richmond Welding Academy accepted participants from these additional high schools:

- Amery
- Baldwin-Woodville
- Clear Lake
- Glenwood City
- New Richmond
- Osceola
- St. Croix Central



“This marks my sixth cohort of academy students, and regardless of their academic plan, every student emerges financially literate and equipped to make financial decisions with confidence. Through a strong foundation in Microsoft Office, Personal Finance, and Accounting, they gain the skills necessary to navigate future financial choices effectively. This competency is not only a vital life skill but also an accomplishment that empowers students to apply their knowledge across any career path or post-secondary endeavor.”

– Julie Thompson-Czub, Hayward High School
Information and Technology Instructor



Credentials Earned in High School

Northwood Tech credentials advance student career pathways and employment opportunities.

Northwood Tech credentials provide students with an accelerated start toward achieving their career goals and enhancing future employment prospects. No need to wait until graduation to enroll in Northwood Tech programs. Through initiatives such as **Start College Now, dual enrollment academies, and articulation agreements** established between Northwood Tech and partnering high schools, students can earn credentials including embedded short-term technical diplomas and certificates.

In addition, students who obtain qualifying credentials may generate additional funding for their school districts through the **Career and Technical Education (CTE) Incentive Grant** program. This program encourages school districts to deliver high-quality career and technical education that addresses workforce shortages in critical industries and occupations. Eligible districts may receive reimbursements of up to **\$1,000 per student** for those who earn an approved industry-recognized certification prior to high school graduation.

2024-2025 Credentials Earned	Female	Male
Short-Term Technical Diploma		
CNC Technician		1
Construction Essentials	2	23
Emergency Medical Technician	2	
Financial Services Customer Representative	3	3
Flux Cored Arc Welding (FCAW)	1	4
Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)	3	29
Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW)	1	4
Hospitality Foundations		1
Mechatronics Basics	1	16
Nursing Assistant	65	10
Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW)	3	30
Truck Driving	1	24
Welding/Maintenance/Fabrication	1	4
One-Year Technical Diploma		
Welding	1	4
Certificate		
Business Administration Specialist	1	
Machine Tool Basics		1
Marine Repair Essentials		2
Personal Care Worker	37	6
Phlebotomy	1	
Total	123	162

NWECS

Northwestern Wisconsin Communications System Consortium

NWECS is a distance learning consortium that shares courses between NWECS members and other Wisconsin distance learning networks via video conferencing, hybrid, and online courses. The courses offer high school and/or college credit through partner technical colleges and universities. Northwood Technical College is the fiscal agent for and member of NWECS. Additional members include Northcentral Technical College, CESA 12, and 17 area school districts. With four additional higher education partners, NWECS is able to provide distance learning to a large number of students who might not otherwise benefit from these courses.

5

Undergraduate Distance
Learning courses offered from
Northwood Tech for NWECS
➤ **31 students enrolled**

12

Post-Secondary Distance
Learning courses
➤ **45 students participating**

11

High schools enrolled
in Northwood Tech
ACT Prep classes
➤ **37 students participating**

44

High School Distance
Learning courses offered
➤ **109 students participating**

14

CESA 12 school districts
participating in High Quiz Bowl
➤ **92 students participating**

Total Student Reach

314

NWECS-Northwood Tech UGRAD Contracted Courses Enrollment

Courses Offered	Receiving High Schools	Students Enrolled
Criminal Justice, Intro to 3 credits	Arcadia	1
	Mauston	6
	Royall	1
	Westfield	3
	Whitehall	1
Math for Health Professionals 2 credits	Flambeau	1
	Mauston	4
	Northwood HS	1
Medical Terminology 3 credits	Clear Lake	1
	Hurley	6
	New Auburn	2
	Siren	4
Total		31

NWECS-Continuing Ed Enrollment

Courses Offered	Receiving High Schools	Students Enrolled
CDL Permit Prep	Amherst	1
	Argyle	1
	Bowler	6
	Bruce	2
	Clear Lake	5
	Flambeau	7
	Ladysmith	2
	Lake Holcombe	5
	Mellen	1
	New Auburn	1
	Royall	5
	Siren	1
	Southwestern WI	1
	Webster	4
	Whitehall	1
ACT Prep 3/3 - 3/6/25	Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan Lincoln	2
	Auburndale	3
	Blair-Taylor	1
	Butternut	4
	Eleva-Strum	1
	Flambeau	4
	Florence	1
	Ladysmith	6
	Mellen	2
	Spooner	12
	Thorp	1
Total		80



In 2024-2025, Northwood Tech partnered with **14** school districts on **118.15** contracts, with **88** students successfully completing the requirements for their **HSED**.

A Partnership That Works

118.15 High School Agreement

Northwood Technical College, in compliance with Wisconsin Statute 118.15 Compulsory school attendance, partners with local school districts to offer a state-issued High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED). Students can earn their HSED by successfully completing a set of standardized assessments in the areas of writing, social studies, science, literature, math, civics and health, which would be equivalent to the academic rigor of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction high school diploma requirements.

As each student works on mastering the content areas required, Northwood Tech provides classroom instruction and educational materials. The student's career interests are surveyed, and employability is also studied and completed as part of the diploma. Each instructor maintains attendance, advises the student, and works collaboratively with the parents/guardians and local school district as the student works toward the goal of receiving their HSED. Parents/guardians provide support and encouragement throughout the educational process.

Students who successfully complete the HSED program can be recognized at a Northwood Tech graduation ceremony (at the campus of their choosing) and may also have the option to walk in their high school graduation to receive their high school diploma.



For more information on the Northwood Tech HSED program, please visit: **NorthwoodTech.edu/ged-hsed** or scan the QR-code with your phone's camera.

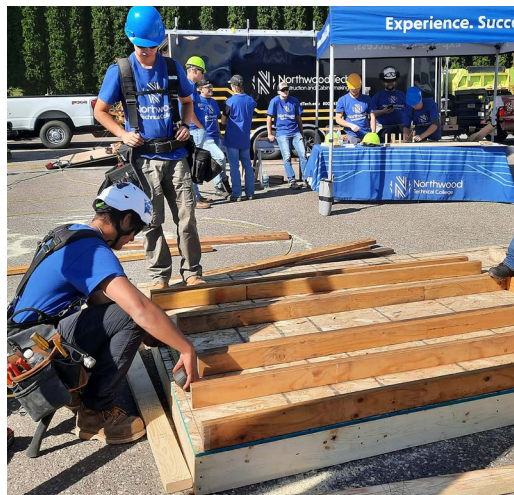


Hands-On Exploration Events

With support from the Student Recruitment Specialists and additional college staff, Northwood Tech hosted or participated in more than 170 career exploration events throughout the 11-county district. Collectively, over 5,000 middle and high school students engaged in a wide variety of hands-on, interactive activities. These experiences allowed them to explore their interests and strengths while introducing them to college pathways that lead to exciting, rewarding careers.

Events included:

- Build My Future
- Career and Job Exploration Fairs
- Community Connections
- Discover Healthcare Events
- Education Fairs
- Manufacturing Days
- Open Houses
- Preview Days
- Program Showcases
- Skills Contests
- Technology Expos
- Youth Career Academies



The Pulse

Northwood Tech New Richmond campus is proud to host the opening session of The Pulse, an annual 3-day healthcare career exploration experience sponsored by Northwest Wisconsin AHEC (Area Health Education Center). In summer 2025 thirty-four students from six area high schools participated in a variety of hands-on activities through seven Northwood Tech programs during their half day on campus:

- Associate Degree Nursing
- EMS/Paramedic
- Gerontology
- Health Information Technology/
Medical Coding
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing Assistant
- Occupational Therapy Assistant

Northwood Tech instructors offered their expertise while engaging students in interactive activities designed to provide a feel for the varying healthcare roles available to them. Career interests of those participating included home health care, pediatrics, labor and delivery, physical therapy and nutritionist, among many others.



THE PULSE



The Heartbeat of Your Career

Career Prep Teacher Feature

Steve Adams | Rice Lake High School

Through strong partnerships with high schools across the district, Northwood Tech provided 360 articulated courses during the 2024–2025 academic year. Among the dedicated educators expanding these opportunities was Rice Lake High School's Steve Adams, who, over his 10-year tenure, offered 16 college-level courses to students.

In total, Mr. Adams submitted more than 500 class registrations, resulting in over 1,500 college credits earned by his students in courses from Applied Technical Math to Personal Finance. As he prepares to retire at the conclusion of the 2025–2026 academic year, we would like to recognize and thank him for his significant contributions to education.

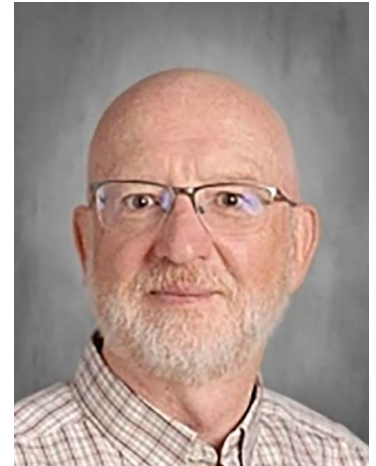
Q: What initially inspired you to become a teacher?

A: I began my career in finance and accounting and spent over 20 years building a successful career, including serving as a senior manager at two of the world's largest accounting firms and being named a 'Super CPA' twice. For many years, I believed success was measured by wealth.

That perspective changed when I began volunteering in my children's lives as a coach, scout leader, and Sunday school teacher. I realized success is not about money, but about how many lives you positively impact. In my mid-40s, I left business to pursue teaching. I have never regretted that decision and am thankful I found work that truly fulfills me. I strive to help students achieve their best, believing learning comes through effort, failure, reflection, and perseverance.

Q: What was one of your most rewarding moments as a teacher?

A: I genuinely love coming to school each day to work with students. I find the greatest reward in the small 'ah-ha'



moments—when students discover something new about themselves, make meaningful connections, or accomplish something they once thought was impossible.

Q: Why did you choose to participate in dual credit articulation with Northwood Tech?

A: Partnering with Northwood Technical College was one of the best decisions of my educational career. It allowed me to provide students with meaningful opportunities that set them up for success.

Some of the many benefits students receive from dual credit articulation, per Mr. Adams:

- A sense of accomplishment from earning college credits
 - A low-risk opportunity to experience college-level coursework
 - A head start on college through credits already earned
 - College cost savings for students and their families
 - Early exploration of career and academic interests
 - College credit without the stress or cost of AP exams
-

Upper right: Receiving the 2015 Governor's Financial Literacy Award

Bottom left: Childhood passion for fish has led to approximately 20 home fish tanks

We extend our sincere appreciation to Mr. Adams and the more than 100 articulated high school teachers for their continued dedication to student learning and success.



Career Prep Partnerships

Consortium & School Districts

Student Connections*

School District Visits
Amery
Ashland
Baldwin-Woodville
Barron
Bayfield
Chetek-Weyerhaeuser
Clayton
Clear Lake
Cumberland
Drummond
Frederic
Glenwood City
Grantsburg
Hayward
Hudson
Luck
Maple (Northwestern)
Mellen
New Richmond
Osceola
Rice Lake
Siren
Solon Springs
Somerset
Spooner
St. Croix Central
St. Croix Falls
Superior
Turtle Lake
Unity
Washburn
Webster
Winter

Student Connections*

In addition to coordinating campus events and activities for middle and high school students, Northwood Tech Student Recruitment Specialists regularly connect with students in their schools.

Career Prep Consortium

Career Prep provides funding for K-16 technical preparation initiatives led by the Northwest Wisconsin Career Prep/School-to-Work Consortium. This Consortium—comprised of representatives from local businesses, school districts, three regional CESAs, and Northwood Tech staff—meets three times annually to collaborate, plan activities, and approve grant allocations.

Career Prep activities include:

- Professional development for teachers and counselors
- Occupational exploration and hands-on learning for middle and high school students
- Articulation agreement development with high schools

Dual Credit Day

Dual Credit Day, held each October, offers high school teachers the opportunity to collaborate with Northwood Tech instructor-mentors to establish new articulation and teacher transfer agreements. These agreements, supported by Northwood Tech's partnerships with local high schools, enable students to earn both high school and college credits simultaneously. This virtual event includes an articulation orientation and meetings where mentors and teachers discuss course curriculum, competencies, and available resources.

16 New agreements

12 High school teachers pursuing articulation

11 Northwood Tech instructor/mentors

Youth Apprenticeship

Education to Employment

Youth Apprenticeship is an excellent opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to explore career interests and build valuable employability skills. Youth apprentices learn the necessary occupational knowledge and skills through on-the-job training and related classroom instruction. Employers participate in the development of a future qualified workforce by hiring and mentoring youth apprentices.

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) oversees youth apprenticeship and partners with schools, community organizations and technical colleges to support apprentices. With 16 program areas and 100 occupational pathways, youth apprenticeship is an excellent choice to help students prepare for the future.

Northwood Technical College supports youth apprenticeship by engaging with area youth apprenticeship consortiums and providing college courses for completing related instruction. The college offers opportunities for apprentices to take the next step into registered apprenticeship upon completion of their youth apprenticeship. Registered apprenticeship programs

include carpentry, cosmetology, electrical construction, injection mold set-up, maintenance mechanic/millwright, plumbing and surgical technology.

“ Youth apprenticeship prepares high school students for careers and meets the workforce needs of local industries. It's a proven workforce development model. ”

— Eric Lockwood, Director of Apprenticeships & Academies

High School Graduate Enrollment and Transfer Opportunities

High school graduates consistently enroll with Northwood Tech at a higher percentage three years post-graduation compared to immediately following high school.

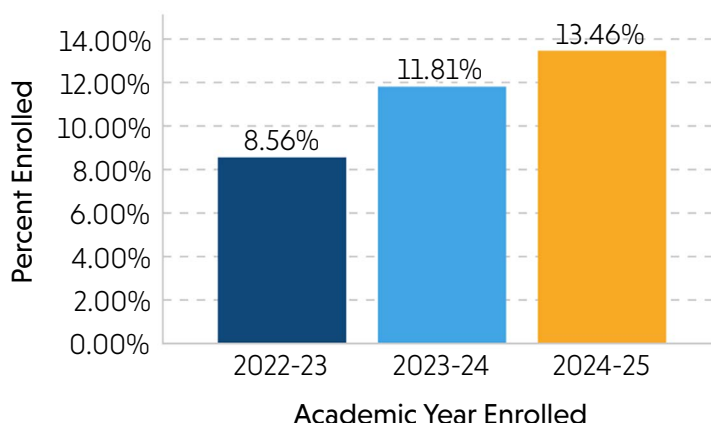
Enrolling directly after high school can provide students the opportunity to begin their careers sooner. In addition, for those looking to continue their educational pathways, Northwood Tech holds numerous transfer agreements with several colleges and universities.



Scan or click the QR code for more information.

NorthwoodTech.edu/Transfer

2022 High School Graduates Enrolled at Northwood Tech



Jeanne Germain

Dean of Manufacturing, Apprenticeships & K12 Relations
jeanne.germain@NorthwoodTech.edu | 715.246.1835

Meet the Career Prep Team



Eric Lockwood

Director, Apprenticeships & Academies
eric.lockwood@NorthwoodTech.edu
715.246.1871

- Manages dual credit academies
- College representative for local Youth Apprenticeship Consortia



Natalie Landgreen

Career Prep Specialist
natalie.landgreen@NorthwoodTech.edu
715.246.1869

- Processes articulation agreements and contracts
- Maintains articulation records, including mentor assignments
- Organizes Career Prep events



MaKayla Kuhn

Career Prep Associate
makayla.kuhn@NorthwoodTech.edu
715.246.1868

- Processes dual credit student registrations
- Enters dual credit student grades
- Schedules dual credit courses



Randy Schullo

Dual Credit Mentor
randy.schullo@NorthwoodTech.edu
715.788.7081

- Observes dual credit teachers and assists with questions and concerns
- Supports dual credit registration process
- Acts as a liaison between teachers and Northwood Tech faculty

Contact Student Services Staff

Northwood Tech staff is ready to assist high school counselors, students and parents. Click the QR-code below or scan for a list of contacts at the campus of your choice.

Ashland



New Richmond



Rice Lake



Superior





96% of graduates indicated they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the training they received at Northwood Tech.



93% of graduates in the labor market are employed. 66% of those are employed in a field related to their Northwood Tech training.



\$54,641 is the average annual starting salary.

High school students earned Northwood Tech Dual Enrollment college credits valued at **\$1,575,000** in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Source: 2023-2024 Northwood Tech Graduation Follow-Up Survey Report

Campuses

Ashland

2100 Beaser Avenue
Ashland, WI 54806
715.682.4591
715.682.8040 fax

New Richmond

1019 S. Knowles Avenue
New Richmond, WI 54017
715.246.6561
715.246.2777 fax

Rice Lake

1900 College Drive
Rice Lake, WI 54868
715.234.7082
715.234.1241 fax

Superior

600 North 21st Street
Superior, WI 54880
715.394.6677
715.394.3771 fax



Northwood Tech does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to manage inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Amanda Gohde, Vice President, Talent & Culture, 1900 College Drive, Rice Lake WI 54868; Amanda.Gohde@NorthwoodTech.edu; phone: 715.645.7042.

NorthwoodTech.edu/careerprep