

New Student Welcome

Frequently Asked Questions



OVER THE SUMMER

Q. What information will I receive from the Career Center about the new school year over the summer?

A. Watch for mailings over the summer. You will receive a letter from your career-technical teacher this summer. You will also be receiving a mailing from the Director of Secondary Education in July with important back to school information.

Q. If needed, how do I contact a Greene County Career Center counselor over the summer?

A. During the summer, counselor's work unique hours/days so it is best to call before coming out to ensure someone is available. The main number at the Career Center is 937-372-6941.

Q. What if I have a question about riding the bus next year?

A. All transportation questions should be directed to your student's home school transportation offices.

Beavercreek	429-7531
Bellbrook	848-4029
Cedarville	766-6000, Ext. 218
Fairborn	878-1772
Greeneview	675-6814
Xenia	372-3876
Yellow Springs	767-7381

Q. When will I get to meet with my teachers?

A. **Mandatory Back to School Night is on August 24th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** and is an excellent opportunity to meet your teachers and find out what the expectations are in each class. We encourage you to plan on attending the back to school event as many of your questions will be answered.

Q. When will I receive my schedule for next year?

A. We generally pass out schedules during the **Back to School Night**. If you are unable to attend **Back to School Night**, you can pick up your schedule in the office after August 25th.

THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Q. What time does school start and end?

A. School at the Greene County Career Center begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 2:11 p.m. The building will be opened at 7:15 a.m. and you must go to the cafeteria until 7:45 a.m.

Q. How long is each class?

A. Students will spend half of their day in their career-technical labs. Each lab last 2.5 hours. The remainder of the day will be spent in academic classes that last approximately 41 minutes each.

Q. If my home school is not in session, but the Career Center is, what do I do?

A. Once admitted to the Career Center, students then follow the Career Center's schedule. There will be a bus at your home school to pick you up even if your home school is closed.

Q. Will I be able to go back to my home school for special activities such as pep rallies?

A. Absolutely! These are important events and you will be able to leave early to participate with your home school peers.

Q. Can I drive a car to school?

A. You bet! Just like your home school, students can drive to GCCC. However, for safety reasons, we ask that you pick up a GCCC parking pass at the Career Center. Please note, in order to be assigned a parking pass, students must show their driver's license and proof of insurance and pay

\$10. Returning students, don't forget that all lab fees from the previous year must be paid in full before a pass can be issued. Please remember that driving to school is a privilege and not a right, so student conduct and any driving safety issues could result in driving privileges being revoked. Also, please remember that tardiness to school due to car trouble is considered an unexcused absence so please allow plenty of time to arrive. BE SMART and BE SAFE!

Q. Can my parent or guardian drive me to school?

A. Absolutely, but parents should drop you off in the front of the building. Students will need to enter through the main entrance at the front of the school. The entrance to the building is opened each morning at 7:15 a.m.

Q. Is there an attendance policy?

A. Yes. The purpose of the Greene County Career Center is to educate with real life, hands on experiences in preparation for the workforce or college readiness. The Board of Education believes that excellent attendance is an important part of that education and properly prepares students to adjust in the workforce and in college. Therefore, students are expected to be on time and attend school every day. Remember, students will follow the GCCC school calendar, not the home school calendar. Students just like in your home school district; it is your parent(s)/guardian(s) responsibility to ensure that students comply with compulsory attendance laws.

Q. How strict are the rules at the Career Center?

A. Because of the 'hands on' learning opportunities and the fact that students choose to come to the Career Center, most students follow our guidelines with little or no concern. However, just like your home school there are consequences attached to inappropriate student actions. Our teachers can impose detentions, we can assign administrative detentions, in school suspension or out of school suspension for misbehaviors. GCCC Student Handbook is uploaded to your laptop and can also be found on GCCC website which will provide more specific information. Be sure you familiarize yourself and have your parents also review the Student Handbook.

Q. Is there a dress code?

A. Yes. The Greene County Career Center has program-specific uniforms and general dress code guidelines for days when uniforms are not required. Many of our career paths require on the job dress codes and we feel strongly that students begin learning those positive workplace habits while still in high school. We will periodically announce non-uniform dress days throughout the year. Students will receive information about what to wear the first few days of school over the summer. All seniors in year two of a program will be required to be in uniform the first day of school. Juniors will be expected to be in uniform no later than the 10th day of school. Some junior programs may be required to wear their uniforms on the first day, but if this is the case for your program, your instructor will be in contact with you.

Q. Will I get a locker?

A. Yes, all students at GCCC are assigned a school locker. Please be wise and don't switch lockers or share combinations. Please leave valuable items at home as the Career Center is not responsible for lost, misplaced or stolen items.

Q. So... How is the food at the Career Center?

A. We currently use a private company to prepare lunches for our students. The lunchroom serves a variety of foods, from the traditional "plate lunch" to salads, deli sandwiches and pizza. Most students can find an appealing economic lunch option and we receive many positive comments about the taste and variety of options. For those students who prefer, bag lunches can be brought from home as well. Remember, students who qualify are also eligible for free and/or reduced lunches just as you are in your home school.

Q. How can I get involved at the Greene County Career Center?

A. All Greene County Career Center students become members of a career technical student organization (CTSO). Within these organizations, students will have opportunities to run for leadership positions and compete in local, regional, state and sometimes national competitions. There are also opportunities to become school ambassadors and of course students can also apply to become members of the National Technical Honor Society. Don't forget, we also strongly encourage you to participate in extracurricular activities at your home school.

GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CAREER CENTER

Q. Where will my High School Diploma come from if I attend the Greene County Career Center?

A. Your high school diploma comes from your home school district and not the Career Center. Our counselors work closely with each school district to ensure that all students meet their home school graduation requirements. You will have the opportunity to attend both your high school graduation ceremony and the Greene County Career Center Senior Recognition Ceremony where we issue career-passports and industry credentials.

Q. I really want to go to college. Will attending one of the Greene County Career Center schools put me on the right path to do so?

A. Career-technical studies encourage both college attendance and/or entry into the workforce. In fact, many of our students take advantage of the Tech Prep Scholarship and then transfer to a four year college. Career Center students are also able to earn college credits while attending the Career Center, saving both time and money while attaining their degree. Our graduates also

report that they are able to help pay their way through college with part-time jobs for which their career-technical studies prepared them.

Q. Why does career-technical education focus on the benefits of college?

A. National statistics tell us that less than half of all students who enroll in college earn a four-year degree; yet the debt they assume as they try follows them for many years. Job market analysts say that only 20% of America's jobs require a bachelor's degree or higher education. But 65 % of good jobs that can provide wonderful careers require something less than four years of college. Only 15 % of America's jobs are available to people without skill training. Many careers can be launched with a two-year college associate's degree – such as, medical and health services (nurses, medical technicians, dental hygienists etc.), as well as manufacturing and service technician fields (computer systems technicians, graphic arts designers, aircraft mechanics, engineering technicians).

Q. What is the biggest difference I will notice between my home school and the Greene County Career Center?

A. The Career Center does offer some unique opportunities. Our students often comment that they have made many new, positive friendships at the Career Center. The Career Center is also a great way to see if a career is a good fit and gives students a head-start in that career. When you leave the GCCC you will have many new friendships, will be prepared academically for college, have skills in a specific trade and a head start on your career path!

Q. Are students with disabilities able to participate in these programs?

A. Absolutely. Career-technical programs are accessible to all students. The law requires equality of access and we support students from varying abilities in our programs. In fact, a recent study of 8,000 students identified with disabilities revealed that those students who chose career-technical education have better attendance, stay in school longer, attend post-secondary career-technical programs and have a better job after two years.

Q. Is career-technical education for students who don't do well in a traditional high school?

A. YES and NO! Many students describe being appreciative for a 'fresh start' by attending the Career Center. However, many other career-technical students find that they were not being challenged in a way that gave them the desire to learn that hands on programs at GCCC have given them. At the Greene County Career Center, students learn the core academics that they learn at their home schools, but they also have the ability to spend half of their day engaged in the hands-on, skills-focused training that lead them to a life-long career. We often see students improve their grades in just one year, which is a direct result of having a different focus and interest in learning.