

WEST UNIVERSITY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Program Offered at West University Charter High School

West University is a tuition-free public high school that operates two sessions per day - morning and afternoon. Students have the opportunity to enroll in the session that best fits their personal schedule so they have the flexibility to earn a quality education while working, caring for family, or managing other commitments.

Once enrolled, the school works with the student to create a personalized academic plan to graduate, and immediately helps the student to start earning credits at his/her own pace. Courses are computer-based to help the student to focus and track progress, and certified teachers provide individualized support.

The school serves ages 16 to 21. Graduation ceremonies are held in June.

There is no cost to attend. All programs are free.

Instructional and Program Model:

Assessment and Placement at Entry - Every enrolling student participates in a 3-day orientation during which each student's skills are assessed and each student's transcript is reviewed to determine appropriate coursework and remedial assistance. Initial social support needs are determined and the student is provided appointments with appropriate social service providers. The student is then placed in one of 3 flexible sessions to accommodate his or her work schedule or family care responsibilities.

Ongoing Progress Monitoring - Because attendance, coursework and homework are tracked online, teachers have immediate access to the progress and achievement of their students. Teachers review daily and weekly tracking reports to identify students who are not progressing as expected. Students are consulted and provided with academic and social service supports, as needed. School administrators likewise access daily, weekly and monthly tracking reports to identify any broader trends that need addressing.

Academic and Social Services Interventions - The schools' instructional software programs provide comprehensive assessments that help teachers individualize instruction, ensuring each student has the opportunity to achieve to his or her potential. Online diagnostic assessments pinpoint student strengths and weaknesses. Detailed reports provide teachers with performance information for an entire class and individual students. Students with identified deficiencies in FCAT scores or EOC exams are provided individualized attention through tutoring and coaching on effective strategies for success on the assessments. Identified gaps in content knowledge are addressed through intensive remediation using teacher-directed approaches, technology-enhanced activities, and offline resources and materials.

Family Support Specialists (FSS) and Career Coaches work with each student to address and remove the personal, social, and behavioral barriers that prevent students from attending school and being successful. The FSS works closely with other faculty and staff and a contracted licensed

counselor to identify students in need of support services, and will link with community resource providers to identify programs that will provide wraparound services to meet students' personal needs. The Career Coach provides additional instructional time to students in the areas of employability skills, career and college readiness, and post-secondary options based on each student's ISP.

Ongoing Feedback to Students and Parents - Students have online "My Success Dashboards" providing each student instantly with the following: progress and grades in current courses, attendance calendars, progress to graduation (credits and GPA), planning and implementation of a post-secondary plan and a list of short and long term goals. Students meet regularly with their academic advisor and meet, as appropriate, with social services providers. Parents and guardians are provided with online access to the same "My Success Dashboards" for each student. Twice yearly parent nights are hosted by the school.