

## ACES Program Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Does the program cost?**
  - The answer is “it depends”– We are grant funded and our funding is different every year. We are now offering college credits through the ACES program during our students’ Junior and Senior year. That increased our per-student cost to \$650.00 per year. We are unable to cover that amount this year for every student; therefore, this year the program enrollment fee is \$250.00, which will cover the college credit courses (should they choose to take them). However, we don’t want that to keep people from applying so we have payment plans and need-based scholarships available.
- **When should students start and complete the program (what grade or age?)**
  - Ideally students should start when going into their sophomore year in high school, to get the greatest benefits of the 3 year program. IE- apply at the end of their freshmen year and start their sophomore fall semester. However, all students can gain benefits from the program and college students can apply as well.
  - If the student will be graduating from high school during the program, should they still apply? YES! We have 7 AHEC offices throughout the state so if you start in Springfield or Joplin and end up going to college in KC, you can still complete the ACES Program. We have several students that start in high school and finish during their first or second year of college.
- **Can they still apply if they missed the Jumpstart Event?**
  - YES! They will get caught up on what they missed during the program orientation after getting accepted. Jumpstart is designed to introduce them to the ACES Program and give them a taste of what they will do and learn during the program.
- **How firm is the GPA requirement?**
  - We strongly prefer students with strong academic records and at least a 3.0 GPA. The main reason being that health professions are competitive and only those who work hard in school tend to succeed. However, we understand that people make mistakes and don’t always take school seriously (especially their freshmen year) so we will consider students with a close to 3.0 GPA on a case by case basis with good recommendations.
- **What are the essay requirements?**
  - We are not English/Language instructors; however, please have someone read over your work for misspellings, typos, grammatical errors, etc. We are trying to find out what makes you as an individual interested in pursuing a health career. Please don’t say because I’ll make lots of money! We are looking for students that understand why it’s important to help people be healthy individuals.
- **What kind of time commitment is it/how many workshops must they attend?**
  - We offer 24+ workshops per year- they are required to attend at least 8 per year. A few specific ones are required, but for the most part they choose the ones that interest them.

**Still have questions? Feel free to contact us anytime!**

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