

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Our History

Great Lakes Cyber Academy is an accredited, public school serving students in grades 6-12 from across the state. Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities. The school was founded during the 2013–14 school year as an online school. The school's first 12th grade class graduated in May 2014.

Our Mission

The mission of Great Lakes Cyber Academy is to help each student maximize his or her potential and meet the highest performance standards through a uniquely individualized learning program.

OUR PROGRAM

Great Lakes Cyber Academy includes a four-year comprehensive high school program with an enrollment of 850 students. Here are some important facts about the program:

- Great Lakes Cyber Academy is chartered by Central Michigan University and supported by the Connections Academy family of public virtual schools.
- Great Lakes Cyber Academy is accredited by AdvacED.
- NCAA approved
- The school has 43 certified/licensed professional staff. Of those, 26 have earned advanced degrees and all are highly qualified.
- The high school has three pacing options: Standard Graduation Pace, Extended Graduation Pace, and Accelerated Graduation Pace.

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:

Superintendent: Heather Ballien

Principal: Brian Titsworth

Assistant Principals: Kelli Marcus, Jerry Sprouse

Manager of Special Education: Juanita Adams

Manager of Counseling: Sarah Simons MA LPC NCC

Counseling Staff: Nicole Conner MA LLPC, Megan Eickhoff MA, Karen Thomson MA

SAMPLING OF UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

Students in the Class of 2017 earned total college scholarship awards in the amount of \$449,024 and were accepted to the following colleges:

Arizona State University, Baker College, Brigham Young University, Central Michigan University, College for Creative Studies, Davenport University, Eastern Michigan University, Fashion Institute of Technology, Ferris State University, Indiana State University, Grand Canyon University, Langston University, Lourdes College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Murray State University, Northern Arizona University, Northern Michigan University, Oakland University, Olivet College, Pfeiffer University, Purdue University, Saginaw Valley State University, Temple University, University of Arizona, University of Michigan, and University of Southern California, Wayne State University, Western Michigan University, Wisconsin Lutheran College.

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- Standard Graduation Pace students attend the typical fall and spring semester and take a course load leading to 6 credits. Students typically take 6 classes per semester. Their school year extends over 180 days and 1098 hours.
- Extended Graduation Pace students attend the typical fall and spring semester in addition to adding the summer semester taking a course load leading to 6 credits. Students can take either 4 or 5 classes in the fall and spring semesters and will then take either 2 or 4 classes in the summer (4, 4, 4 or 5, 5, 2). Their school year extends over 216 days and 1098 hours.
- Accelerated Graduation Pace students attend the typical fall and spring semesters in addition to adding the summer semester taking a course load leading from 6 to 8 credits. Students take 6 classes in the fall and spring and add between 1 and 4 classes in the summer. Their school year extends over 216 days and up to 1312 hours.

TESTING STATISTICS

SAT school averages for 2016–17:

Math	436
Reading & Writing.....	484
Average Score	920

AP results for 2016–17:

- The majority of our students who took an AP exam scored a 3 or higher including an AP Scholar with Honor student.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Great Lakes Cyber Academy’s core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and Basic programs. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program, in which they can earn dual high school and college credit by attending post-secondary institutions.

AP course offerings include: Art History, Biology, Calculus, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, Spanish, Statistics, U.S. Government, and U.S. History.

Honors course offerings include: Algebra I and II, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, English 9-12, Geometry, Physical Science, Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

[Please view all of our high school courses](#)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Great Lakes Cyber Academy operates on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit. Students who have taken high school level courses while in middle school may have been granted high school credit. The typical course load is six classes per semester.

22.5 Carnegie units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	# Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Health	0.5
Physical Education	0.5
Arts	1
World Language*	2
Other Electives	4.5
Total	22.5

*Choice of World Language: TWO years of the SAME language

Transcript Abbreviations

- CO** Course completed
- EN** Scheduled in section
- IP** Active in section
- PC** Student has completed course and teacher is finishing grading
- WF** Failing grade at time of withdrawal from course
- WP** Passing grade at time of withdrawal from course.

PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2017

Plan	%
Two-year college	39.2
Four-year college	16.5
Employment	36.6
Vocational Training	6.2
Military	1
Other	0
Total	100

GRADING SCALE

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Honors or Advanced Placement courses. The numerical grading scale is as follows:

Grade	Numerical Percentage	Non-Weighted	Weighted (Honors)	Weighted (AP)
A+	98–100	4.00	4.50	5.00
A	92–97	4.00	4.50	5.00
A-	90–91	3.67	4.17	4.67
B+	88–89	3.33	3.83	4.33
B	82–87	3.00	3.50	4.00
B-	80–81	2.67	3.17	3.67
C+	78–79	2.33	2.83	3.33
C	72–77	2.00	2.50	3.00
C-	70–71	1.67	2.17	2.67
D+	68–69	1.33	1.83	2.33
D	62–67	1.00	1.50	2.00
D-	60–61	0.67	1.17	1.67
F	0–59	0.00	0.00	0.00



Class rank is calculated twice each year, at the conclusion of each semester. Class rank is based upon the student’s cumulative weighted G.P.A. for all high school courses, including transfer courses.

HIGH SCHOOL VIRTUAL VISITATION

College representatives are invited to connect with our students through web conferencing technology. Two weeks’ notice is greatly appreciated so that we have time to notify students. For more information about setting up a web conference session, please contact:

Sarah Simons at ssimons@glca.connectionsacademy.org, Nicole Conner at nconner@glca.connectionsacademy.org, Megan Eickhoff at meickhoff@glca.connectionsacademy.org, or Karen Thomson at kthomson@glca.connectionsacademy.org