

FALCON ACADEMY



Frontier Junior-Senior High School

“Going Beyond The Frontier for Every Student, Every Day”

Frontier School Corporation
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Mission Statement

Frontier School Corporation is dedicated to meeting the needs of our community. The Falcon Academy is a non-traditional educational program designed to meet the academic needs of students with a desire to graduate from high school, but who have individual circumstances that require a flexible education setting. Our staff is driven to prepare our students for post-graduation success. We strive to work collaboratively with students, families and staff to develop educational and social skills required to attain our students goals.



Vision Statement

The Falcon Academy will provide non-traditional students with quality educational opportunities to meet the individual needs of the student. We understand that not everyone learns best inside the walls of a traditional school setting, and that life sometimes prevents people from finishing high school in a traditional setting. We have created the Falcon Academy to meet the needs of people within our community and around the state by using a distance education model.

THE FACTS ABOUT THE FALCON ACADEMY

Why was The Falcon Academy created?

Frontier School Corporation is committed to helping our community members achieve their goals and desires. We believe that all students can learn and deserve the opportunity to learn in an educational environment that meets their needs. Traditional school provides a challenge for some students, thus Frontier School Corporation created this opportunity for students who can thrive in this non-traditional setting.

Who can attend The Falcon Academy?

The Falcon Academy has two purposes.

The first purpose is to help students who are of high school age but are not currently able to be successful in a traditional public school setting. Typically these students will have a medical or life situation that precludes them from being successful in the traditional school setting. However, given the flexibility of The Falcon Academy, they are able to earn a diploma and graduate with their peers.

The second purpose is to help community members who had stopped attending high school at some point, but wish to come back and earn their high school diplomas. These students are typically working full time and unable to attend a traditional school, but could complete coursework independently on their own time.

How Do I Apply?

Application forms are available online and at Frontier Junior-Senior High School. Please complete the form and return to Frontier Junior-Senior High School. Once the application is received, the admission team will review the application and contact the student and/or parent to set up an intake meeting.

What is considered when my application is reviewed?

For all students, we will consider the individual situation of the student. However, for all decisions we will look at a students' lack of success previously in high school, personal and/or family issues, attendance and discipline records and motivation.

What happens once I'm accepted?

At our intake meeting we will determine as a group if the student is a likely candidate to be successful at The Falcon Academy. Once accepted, students will be assigned a mentor teacher who will help create an Individualized Action Plan (IAP) to help the student reach their academic goals. After that, the student will be assigned classes and can begin doing work right away.

What is the importance of receiving a high school diploma?

According to national statistics, a high school dropout is more likely to be unemployed, in poor health, living in poverty and in need of public assistance.

Can a High School Diploma make that much difference in my future? The difference in yearly salary, on average, between a high school diploma earner and a high school dropout is over \$10,000 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2015).

When and where are classes at The Falcon Academy?

Our flexible program provides students with the ability to complete coursework on their own time provided they are meeting satisfactory academic progress. While we have staff available at all times during the normal school day to assist with your academic work, your key to success will be communicating directly with your classroom teacher through Indiana Online.

Students have access to utilize the resources of Frontier School Corporation during normal school hours. Please check in with the front office secretary in order to access The Falcon Academy supervisor). Students are welcomed to attend Frontier from 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Monday - Friday for assistance/quiet work space.

What is the difference between The Falcon Academy and a traditional high school?

The Falcon Academy has a flexible schedule as coursework is completed online, thus it can be completed at the students pace. Our schedule allows a student to work during the day or attend to medical appointments and still complete the coursework necessary to earn a diploma. The number of courses a student enrolls in during a term is mutually decided upon by our advisory team and the student/parent.

What is the cost?

There is no cost for attending The Falcon Academy provided the student enrolls as a student at Frontier School Corporation.

What classes are offered?

The Falcon Academy offers a wide variety of courses that meet all the diploma requirements of the State of Indiana for a General Diploma, Core 40 Diploma and Core 40 Diploma with Academic Honors. Individualized programming can be created to meet the needs of a student seeking Technical Honors diploma or in need of Advanced Placement Courses. We also have the ability to provide services to students with an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP).

How many classes can I take?

The flexibility at the Falcon Academy allows us to tailor the number of courses and timing of courses to

meet the needs of the student. Some students take one class at a time with the expectation of finishing the course in a few weeks. Others take two or three courses at a time and finish them in about six to eight weeks. Still others prefer to take six or seven courses at a time over the course of a traditional semester. The needs of the individual student and their individual goals will drive the number of courses the student is enrolled in at a time.

Is attendance on campus required?

No! The flexibility of our academic program allows us to track the amount of time a student spends each week working on the coursework. A student should work on coursework a minimum of five (5) days a week and a minimum of thirty (30) hours a week. Students who meet this requirement and meet sufficient academic progress will be able to keep working at their own pace. Students who fail to meet academic progress will be expected to attend our daily study sessions (8:30 AM - 11:30 AM) until they meet academic progress.

What if I don't have access to the internet?

If a student is unable to access the internet at home, they will need to make arrangements to gain access to the internet. Some students are able to use free wifi at local libraries and businesses. Students who need access to the internet are also welcome to come to Frontier Junior-Senior High School and use our media center wireless during Falcon Academy hours.

Will I be able to "walk" with my graduating class during Commencement?

If a student completed all required coursework for their chosen diploma track, they may walk in commencement with their graduation cohort classmates. For more information, please contact the guidance director.

Can I participate in band, art, athletics while being part of the Falcon Academy?

Yes, students who are part of the Falcon Academy are allowed to, and actually encouraged to attend art, band, choir, and all Career and Technical Education classes offered by Frontier Junior-Senior High School. To be eligible for athletics, students must meet the same qualifications as a homeschooled student; they must take one on-campus course.

When can I enroll?

Students are able to enroll at any time during the school year. However, students who enroll in The Falcon Academy after October 1st of the school year will have to be approved by the administrative team prior to beginning courses, and are expected to still meet academic progress.

Who are my teachers?

The teachers at the Falcon Academy, and through Indiana Online are all licensed by the Indiana State Department of Education. Program design will be dependent upon the needs of the student.

I have to have a job to support myself and/or my family. Can I still earn my diploma through The Falcon Academy?

Yes, and that is part of the beauty of The Falcon Academy. Students who have a job have the opportunity to earn vocational credit for their time at work. This will be part of the intake interview. Students who work a part-time or full time job for a minimum of 15 hours a week are only expected to spend fifteen (15) hours a week on their coursework and maintain appropriate academic progress.

How do I know if online learning is for me?

From our experiences in the past, we have realized that several factors play into the success rates of our students. However, a few are more important than others. Students who are successful in our online platform will have the following characteristics:

1. Average to above average readers - Students who are successful at online learning are able to read and understand what they read at a level of fifth grade or higher. In practical terms, if a student can read and understand the newspaper, they will be able to understand the material presented on the learning platform. Our program has a screen reader built in for those who need to use that accommodation.
2. Self-Motivated and Self-Disciplined - students who are successful at online learning are able to motivate and discipline themselves to complete work on time or ahead of time. They are able to set aside time each day to do their school work and keep to the schedule. Successful students make a schedule and stick to it each day, and work ahead whenever possible.
3. Future Focused - students who are successful at online learning are focused on where they want to be in the future. Getting a diploma is not the goal for these students; *rather* their goal is to get a diploma so they can take the next step in their life (be that a job, a promotion, the military or college).

What is the online platform?

The Falcon Academy utilizes Indiana Online as the learning platform for our students. We have found Indiana Online to be user-friendly and allows us to be flexible in order to meet the needs of our students. Students who need credit recovery will use a second online platform called Edmentum, which is also an online learning platform.

Can a student with an IEP attend The Falcon Academy?

Students with an IEP can attend the Academy. However, this will require an IEP meeting to determine appropriate placement. In addition, there are no direct services available though the student will have access to appropriate staff for assistance on a consultative basis.

What are the technological requirements of The Falcon Academy?

Students are required to have a working computer with internet access. Students without access to a

computer are able to use laptops provided by Frontier School Corporation on a first-come, first-served basis.

Can I take summer classes to recover credits and transfer them to my home high school?

Absolutely. In the summer we use Indiana Online to provide our online courses. Please log onto their website to access their courses.

If you are interested in transferring to Frontier School Corporation and earning our diploma, please contact our administration and we can discuss the transfer process.



THE FALCON ACADEMY

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Student Name: _____ Current Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone/Parent Cell Phone: _____

Last School Attended: _____

Last Day Attended: _____

Place of Employment (if applicable): _____

Best day of the week and time for intake meeting: _____

In the space below, please explain your reasons for exploring The Academy versus a traditional high school program?

In-Person Class Preferences: Would you like to attend any of these course offerings in person in addition to the online courses? Please check the courses you would like to take in person at Frontier.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Graphic Design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band/Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Family and Consumer Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Medical Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CTE (Welding, Construction Trades, Automotive Mechanics) | |

Athletics: Are you interested in participating in Athletics and/or Cheerleading at Frontier?

☐ Yes ☐ No



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INDIVIDUALIZED ACTION PLAN

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (Please complete Frontier Registration Forms as well):

Student Name: _____ Age: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____

On Campus: _____ No _____ Yes _____

Part-Time _____ Full-Time _____

Graduation Pathway: _____

Diploma Seal Goal: _____

Parent/Guardian Name/Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Cell Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Student Cellular Phone: _____

Student Email: _____

Student Employer and Address: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION (Office Staff Use Only):

Credits Currently Earned: _____ Diploma Track: _____

State Testing: _____ SAT _____ ILEARN

Mathematics Score: _____ Cut _____ Language Arts Score: _____ Cut _____

IEP: _____ No _____ Yes TOR: _____ 504 Plan: _____ Yes _____ No

Case Conference Held: _____ Annual Due Date: _____

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION (Office Staff Use Only):

Current Student: _____ Yes _____ No Cohort Year: _____

Returning Student: _____ Yes _____ No Cohort Year: _____

PLACEMENT CRITERIA:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Student has withdrawn from school prior to graduation with students high school graduation cohort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Student would benefit from non-traditional instruction due to failing to comply with academic expectations (poor homework completion) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Student is a parent/expecting parent and cannot attend traditional school for a variety of reasons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Student is employed during the traditional school day and employment is necessary for support of student and family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Student has multiple documented disruptive incidents in a traditional setting despite repeated attempts to modify behavior. |

BARRIERS TO EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS OF STUDENT (Check all applicable):

- ☐ Juvenile Justice Offender/Probation
 - ☐ Juvenile Justice Offender/DOC Placement
 - ☐ Homelessness or Runaway
 - ☐ Poor Attendance/Truancy
 - ☐ Mental or Emotional Health/Trauma
 - ☐ Physical Health/Trauma
 - ☐ Substance Abuse
 - ☐ Family/Personal Relationship
 - ☐ Financial Need (Requiring Student to Work Full-Time)
-

CAREER INTEREST AND EXPLORATION:

Career areas of interest:

Post-Secondary Plans:



THE FALCON ACADEMY

ACADEMIC PLANNING

Target Graduation Date: _____

Remaining Semesters: _____

Credit Per Semester Goal: _____

Number Simultaneous Courses: _____

Course	Start Date	Completion Target Date	Completion Actual Date	Final Grade	Final Percent

Courses Completed: Semester 1: _____

Semester 2: _____

Summer: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Mentor/Teacher Signature: _____

Date: _____

Administrator Signature: _____

Date: _____



THE FALCON ACADEMY

ONLINE LEARNING AGREEMENT

The purpose of this agreement is to acknowledge acceptance of the identified roles and responsibilities for students and parents that request to enroll in The Falcon Academy at Frontier School Corporation.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student:

- ☐ I have completed the Individual Action Plan and have identified courses I will take each semester.
- ☐ I agree to maintain a study schedule and spend five (5) out of every seven (7) days for a minimum of 30 hours per week on my course(s) OR maintain satisfactory academic progress by being on schedule with all learning tasks..
- ☐ I agree that two consecutive weeks of failure to meet the above expectation may result in removal from The Falcon Academy.
- ☐ I agree that if I go ten (10) consecutive days without completing coursework I will have to come to The Falcon Academy for a meeting with administration.
- ☐ I agree to initiate communication with my teacher/mentor at least once per week.
- ☐ I agree to provide The Falcon Academy with updated contact information at all times.
- ☐ I agree to complete a minimum of six (6) online courses per semester.
- ☐ I agree to complete the semester exam for each course at The Falcon Academy unless other arrangements have been made.
- ☐ I agree to take my Standardized Tests (ISTEP+, ILEARN, PSAT, WIDA, AIRWays, ASVAB) at The Falcon Academy as required. Failure to do so may result in removal from The Falcon Academy.
- ☐ I understand that I may be removed from The Falcon Academy if I fail to meet sufficient academic progress as determined by the administration of The Falcon Academy.

Parent/Guardian:

- ☐ My child has access to a computer with Internet connection at home or I can arrange for my child to have regular access to a computer with Internet connection at the local library, community center or another location.
- ☐ I do not have access to a computer for my child to access online learning and request a place in the school to access the online learning as part of my child's schooling. If my child is working in the school building, I understand they are expected to follow all school rules.
- ☐ I agree that if my child is required to take a Standardized Test (ISTEP+, ILEARN, PSAT, WIDA, AIRWays, ASVAB) that I will make sure they have transportation to and from The Falcon Academy to take the assessments. I further understand that missing these required assessments may result in my child being removed from The Academy.
- ☐ I will ensure that The Falcon Academy has updated contact information at ALL times.
- ☐ I understand that my child may be removed from The Falcon Academy and Frontier School Corporation if my child fails to meet sufficient academic progress as determined by the administration of The Falcon Academy.

We acknowledge that we have reviewed this agreement together and understand our responsibilities.

Student: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Teacher/Mentor: _____ Date: _____

Administration: _____ Date: _____