



BLUE WATER
MIDDLE COLLEGE
ACADEMY

The Middle College and

YOU



A school experience
designed around you

Mckenzie Klein

'It really is a great opportunity for students'

After Mckenzie Klein completed the Blue Water Middle College, she entered Central Michigan University. She graduated from CMU in December, 2017 with a bachelor's degree concentration in Business Administration with emphasis in accounting, and law and economics.

In Mckenzie's words:

"I am very thankful for the opportunities the Middle College gave me. Not only was I able to figure out my career path at SC4, I was able to graduate from college and start my career 3.5 years after graduating high school. I am a full-time staff accountant at Baker Tilly, an accounting and advisory firm out of Southfield. I am currently sitting for the CPA exam and hope to pass within the next year. I am so happy that the Middle College is doing well. It really is a great opportunity for students."





How the Middle College works for you

As a Blue Water Middle College student, you can get a two-year college degree in only one extra year of schooling, and at no cost. Here's how it works:

- You enroll at the start of 11th grade
- In 11th grade, you take 4 high school courses at your local high school and 2 college courses each semester at St. Clair County Community College. In 12th grade, you take 3 each semester. In year 13, you can take a full load of college classes
- The Middle College pays for all college tuition, books and fees
- At the end of year 13, you can graduate with a high school diploma and an associate degree
- Your college degree and transcripts are issued by St. Clair County Community College
- Your high school diploma and transcripts are issued by the Middle College
- You can participate in traditional graduation activities at your high school at the end of your 12th year

Get the help you need to succeed

The Middle College staff works to ensure you have the skills you need to succeed in college. Support provided to students includes:

- Personal mentoring and counseling
- Help with scheduling, SAT test prep, and career/college research
- “College Success” sessions
- SC4 services: Advising, tutoring, library assistance
- Help with the next steps, including applying to universities, financial aid and résumé building

Play sports, music at high school

As a Blue Water Middle College student, you are still eligible to play sports and participate in band and other extracurricular activities at your high school.

All students welcome

Students who have been home schooled by their parents can attend the Blue Water Middle College. St. Clair County TEC students also have opportunities with us. Talk to a Middle College advisor for details.

BLUE WATER MIDDLE COLLEGE by the numbers



1,541

The number of students who have attended the Middle College since it began 8 years ago



2011

The year the Middle College was chartered by St. Clair County RESA, with offices on the SC4 campus in Port Huron



\$0

The amount families have to pay for college credit, tuition, books and materials while attending the Middle College



7

The average number of one-on-one meetings individual students have with Middle College advisors to plan schedules, choose classes and receive support every year



62

The number of college credits Blue Water Middle College students can earn by year 13



235

The number of classes available to Middle College students through SC4

We answer your questions



What can I expect from the Blue Water Middle College?

Students who complete the three-year program can earn a two-year college degree, up to two years worth of credits that will transfer to a four-year university, and their high school diploma, all at no cost to them or their family.

What classes can I take at SC4?

You can pick and choose any classes you want. That's different than dual enrollment which limits the types of classes you can take. If you don't know what you want to do, you can explore different classes for free. For example, students can take courses in criminal justice, business, or astronomy—courses that aren't offered at typical high schools.

Where do I take my classes?

You take your high school classes at your home high school and your college classes at SC4. Your high school counselor and middle college advisor work together to help plan your schedule.

How will I get to and from my classes at SC4?

Students have to provide their own transportation. Free parking is available on campus.

Which academic calendar do Middle College students follow?

Students follow both the SC4 calendar and their high school calendar. There are some differences in semester start times, breaks, and other dates.

Do I have to give up band, sports and other high school activities?

Absolutely not! The great thing about college is that your schedule can be flexible. The middle college enrolls many students who play in their marching band, participate in sports, and do all the other high school activities they choose.

What if I get a college scholarship, or something else changes for me?

The Middle College is flexible in meeting the needs of our students. We realize that plans can change for all sorts of reasons. No worries. Our advisors will help you work things out.

What if I find myself struggling?

You might be surprised to find out that many middle college students actually get better grades here than they did in high school. They seem to enjoy rising to the challenge of college. Middle college students also can get free tutoring and can talk to a middle college advisor at any time. They can even get special tutoring help at SC4 with a high school class. Our advisors work hard to get to know each Middle College student personally. They are your advocate on campus.

How do I know if the middle college is right for me?

We know that each student is different, with different needs and expectations. With eight years of experience and more than 1,500 students, we can answer any questions you might have and help you get the facts you need to make the decision that's right for you.

Have more questions?

Contact the Blue Water Middle College Office at (810) 989-5841 to schedule a one-on-one meeting with a Middle College advisor at the convenience of you and your family.



Maleigha Coronado
**‘Don’t be afraid
of college being
too difficult’**

Maleigha Coronado has her eyes set on a nursing degree, and she’s using the Middle College to help her get it. The Middle College experience has made her realize she can handle college. It also helped her set long-term goals. At the same time, Maleigha continues to be in her high school marching band and drama club, and keeps a part-time job.

In Maleigha’s words:

“**Don’t be afraid** of college being too difficult. You just need to talk to the Middle College and SC4 advisors, ask for help when you need it, and keep working. You will be fine.”

How your credits transfer to a four-year university



THE BLUE WATER MIDDLE COLLEGE allows you to earn free college credits through St. Clair County Community College. These credits will transfer to four-year universities, which will save you and your family quite a bit of money. Students who complete the Middle College with a two-year degree can finish their bachelor's degree a year earlier than their high school classmates. Let's look at Central Michigan University* for example:



CMU is \$417 per credit hour: If you transfer 62 credits through the middle college, you save:

\$26,854



Room and board is \$10,076 a year: You save two years of living expenses at college, which equals:

\$20,152



Books and supplies average \$1,440 a year, so over two years you would save:

\$2,880



Your **TOTAL SAVINGS** is about:

\$49,886

You can go anywhere

Students who complete the Middle College enter a four-year college with freshman standing, and are eligible for the same scholarships as a traditional high school graduate.

Graduates of the Middle College have gone on to such universities as:

- Michigan State University
- University of Michigan
- Grand Valley State University
- Saginaw Valley State University
- Western Michigan University
- Central Michigan University
- Lawrence Technological University
- Northern Michigan University
- Oakland University
- Eastern Michigan University


You can do anything

A number of career-focused programs at St. Clair County Community College are also available to Middle College students. These programs include business, computer information systems, criminal justice, mechatronics/robotics and nursing, among others. They offer Middle College students the opportunity to go directly into the workforce. Talk to your Middle College advisor about your career options.

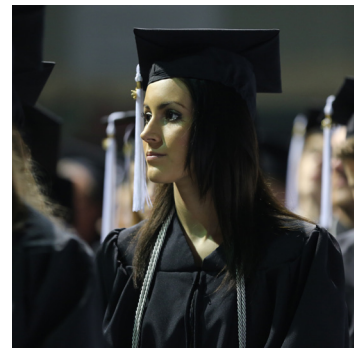
Middle College students also find an advantage if their career plans take them to the military or into other advanced training programs. The college credits offered through the Middle College can allow those joining the military to start at a higher pay grade. The military may also pay for additional college education.

Generally, students will have no issues transferring their SC4 credits to any four-year university. We strongly encourage students to meet with us early and often to discuss their future plans and what classes to take. This will help to make sure you are able to transfer as many credits as possible.

*Savings reflected are calculated with rates for the 2018-19 school year

 **BLUE WATER**
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48060



Don't wait to find out more. Call us today at (810) 989-5841.

Schedule your personal one-on-one visit with a Middle College advisor.
We will answer all your questions and show you how easy it is
to be a part of the Middle College while you're still in high school.

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Find out more at: BlueWaterMiddleCollege.org

 **BLUE WATER**
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 **ST. CLAIR COUNTY**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

 **St. Clair County**
RESA

The Blue Water Middle College Academy is chartered by St. Clair County RESA. Its partners are St. Clair County Community College, the Virtual Learning Academy of St. Clair County, and the school districts of Algonac, Capac, Memphis, Port Huron and Yale.