# MIDDLE COLLEGE

### at FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY

An on-campus, dual-degree academic program for high school youth in foster care



## **MIDDLE COLLEGE** AT FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY

PROVIDES YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE\* WITH SAFETY, STABILITY, AND WELL-BEING SO THAT THEY CAN REACH THEIR ACADEMIC POTENTIAL.

Middle College at Fairmont State University is a specialized, on-campus, academic program created for West Virginia youth in foster care. If you or someone you know is 16 years old or older and prepared to embark on a life-changing academic journey, we invite you to explore Middle College at Fairmont State. Middle colleges are common in American education and are pathways for high school students to simultaneously earn a high school diploma and an associate degree (or college credit toward a bachelor's degree). Middle College at Fairmont State is unique in that it solely serves youth in foster care.

- The program is open to youth ages 16 and older across the state who are currently in foster care.
- Participants live on Fairmont State's cozy, safe campus seven days per week year-round.
- Tuition, fees and campus living are 100% supported by federal and state sources for attending students.
- Students earn both a high school diploma and a two-year associate degree (or 2 years of college credit toward a bachelor's degree)— students who graduate from Middle College will be better prepared to enter the job market or continue their college education.
- The curriculum follows West Virginia's requirements, which require a minimum of 22 credits for high school graduation.
- Community based support services and 24/7 on campus support are provided at no cost for attending students.

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To participate in Middle College at Fairmont State University, a student must:

- be 16 years old or older;
- currently be in West Virginia foster care;
- be referred by Child Protective or Youth Services or another supportive adult (e.g., a Department of Health and Human Resources case worker, a parent or relative caregiver, a teacher, a school guidance counselor, and/or a child placing agency worker);
- meet academic requirements; and
- demonstrate interest in and ability to successfully complete Middle College.

#### **BENEFITS OF MIDDLE COLLEGE**

Students are treated as a whole person with one goal in mind—their long-term success and well-being.

- Safety & Security
- Academic Support & Advising
- Stability
- Supportive Physical & Emotional Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Mentorship & Empowerment
- Development of Life Skills
- Extracurricular Activities
- Community & Belonging
- Personalized Living Spaces
- Healthy Connections
- Weekend & Holiday Activities



#### MIDDLE COLLEGE IS A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY AND KVC WEST VIRGINIA.

Fairmont State is a comprehensive, regional university that has been transforming lives and communities for over 150 years. Fairmont State offers over 40 degree programs and over 100 fields of study in the arts, humanities and sciences, aviation, engineering and technology, teacher education, nursing, and business administration.

KVC West Virginia is a private nonprofit organization and a leading foster care agency and mental health treatment provider. With over 20 years of experience, KVC has dedicated itself to enriching and enhancing the lives of children and families. We achieve this through a range of trauma-informed services, including foster care, adoption, outpatient mental health treatment, in-home family preservation, and educational support services. KVC is accredited by The Joint Commission, widely recognized as the gold standard in healthcare.

\* "Foster youth" and "youth in foster care" refer to youths, 16 years of age or older, whose legal guardian is the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

#### LEARN MORE, ASK QUESTIONS, EXPLORE FAQS, OR MAKE A REFERRAL TO MIDDLE COLLEGE

If you want to learn more about Middle College, explore Frequently Asked Questions, or if you know a student who is ready to take on the challenges of Middle College AND who also has the potential to benefit from this unique program, please contact us or visit:



#### MIDDLE COLLEGE AT FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY

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