

DMACC Artificial Intelligence (AI) Academy

A College Credit Career Academy Pathway for High School Students



What Is the AI Academy?

The DMACC AI Academy is a 12 credit, college level Career Academy certificate designed for high school students. The program builds foundational AI literacy, ethical reasoning, and computational thinking skills in a structured, instructor-led environment aligned with post-secondary pathways.

Why an AI Academy Now?

As Iowa moves toward formal expectations for K–12 artificial intelligence literacy, districts are seeking guidance on responsible, ethical, and supervised implementation. DMACC serves as a postsecondary partner to help districts provide rigorous, equitable AI learning opportunities without needing to build new programs independently.

Program at a Glance

12 College Credits	Career Academy Model Designed
Instructor Led & Supervised	Responsible AI Focus
Hybrid - Synchronous Online	Postsecondary Pathway Alignment

Program Structure (12 Credits)

Semester 1

CIS 125 – Intro to Programming Logic (3 credits) - Students learn problem solving and computational thinking skills that support AI and STEM learning.

AAI 101 – Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (3 credits) - Students explore how AI works, real world applications, and societal impacts using guided, no code activities.

Semester 2

AAI 102 – Ethics in Artificial Intelligence (3 credits) - Students examine fairness, bias, privacy, transparency, and responsible AI decision making.

AAI 201 – Machine Learning (3 credits) - Students explore how machines learn from data, evaluate models, and understand modern AI systems.

What This Program Is and Is Not

This program IS: instructor-guided, supervised, academically grounded, and focused on AI literacy and ethics.

This program is NOT: self-paced, unsupervised, advanced AI engineering, or automated AI tool usage.

Instructional Delivery

Hybrid Career Academy Model: DMACC provides instruction while districts offer scheduled support time.

Fully Online, DMACC Led: DMACC instructor teaches all coursework with a structured weekly schedule.

Student Safeguards & Responsible AI Use

All instruction is supervised. Only approved AI tools are used. The program follows FERPA and district policies. No personal student data is entered into AI systems, and ethical AI use is emphasized throughout coursework.

Fall 2026 Pilot Offering – Contact DMACC to learn more about participation and scheduling.