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Winter semester: What you need to know

Life may feel uncertain right now. We are here to help. Keep moving ahead to reach your goal this new year! Choosing Jackson College may be your best option for winter 2021 for affordable tuition, flexibility and safety.

Choose from scheduled, live online learning that creates a virtual classroom feel, or completely online options that can be completed at your convenience. The College offers a variety of course lengths and starting dates to fit your preferences.

SAFETY – JC classes will stay with a majority of online learning classes for the winter semester. With the continuing pandemic raising safety concerns throughout the cold-weather months, continue your education from the safety of home or office.



Choose from 15-, 7- and 5-week classes. Semester schedule:

15-WEEK CLASSES: 1/11/21 – 5/1/21

7-WEEK: 1/11/21 – 2/28/21 • 3/15/21 – 5/1/21

5-WEEK: 1/11/21 – 2/14/21 • 2/15/21 – 3/29/21
3/30/21 – 5/1/21

All College services and support are available online. Visit jccmi.edu to explore the course schedule and apply. Current students should meet with a student success navigator to review their course plan. New students must contact admissions before registering for classes.

Keeping students safe ... learning during the pandemic

Going to college looks much different today than it did at the start of 2020. While the COVID-19 pandemic touches all aspects of college life, it has also sparked innovation and creativity.

“I am proud of this College and our employees for turning on a dime and serving our students. Our employees are constantly coming up with better, greater ideas,” said Cindy Allen, senior vice president and chief operating officer. “We will come out of this stronger and more focused on what students need to be successful, and continue working in that direction.”

Guiding the College has been a Reintegration Task Force (RTF), assembled by President Daniel J. Phelan to plan how to safely educate students and welcome people on campus again.

“At first we thought, we can put this plan together and be done. It’s never going to be done. Everything keeps changing. We are constantly tweaking the plans and approving new plans,” Allen said. “I would say if anything, we are overly conservative, if there is such a thing when it comes to people’s health. There’s a delicate balance between keeping everybody safe and still giving students as much of a college experience as you can.”

Surveys to gauge responses to safety protocols have been positive. “Everyone has gone out of their way to make sure people are following the rules. We will continue evaluating safety protocols as we move forward,” Allen said.

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INTERSESSION

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in 3 weeks.**

Dec. 21, 2020 — Jan. 8, 2021

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Reasons for hope

December has finally arrived! I am sure, like so many, you would just like to put 2020 in the rearview mirror, given the many difficulties and crises that have occurred.

Initially, 2020 may not appear to offer any reasons for celebration, but I ask that you consider this – as a nation, we quickly came together to address SARS-CoV-2, with thousands of first responders, and so many others, who answered the call reaching out to serve and help their friends, neighbors, and people they have never met. Donations of masks, money, food, shelter and equipment became commonplace. And while the disease remains in our midst, promising vaccines are on the horizon and will be available soon. We've also been given an opportunity to begin new, essential, and intentional conversations about coming together across all ethnic and racial backgrounds, valuing all persons.

At Jackson College, we are doing our part in our community as we continue to educate students in this most unusual year and beyond, particularly in areas of greatest need including respiratory therapy, radiography, medical sonography, nursing, and many others. We are engaging in work around diversity, equity and belonging, weaving it into our very fabric. Relatedly, our folks in our student services department, our faculty and our support services staff are working at great lengths to reach out to help all students succeed. Our Reintegration Task Force (RTF) continues to thoughtfully develop health and safety protocols as we work long-term in a virus-informed fashion. As for the upcoming winter semester, we will remain predominately online with only limited ground-based labs and housing for our students most at risk.

While we celebrate our accomplishments, we also celebrate the spirit of our people. Our students and employees have learned new ways of doing things, adjusted to sudden changes and are forging ahead. Our alumni and friends have offered support through their generosity, which is greatly needed

by our college students. And while we continue to grapple with challenging circumstances, let's not overlook this season for gratitude, joy, reflection and appreciation. From all of us at Jackson College, we wish you happy holidays and a joyous new year!

Dan Phelan,
President & CEO

Transfer, guest student options can help students in changing times

You planned to go to a university to complete a bachelor's degree. Current COVID restrictions have changed the way these schools deliver coursework. Classwork is being done online and transfer options at Jackson College might be your answer.

Someone who has started at a university can take classes at Jackson College, saving money and earning credits that will transfer.



“Jackson College offers a variety of affordable and highly transferable courses,” said Stephanie Waffle-Stephenson,

university transfer liaison. On average, students can save \$4,900-\$7,350 annually on tuition at Jackson.

Student Services personnel work with students from all backgrounds to help them successfully start, transfer to or from the College. “We understand that life throws curveballs, so whether a student decides to start at JC or go to a four-year and transfer

to JC, or even start at one community college and then come to JC, they have options.”

For example, students can start at a four-year university or another community college and then transfer credit to Jackson to continue working toward a credential. This has become increasingly common for students who want to be closer to home in these unprecedented times, while also saving money, she said. Transfer students may benefit from statewide MiTransfer Pathways, which help make the path to transfer easier. Articulation agreements with various universities also ensure that students who take a prescribed set of courses will transfer with full credit for the bachelor's degree listed.

PLAN FOR TRANSFER SUCCESS

Planning can ensure a smooth transfer. JC offers a website that lists current courses and their equivalent at universities around Michigan. Visit jccmi.edu/transfer-courses.

University students should enroll as guest students. Explore course options and complete the Michigan Undergraduate Guest Application on the website, jccmi.edu/admissions/guest

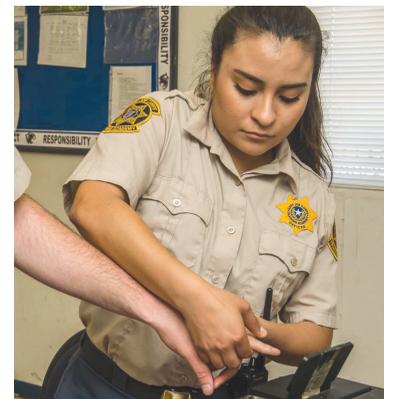
Give yourself credit: Make experience count

Have you been in the workforce with credentials or experience to show?

Those who hold an official workforce credential or who have vast work experience may earn credit at Jackson College. This can save money and shorten the time it takes to complete a degree or certificate. Credit may be awarded for work completed at non-degree awarding agencies and institutions, certifications/licensures, military training or apprenticeship training. Manufacturing, trades, health care, computer technology, and corrections are common fields where students may earn credit.

Students may request credit for prior learning or credit by examination to demonstrate skills and college-level knowledge in many courses. Students should meet with the respective academic department to discuss their situation and request credit. When students apply to the College and go through orientation, they should discuss the opportunity with their student success navigator. A navigator will help the student complete the necessary form; there is no charge.

“It's really a no-risk option to pursue. If you have some type of credential, chances are we're going to be able to award you some credit. If not, the worst thing that can happen is being told no,” said Registrar Zak McNitt. “It's a way to jumpstart into college; you don't have to waste time on things you have already completed or know.”



► For details, visit the website at www.jccmi.edu/transfer-to-jc

Faculty do their homework to boost online learning

Jackson College faculty continue to improve teaching in today's digital world.

Getting clever and creative with online teaching improves the learning experience. The College's virtual learning platform, JetNet, provides space for virtual face-to-face review sessions, meetings and group work. Students stay connected, sending notes or funny memes to the class for the references they find. Professors record lectures to share, and if a student can't make the lecture, they can watch it later. Software packages allow for online simulations when students can't be hands-on. Textbook companies have offered more virtual resources for students. Apps such as Remind help students and faculty stay connected.

"Teachers are designers. We are known for our ability to turn refurbished household items into teaching and learning tools," said Heather Ruttkofsky, interim dean of nursing and allied health and program director for vascular technology. "I believe designing learning experiences for understanding is the key to an equitable, engaging experience for teachers and learners in a virtual classroom."



HEATHER RUTTKOFSKY

Learning has been ongoing for faculty since the shift to online learning in March. Professional development opportunities continue to help faculty hone their teaching skills. "In some real ways, I think the shift to virtual has improved the way I teach my courses," said



Professor Steven Tuckey, George and Barbara Raven Endowed Chair for Mathematics. Improving accessibility and ease in navigating course content, assessing student learning, and exploring how students engage with the instructor and each other are closely examined. For Tuckey, many improvements started before COVID-19, but the shift to virtual learning accelerated changes. "I'm mostly finding these changes to be real improvements."



STEVEN TUCKEY

Most Jackson College classes will continue to be online for the near future. Though they are apart, faculty have remained connected with students and each other, building community and helping students succeed.

"Never have we relied on one another more than we do now. Every individual at Jackson College has come together to support our Total Commitment to Student Success. I'm humbled by how hard Jackson College works for one another and our students," Ruttkofsky said.

Student, volunteer, up-and-coming leader – finding it all at Jackson College!

Hundreds of hours of service-learning projects, involvement in community activities – Abigail Frew took her freshman year at Jackson College by storm!

For her outstanding record of academics and service, Frew earned the 2019-20 George Potter Outstanding Student Award.

"I love Jackson College. I love getting the opportunity to give back to a school that has already done so much for me in my first year as a full-time college student," she said. "I got involved with a bunch of different programs that helped me to meet people and build my own little community and support group at the school."

While she prepares for a nursing career, Frew serves as a tutor, Writing Fellow and a supplemental instruction leader, has volunteered with the Jackson College Heritage Center and Jackson County Airport Project, Concatenation Convention, Cascades Museum, Michigan Theater Tree Pageant, League of Women Voters and the Jackson Women's History Council. She's been named to the dean's list each semester.

Nursing student, community volunteer, dedicated Jacksonian, Frew is just getting started. "I plan to continue being a part of the Jackson community as I become a nurse and serve my community in the health care field. I feel prepared to continue being a leader in the Jackson community from my experience so far at Jackson College."



FINANCIAL AID TIPS

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid is money to help with college expenses. It can come from the U.S. Department of Education, the state, or scholarships from civic groups and clubs, businesses, schools, non-profit organizations, individuals and more.



WHAT KIND OF AID IS THERE?

- Grants
- Scholarships
- Work-Study
- Loans



HOW IS AID FIGURED?

Amounts are based on a person's need, determined by federal guidelines.

HOW DO I APPLY? Your first step is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

YOU WILL NEED your Social Security Number, your driver's license (if any), W-2 forms from two year prior, you and/or your parents' federal income tax return from two years prior, current bank statements and any investment information. Be sure to list Jackson College on your application. Finally, completing the FAFSA is **FREE**. Free help is available online through the studentaid.ed.gov website, or from the College.



OTHER SOURCES? Yes, explore scholarships available from the Jackson College Foundation, community foundations, clubs and organizations, employers and more. Jackson College has more information on scholarships at www.jccmi.edu/financial-aid/scholarships

Persistence pays off for nursing student

Sara Conrad doesn't let a setback keep her from her goal. She completed the licensed practical nurse (LPN) program and will complete the transition program in December to become a registered nurse (RN).

After starting at Adrian College, she changed her major and transferred to Jackson College. Her grandmother inspired her to become a nurse; she had worked 20 years as an LPN while raising a family of four as a single parent. When Conrad first applied for the RN program, she was turned down because she had struggled her first few years of college and needed to improve her grades. She changed course and became an LPN, and then made the transition to become an RN.

"I was devastated when I didn't get into the RN program. Now, I'm so glad I didn't. Going the route of the LPN program helped to develop me into a better student," Conrad said. "You can always make it up with hard work if you really want it."

She works as an LPN at the Adrian Dominican Sisters home. Working and going to school can be a challenge. She has benefitted from the Medlar Medical Endowed Scholarship and the Stasia Taylor Memorial Scholarship from the JC Foundation. "The scholarships have helped me cut back my hours so I can focus more on school." With her goal in sight, Conrad is excited about the opportunities ahead of her.



We Are Jackson College • Dec. 2020



Together we inspire and transform lives.

2111 Emmons Road • Jackson, MI 49201
517.787.0800 • www.jccmi.edu.

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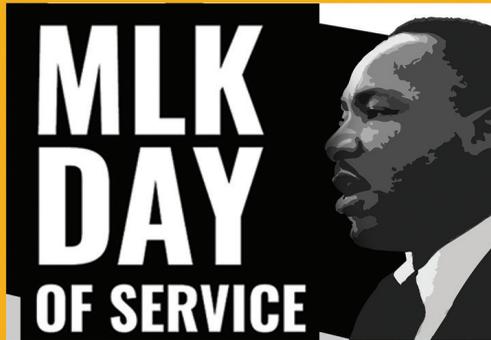


Jackson College became a board member in the League for Innovation in the Community College in October 2019.



Jackson College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hicommission.org), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500,
Chicago, IL 60604
(800) 621-7440 • hicommission.org



To encourage reflection on the message of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Jackson College will offer students and employees a holiday for King's Birthday, Jan. 18, 2021.

Students, employees and the community are invited to participate in special virtual programming to commemorate Dr. King's birthday. No classes will be planned that day. Please check the College website for the schedule.

Affordable, flexible career training & workshops

Corporate and Continuing Education (CCE) provides high-quality training programs. Our Workforce Training team works with employers to develop trainings to meet workforce demands. In addition, CCE offers continuing education to individuals seeking employment, skills enhancement, or personal enrichment.

CCE offers a limited number of reserved seats, at a reduced price, in credit-bearing classes. This allows individuals not pursuing credit to explore degrees, advance their skill-set, or for employers looking to train employees.

A variety of online live workshops are offered to meet the needs of the remote workforce, ranging from crisis management to sales and customer relationships.

HOW TO REGISTER

Register online at www.jccmi.edu/cce or call 517.796.8610. CCE accepts MasterCard, Visa, Discover and personal checks. Full payment must accompany all course registrations.

DEC. 2020

- Power Hour: Budgets and Financial Reports for Non-Managers, FREE – Dec. 18

JAN. 2021

- Implicit Bias: Reducing Racial Disparities through Understanding, \$49 – Jan. 6
- Substance Use Disorders: The Opiate Crisis and Beyond Workshop, \$49 – Jan. 6
- CCE-352: Intro To Body Systems, \$457.04 – Jan. 11
- Power of Negotiations: A Win-Win Outcome, \$109 – Jan. 12
- Emotional Intelligence Through Mindfulness, \$89 – Jan. 14
- Crisis Management in the Workplace, \$49 – Jan. 22
- Strategies for Managing and Minimizing Interruptions When Working Remotely, \$49 – Jan. 26

FEB. 2021

- Supplier Interaction and Resolution, \$109 – Feb. 2
- Power Hour: Understanding Myself and My Biases, FREE – Feb. 3
- Motivational Interviewing in the Workplace: An Overview for Leadership Team, \$49 – Feb. 5
- Conflict Resolution, \$69 – Feb. 17
- Returning to Work During a Crisis: Lessons Learned and How to Apply Them, \$49 – Feb. 18



Future for Frontliners deadline nears

Application period runs through Dec. 31, with enrollment available beginning in January of 2021. Apply and learn more about Futures for Frontliners, visit www.jccmi.edu/futures-for-frontliners/