Dear Prospective Family:

Thank you for considering Commonwealth Charter Academy (CCA) to be a partner in your child’s education. I’m hopeful the information contained in this guide will provide you with an in-depth overview of the high-quality educational programs and services as well as the social and extracurricular activities available at CCA.

Founded in 2003, CCA is an independent, comprehensive K through 12 public cyber charter school available at no cost to all Pennsylvania students and families.

The 2022-23 school year marks CCA’s 20th anniversary in serving students and families across the state. Although we continue to fine-tune our programs and services, the past 20 years have given us the opportunity to enhance and nearly perfect online education for the benefit of all students.

As a statewide public cyber charter school, CCA serves families from diverse backgrounds, beliefs, religions, political persuasions, and socioeconomic levels. At CCA, transparency and full disclosure are critical to fostering trust among students and families.

Our philosophy is that families are in full control of their child’s education by having full access to all lessons, assessments, assignments, textbooks, and reading materials. If at any time a family feels that any part of their child’s educational program is in violation of their beliefs, they have the ability to work with their child’s teachers to make adjustments and substitutions that best meet their child’s needs. CCA believes this is How School Should Work.

Through student-led and teacher-led instruction combined with CCA’s custom-designed, proprietary learning management system and in-house created courses, a student’s family has complete control of what, when, and how their child learns.

Our Family Services Department and our CCAWorks initiative are not only unique within the K through 12 public education sector, but both set us apart from other public schools and allow us to be a family service organization with a deep expertise in education by preparing today’s generation for the jobs of tomorrow.

To supplement the academic program and to provide socialization opportunities, each school year, we arrange nearly 700 field trips and events for students to socialize and interact with their peers as well as extend the learning program to in-person, hands-on activities and adventures.

On behalf of CCA’s Board of Trustees, administrators, teachers, and staff, I look forward to the opportunity to welcome you and your family to the CCA family.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Longenecker
President and CEO
For 20 years, Commonwealth Charter Academy (CCA) has been the leader in cyber education for Pennsylvania. Our success in serving K-12 students across the commonwealth stems from a commitment we make to families in our mission statement.

CCA offers learners and families a rich variety of opportunities and resources to explore their interests, discover new skills, and be prepared for future success. It’s easy to see why tens of thousands of families trust CCA as a partner in their child’s education.

**OUR MISSION**

To deliver a personalized learning experience that engages the entire family and prepares learners to succeed in school and in life.

**OUR VALUES**

**Serving Families**
CCA is a family service organization with deep expertise in education.

**Personalized Learning Approach**
With a personalized family service approach, CCA learners thrive and are better prepared for success after graduation.

**Flexibility**
Learners can structure a curriculum that sparks a passion for knowledge and growth.

**Quality**
CCA’s curriculum is always evolving and growing. The latest developments and best practices in education are monitored and incorporated into lessons.

**Achievement**
Through CCA’s family service model, learners should enjoy success in school, land great jobs in their field of choice and give back to the communities in which they live, work, and play.

**OUR VISION**

Transforming today’s learners into tomorrow’s leaders, one learner at a time.
CCA is accredited by the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools. This accreditation recognizes that CCA is providing quality education that can be reciprocated with other schools. The accreditation validates the value of a CCA education in comparison to other educational institutions.

In 2021, CCA was named as one of three schools and postsecondary institutions, and the only public cyber charter school in Pennsylvania, as a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School. CCA is one of just 40 institutions of learning across the country honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and ensure effective sustainability education.

The Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence is open to any Pennsylvania business, farm, government agency, educational institution, non-profit organization and individual that has created, or participated in, the development of a project that promotes environmental stewardship in Pennsylvania. In 2021, CCA was an award recipient for AgWorks at CCA®, our lab for teaching urban sustainability techniques to K-12 students. This 6,100-square-foot aquaponics/hydroponics facility includes about 400 fish and 3,000 plants in a controlled growing environment 100 percent powered by the school’s array of 1,080 solar panels. All produce is grown organically by students and donated to local food banks.

CCA is proud to be among just 31 Pennsylvania high schools that have been designated a Pennsylvania National Guard Association (PNGAS) Guard Friendly High School.

Most CCA core and elective high school courses are approved by the NCAA Eligibility Center. Student athletes wishing to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school must be certified by the Eligibility Center, which includes a review of high school coursework.
The goal at CCA is to build an educational program that guides CCA learners to success by providing the right courses and resources from day one.

To achieve this goal, CCA’s curriculum experts review and select the best books and teaching materials to create engaging units, lessons, and activities. CCA provides interactive tools and resources to help learners become immersed in their education.

CCA offers courses for all levels of learning. Families choose the methods of instruction best suited to the child—be that attending daily live sessions with the teacher and classmates or working asynchronously on a personalized learning schedule. Learners even have access to all live session recordings should they need to review the lesson again.

CCA teachers identify the knowledge and skills each learner needs to excel. By working closely with learners and their families to assess their interests and needs, teachers customize instruction so that learners at every level can achieve success.

CCA provides a core K through 12 curriculum in math, science, English language arts, and social studies. Honors and advanced placement (AP) courses as well as College in the High School are available for students seeking a more rigorous course load.

CCA also provides a rich array of engaging elective courses available as early as kindergarten. Learners can explore a world language, such as Spanish or Chinese, tap into their creativity with Digital Photography or Discovering Music, or prepare for a career with courses, such as Restaurant Management and Careers in Architecture.

With the uncertainty of a pandemic and having a newborn at home, Claire Mackes enrolled her first-grade daughter, Gwen, at CCA. Once they experienced the amazing teachers and curriculum at CCA, the decision not to go back to their local brick-and-mortar school was an easy one. “I realized it was so vastly different from [traditional] public school.”

According to Claire, being able to keep all three of her children—including her youngest who is medically fragile—safe at CCA during these uncertain times has positively impacted her family. Even better, Claire enjoys being actively involved in her daughter’s education. “I can literally see her progress and absorb the information and evolve. She went from a kid who barely knew her letters to a kid who writes stories and speaks Spanish.” Even when the family often must spend a day at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia for appointments, Gwen can work ahead of schedule or break up assignments into the rest of the week.

Claire says Gwen loves arts and performing. In fact, Gwen was so inspired by a CCA field trip to the musical Beauty and the Beast she asked for ballet lessons. The family found virtual ballet classes and CCA even reimbursed some of the cost. “CCA is life changing. Parents have a choice in their child’s education. Do the research and find the right fit for your family. CCA is that perfect fit for us!”
Fostering Lifelong Learning
CCA’s elementary teachers and staff take pride in educating future leaders through an enriching, flexible, and customized curriculum, with engaging instruction and support. CCA provides the tools and resources children in grades K to 5 need for virtual learning, educational development, personal growth, and creative thinking.

Family Involvement
At CCA, we believe families should be engaged in their child’s elementary education. The role of the learning coach – typically a parent or guardian – is of particular importance in making sure elementary-age students gain the fundamental academic skills necessary for future success.

The unique partnership between CCA teachers and families ensures a solid foundation of communication and support for student growth.

A Strong Learning Base
As students progress through grades K-5 at CCA, they are immersed in a mix of online multimedia, print, and digital resources to create a comprehensive, online elementary program. Students can take part in daily live class sessions, add elective courses to broaden their knowledge, and participate in many field trips, clubs, and in-person activities, which bring course concepts and personal interests to life.

Maintain a learning schedule • Encourage studying • Track academic progress

DAILY LEARNING COACH ROLE:
- Closely monitor coursework
- Assist the student with activities and lessons
- Maintain a learning schedule
- Encourage studying
- Track academic progress

Gabrielle Yom
2nd grade teacher, Harrisburg

Originally a highly successful student at CCA, Gabrielle now teaches 2nd grade math and science. “I attended CCA as a student from 7th - 12th grade. I am able to bring my experience as a student in this school over to the other side by teaching here! I remember the things my teachers did for me at CCA that helped me succeed and I try to include those elements into my classroom.”

Gaining Independence
Middle school is a time for students to move beyond fundamental learning skills and deepen their understanding of abstract content. It is also when learners start taking ownership of their educational journey. Because we expect middle school students to take more responsibility for their online learning, we encourage parents to transition into more of a support role. CCA recognizes the importance of ensuring students and families are prepared to make the transition into middle school with “Springing into Sixth Grade” events at our Family Service Centers to share what to expect in the middle school program.

Academic Content with Flexibility
In middle school, your child will begin to work directly with subject-specific teachers and a school counselor. With an expanded teaching staff, students will continue to attend live classroom sessions in which they communicate with their peers and teachers in the virtual school environment. Class sessions occur each day for all major subjects and are always recorded for students to view at a later time or to master course content.

Wide Variety of Opportunities
Beyond the core courses, middle schoolers can take electives and participate in clubs to explore their personal passions. Perhaps courses like Digital Art or Journalism and the anime club or the school newspaper will further develop a budding career interest.

Career Exploration
In middle school, CCA students begin thinking about career planning. Through Career Planning courses, students begin to consider career clusters and evaluate how personal skills and interests align with a variety of job sectors.

Shantara Smith, Ph.D., 6th grade Social Studies teacher; Department Chair, Norristown

Dr. Smith has been teaching at CCA for over 15 years. “CCA is a wonderful school. Not only do I work here, but my eldest son graduated from CCA in 2022 after enrolling in first grade. I can tell parents as a teacher here and a CCA parent myself, it’s a wonderful program with caring staff and lots of opportunities for kids to learn and enjoy their education.”
Meaningful Relationships
At CCA, the focus is not just on earning a high school diploma, but on life after graduation. We strive to ensure students graduate with the skills to become the leaders of tomorrow, contributing to the communities in which they live, work, and play. Building strong relationships between teachers and students is the key to delivering a learning experience in which students’ goals - academic, personal, and professional - decide the path forward.

Personal Pathways
High school students continue to work teachers and school counselors to develop a personalized learning management system – edio – to manage their academic, personal, and social learning goals. This system offers flexibility in which students’ goals - academic, personal, and social - decide the path forward.

Unmatched Flexibility: Teacher- or Student-led Instruction
High school learners lead the charge in their education by setting goals, working independently, and exploring career and post-secondary options. At CCA, students participate in online learning via live, virtual classrooms where they interact with their peers and teachers. Students may also choose to tackle schoolwork independently on their own daily schedule. They use CCA’s customized learning management system – edio – to manage their calendar, communicate with teachers, turn in assignments, and build a student portfolio.

Future Success
CCA’s curriculum is designed to guide students towards a successful future – whether they choose to attend college, trade or technical school, enlist in the military, or join the workforce after graduation. From the start and at all points along the way, CCA is invested in helping all Pennsylvania students pursue their dreams and find success.

9-12 CORE
MATH
Pre-Algebra
CCA Achieve Pre-Algebra
Algebra 1
Honors Algebra 1
Algebra 1A
Algebra 1B
Algebra 2
Honors Algebra 2
Geometry
Applied Geometry
Honors Geometry
Consumer Math
CCA Achieve Consumer Math Pre-Calculus
Honors Pre-Calculus
Calculus
Statistics
Mathematical Models with Applications

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
English 9-12
Honors English 9-12
CCA Achieve English 9-12

SCIENCE
Anatomy and Physiology
Biological Science
Honors Biology
Physical Science
Honors Physical Science
Physics
Honors Physics
Chemistry
Honors Chemistry
Environmental Science
Marine Biology
Honors Marine Science
Earth Science
Honors Earth Science

SOCIAL STUDIES
American Government
Honors American Government
United States History
Honors United States History
World History
Honors World History

AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
AP English Literature
AP English Language
AP Biology

AP ELECTIVES
AP Physics
AP Environmental Science
AP Art History
AP Computer Science A
AP United States History
AP American Government
AP Human Geography
AP Psychology

CAREER READINESS
Career Planning 9 -12
College Planning 12

WORLD LANGUAGE
Arabic (1-2)
Chinese (1-4)
French (1-4)
German (1-4)
Japanese (1-4)
Latin (1-4)
Sign Language (1-2)
Spanish (1-4)

9-12 ELECTIVES
ENGLISH ELECTIVES
Journalism
Speech and Debate
Introduction to Communications
Gothic Literature

SCIENCE ELECTIVES
Astronomy
Medical Terminology
Health Sciences 1A
Health Sciences 1B
Aquaponics 101
Aquaponics 102

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES
Introduction to Criminal Justice
Economics
World Geography
Psychology
Sociology
African American History

BUSINESS ELECTIVES
Business Law
Careers in Architecture
Construction Careers
Cosmetology
Cosmetology
Intro to Careers in Transportation, Distribution and Logistics
Manufacturing
Intro to Trades
Entrepreneurship
Sports and Entertainment Management
Intro to Business

OTHER ELECTIVES
College Prep ACT
College Prep SAT
Driver Education

Brian Jones, US History teacher, Harrisburg
A good fly fisherman like Brian knows, don't hurry to make the next cast. In the cyber classroom, that means keeping students focused on the small victories. "I get super excited when I am able to help a student who has challenges. I tell them we will be successful if we work together as a team. When a parent thanks me for guiding a struggling student with an assignment, it makes me proud to have made a difference even for just that moment."
CCA created its own, proprietary learning management system called edio. Designed by CCA teachers, parents, and students, edio empowers success. With continual enhancements to the custom-built curriculum, educational tools, and multiple communication channels, students get an unmatched learning experience.

**Powerful Tools for Learning**

Online school is a lot more than just digital worksheets and internet videos. CCA has revolutionized cyber education with a purposeful approach to course design. Our process follows the stages of 1) identifying the desired student results, 2) determining the acceptable evidence of mastery, and 3) planning the experience and instruction to bring about the intended results. Aligning course design with national standards for quality and Universal Design principals delivers meaningful, accessible, and effective learning outcomes for all CCA students.

**Multimedia integrations**

In edio, students find a variety of learning materials to build engagement with the subject matter and multiple formative assessment types to develop confidence in their learning.

**Interactive games**

A variety of interactive games give students multiple ways to engage with course content.

**Customized lessons**

Teachers can seamlessly provide enrichment or accommodations for more support without adding confusing extra steps or requiring learners to switch to other learning platforms.

**Study guides**

Simple access to guided notes and study guides supports deeper learning.

**Gradebook**

Teacher feedback and assignment grades are easy to find in edio. Even better, the gradebook gives real-time insight on student progress toward successful completion of a course, not just a score. Thus, no more surprises at the end of the marking period.

**The edio learning platform excels at providing the tools each type of user—students, parents, teachers—needs to effectively navigate the school day.**

**Chat feature**

Integrated chat messages in edio make it easy to reach out to a teacher with a quick question.

**Text messaging**

Prefer to receive communications through your smartphone text messaging service? With edio, families can opt in for chat message delivered via text.

**Secure email**

With an easily-accessible emailing system, edio users never miss a vital message from teachers and school administrators. Importantly, this internal email system ensures no outside SPAM messages.

**Announcements**

The edio course announcements, notifications system, and community section keep students and families updated and engaged in courses, school news, and extracurricular activities.

**Dashboards**

In edio, the most important information is front and center on the dashboard. Students can see their progress and today's activities. Parents have a quick snapshot of grades, attendance, and participation. Parents can even “impersonate” students to view edio as the student does.

**Calendars**

Today's lessons and virtual class sessions are just the beginning. Add events to student calendars, like tutoring with the teacher, a dentist appointment or soccer practice, to keep students on track each day. Even view the calendar of multiple students at once for simplicity in scheduling.
Session Recordings
Recordings of every live session are available in edio. These allow students working asynchronously to see what was explained in class and synchronously-working students to review class sessions again. Pause, fast forward, and rewind to maximize your time and focus on key ideas.

Support for Learning
Regularly, CCA teachers host review sessions, small group instruction, and tutoring with students. These opportunities allow students to get the support they need in the way that best meets individual needs.

Virtual Class Sessions
Real-time online class sessions keep students engaged in coursework, discussions, and other activities. Daily sessions with the teacher and classmates allow students to choose the level of guidance they need in each of their courses.

Tools for Instruction
At CCA, families can choose to follow a traditional, structured school day. CCA offers virtual classes each day that provide live instruction and interaction with teachers and classmates.

Check out edioGO—the companion mobile app for families! With edioGO, parents get the same useful information about their children optimized for a mobile device experience. Some highlights of edioGO include:

- Download real-time student progress reports.
- View your child’s grades and overdue items at a glance.
- Easily submit excuses for any absences.
- Receive important announcement notifications.
- Access the Chat feature to connect with your student and their teachers.
- Check a student’s course item completion status in the calendar.
- Add custom events to the calendar.
- Register for field trips.
- Request to join clubs.
- View News, Clubs, and Field Trips sections for extracurricular updates.
- Recover username and password.
- Update the user profile photo.
- Quickly dial teachers, technical support, or the state testing helpline.

The edioGO app is continually evolving and being updated with new features to best serve CCA families. The secure edioGO app is available for free download in the App Store and Google Play store.
CCA is a proven, effective public school option with 20 years of experience in providing students and their families online, customized learning that meets students where they are on their educational journey. Partnering with families ensures CCA’s programs meet students’ unique educational needs.

Productive, successful students who actively participate in education and want to attend school, and families who are engaged and excited about their children’s talents and progress—that’s the goal at CCA. Everyone has a role:

▸ Children explore their academic passions.
▸ Teachers customize lessons and encourage students.
▸ Family members act as learning coaches by supporting, motivating, and monitoring progress.

**Family Services Department**

With an entire department devoted to family service, families joining CCA feel comfortable knowing ongoing family training and support are there from enrollment all the way to graduation.

**Family Mentors.** Family mentors are experienced CCA parents trained to offer advice and guidance to new families and students as they become acquainted with online education.

**Family Involvement Coordinators.** These team members organize family mentoring programs, like weekly Coffee Talk sessions and develop school events, like picture day, bookmobile, and summer clubs. Coordinators also design and host more than 700 field trips across Pennsylvania, both virtually and in-person.

**Family Service Centers.** CCA operates regional Family Service centers throughout Pennsylvania where families can go for in-person help with enrollment, extra support, or tutoring for students.

**Tech Support.** CCA’s Pennsylvania-based technical support center helps students and families if they should experience issues with their computer or software. Team members typically solve a technical problem in five to 10 minutes over the phone. For more severe technical problems, a replacement computer can be issued within one to two business days.

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Simmer Marcelli enrolled her daughter, Kylee, at CCA in 2020 when the local school could not provide an appropriate virtual curriculum. With the support services Kylee receives at CCA, she could not be happier. “CCA has been an extraordinary journey for our family. CCA proved to be the perfect environment for our daughter to thrive.”

When adopted at nearly five-years-old, Kylee struggled with letter recognition and counting to 10. Now an honors student at CCA, she loves school and has many new friends. Simmer credits teacher engagement, flexible pacing on assignments, outstanding curriculum, field trips, and clubs as key elements in Kylee’s success.

“Instead of tears when it’s time to do homework we have a competent engaged student that is taking responsibility for her work. This is miraculous to us.” What changed? At CCA, the stress of bullying and arbitrary time-constraints typical in brick-and-mortar schools are gone. Now the family enjoys many educational trips and clubs—Baking Club is a favorite for Kylee. Attending live and virtual field trips, such as a personal group tour of AgWorks at CCA®, has the Marcelli family always looking forward to the next opportunity at CCA.

“My husband and I are impressed with teacher communication, the rigorous curriculum, the sense of community, and the variety of extracurricular opportunities available at CCA.”

-Simmer, CCA Parent, Chester County
Learning Tailored to Your Child
Gone are the days when students had to sit in the same schoolroom at the same time and learn the same thing. CCA students complete lessons on a schedule that's best for the whole family. In fact, most parents say increased flexibility is the change they most enjoy compared to a traditional school experience. Combining a customized curriculum with a more flexible schedule and learning environment gives families the freedom to fashion school days that will maximize a child’s potential.

Choice of Instructional Model
The latest tools and technology let students choose how and when to receive instruction. At CCA, students learn through real-time virtual sessions, session recordings, self-paced exploration of course lessons, field trips, independent study, and hands-on, career-readiness opportunities. Each school day, students have opportunities to attend regularly scheduled virtual instruction with their teachers and classmates or students can choose to independently work on the day’s lesson content. To see what the teacher covered during a live session, recordings are always readily available. Recognizing not all students learn the same way or at the same pace, these learning options give students and families the benefit of a flexible school day to maximize the student’s time and effort.

Personalized, Supportive Approach
CCA students, family members, and teachers work together to design a tailored curriculum centered on a student’s unique needs and interests. With a wide range of electives, work-based learning, and career exploration field trips, students and families can structure a program that sparks a passion for knowledge and growth. Family members serve as learning coaches and are encouraged to collaborate closely with CCA's highly qualified, Pennsylvania-certified teachers. The family approach to learning allows students to grow from elementary school, where learning coaches facilitate the schedule frequently throughout the school day, into independent and self-driven learners in middle and high school. Because assisting individual students is the majority of their school day, CCA's teachers can provide extra help to students who need it, as well as advanced teaching to students ready for a challenge. For students working after traditional school hours, CCA offers evening academic support most days, with teachers and tutors available to assist students with questions about course lessons.

Technology Provided
Upon enrollment, CCA provides each student the use of a free laptop, preloaded and ready to go with all software and programs needed to start learning. CCA also provides each household with a voucher for an all-in-one printer and each student with a second monitor. CCA families can choose their own internet service option knowing CCA offers an instructional support subsidy to help families with the cost of internet service.

School Counselors
The CCA School Counseling Department provides a comprehensive school counseling program for all students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. Working with school staff, students, families, and the community, school counselors create a caring, supportive and safe atmosphere for students to achieve academic and personal success. By helping students learn how to find and use resources, supports and skills, the school counseling department ensures CCA learners are well-positioned to take advantage of post-graduation opportunities.

Purposeful Social Development
Beyond just academics, school counselors serve as intermediaries concerned for the emotional and social growth of CCA students as well. School Counselors work with teachers to provide multiple opportunities for social skill development, such as annual talent shows, grade-level recess activities, and much more.

Evening Support Program
The CCA Evening Support program provides learners extra opportunities to meet with a CCA teacher for clarification on any skills taught during a class session or in a lesson. Since families at CCA have the flexibility to complete schoolwork outside of the traditional school day, the evening support program ensures students can get quick and convenient after-hours help.

Amanda Lick
High School Counselor
Dickson City
Being a frequent traveler and alpaca farmer, Mandy understands learners who need flexibility. That is why CCA provides unique and creative ways to communicate and build relationships with students. Whether using text, chat, Zoom, phone, or email, Mandy proves school counseling does not always need to be in-person to be productive. “I tell new families and students all the time, “Give it a few weeks and you’ll soon feel like you were never anywhere else, and wouldn’t want to be!”"
SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special Education at CCA
CCA offers a special education program to make sure students with unique needs are getting the best education possible. The school personalizes education based on academic needs, family schedules, and outside activities.

CCA’s online special education program gives teachers the ability to customize strategies and intervention services, allowing them to be fully integrated into the cyber school from the safe, comfortable environment of the student’s home.

What makes CCA’s special education program unique?
CCA employs a dedicated staff of special education teachers and professionals. CCA can provide related services including but not limited to: speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, a board-certified behavior analyst, and assistive technology to meet the needs of CCA students.

Special education-related services can be provided virtually by expert and attentive providers who care about the students as learners and people. Special education at CCA operates in compliance with your child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) documentation.

With CCA, the development of the student's IEP may include a variety of assistive technologies to help students learn to their full potential.

Kelly Bahorich, Special Education teacher, Pittsburgh
An avid outdoorswoman, Kelly is an innovator in the online classroom. “Collaboration is an integral part of learning and teaching, and I use technology to provide and gather feedback with my students and families.” Kelly believes the CCA environment nurtures growth for learners’ unique needs while “providing a sense of belonging to everyone.”

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Programs for English Learner cyber school students
CCA's English Language Development (ELD) Program offers students a first-class curriculum and customized learning opportunities. CCA celebrates cultural diversity by combining a quality education with socialization opportunities through numerous school field trips and events.

As an online school, CCA provides English Learners with services that extend far beyond traditional English lessons, while fully supporting and integrating English Learners into the CCA family. Online ELD courses at CCA allow students to progress at their own pace, set a schedule that works for the whole family, and build diverse friendships with students across the entire state.

What CCA provides for English Learners
- Targeted language development instruction delivered by Pennsylvania certified ESL teachers.
- Innovative and rigorous educational resources, including National Geographic's English Language Development curriculum, that bring the classroom to life.
- Socialization opportunities. CCA offers field trips and culturally diverse events each year across the entire state at the school's Family Service Centers.
- Interpreters and translation services provided by CCA for all school-to-home communication.
- Face-to-face family support at regional Family Service Centers for all CCA families.

MaryBeth Booth
English Second Language instructor
Dickson City
Her own experience as a second-language learner helps MaryBeth understand students’ journey to achieve confidence in English. MaryBeth regularly hosts groups where even parents and siblings join in to practice sharing stories in English. “My hope is students in my class feel comfortable in taking the risks necessary to improve their English language abilities. I have been able to form bonds with many students who know they can count on me.”
CCA is committed to career readiness for students.
CCA’s mission has always been to deliver a customized learning experience and prepare students to succeed in school and in life. CCA is pulling out all the stops every year to ensure that, together with students and their families, this mission is achieved.

The CCAWorks® initiative is a schoolwide commitment to every student to:

- provide them with 21st-century, career ready skills.
- enable them to discover their future careers.
- help them succeed in life and their future careers.

Career Pathways that lead to success
CCA’s Career Pathways is a flexible K through 12 exploratory career-oriented mindset, helping learners discover, navigate, and select a meaningful career within fields that interest them.

Helping students find their Career Pathway
CCA developed a Career Pathway model as a framework to ensure students graduate with the knowledge, experience, and skills to prepare for life after high school. Many students can be undecided about their Career Pathway. CCA supports all learners by providing a robust Career Planning curriculum, counseling and support services, research-based career assessments, and individualized sessions to determine best-fit careers for all.

CCA offers Career Pathways for students to gain knowledge, experience, and skills that can be used after high school graduation.

Although students can join a Career Pathway at any point in high school, CCA highly recommends they do so in 9th or 10th grade to give them sufficient time to complete the pathway.

WHAT FAMILIES HAVE TO SAY
“I feel like my students are individuals and they matter at CCA!”
- Stephanie, CCA Parent, Beaver County

Stephanie Skolnik has had four children enrolled in CCA since 2017, and she loves how CCA can do it all. Each of her children had different learning styles and needs that were not being met at her local public school. From struggles with support for ADHD and anxiety to experiences with bullying to a lack of classroom consistency, the Skolnik family knew there had to be a better option. “I love how CCA embraces the whole family. CCA is so unique in that it can meet the needs of my student with a 504 plan and my student with a gifted IEP all at one school!”

Her current students, Grace and Emily, earned Distinguished Honor Roll at CCA. Both inside and outside of school, they enjoy the arts—from dance lessons, to field trips and even unique challenges like The World’s Largest Quilt and the CCA T-shirt design contest.

Not surprisingly, Stephanie’s older children, Kelly and Rachel, were also honor roll students during their time at CCA and frequent participants in many social and career-focused opportunities with the school. In fact, the elective courses provided at CCA prepared them for Art School majors in writing and media. At CCA, Stephanie finds her children are prepared for success after graduation by learning “to be held accountable, to work hard, and to show comprehension through a variety of project formats.”

- Art and Communications
  - News reporting or Writing
  - Interviewing
  - Multi-media Productions
  - Acting or Performing
  - Radio, TV, Film or Video
  - Fashion Design or Decorating

- Business, Finance and Information Technology
  - Office Management · Sales
  - Computers & Technology
  - Gaming · Cyber Security
  - Telecommunications
  - Advertising · Insurance
  - Social Media Analysis
  - Computer Networking
  - Finance · Real Estate

- Engineering and Industry
  - Building & Construction
  - Tools, Equipment & Materials
  - Woodworking · Fitness & Sports
  - Design & Architecture
  - Engineering · Manufacturing
  - Computer Technology
  - Production Management

- Human Services
  - Working with People
  - Owning a Business
  - Aging Adults
  - Child Development
  - Family and Social Services
  - Food Preparation
  - Teaching · Counseling

- Science and Health
  - Health Care Environment
  - Science & Medicine
  - Medical Research
  - Food Production
  - Environment & Conservation
  - Pharmacy · Physical Therapy
  - Sports/Fitness · Information Systems
  - Conservation · Radiology
Providing the best in hands-on learning and career readiness for our students served as the inspiration for building AgWorks at CCA®, the largest public educational aquaponics facility in the U.S. This student-led K-12 workforce development center enables students to apply STEM lessons to produce food through controlled environment agriculture.

Learners explore careers connected to aquaponics, hydroponics, aeroponics, and biotechnology through our grow spaces and hi-tech tissue culture and genetics labs.

Statewide Impact
Students of all ages across the commonwealth can experience AgWorks at CCA®, both virtually and in-person. CCA has created virtual experiences allowing students to engage with the AgWorks at CCA® facility from afar through live cameras, high-tech water monitoring sensors, and an online digital dashboard that processes real-time data. Our mobile aquaponics lab, AquaJack, even allows CCA to bring these learning opportunities to all parts of Pennsylvania.

AgWorks at CCA® is a member of PA Preferred®, which is a resource for finding locally grown and processed agricultural products from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

THE LIVING, LEARNING LABORATORY THAT IS AGWORKS AT CCA® TRAINS STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN:
Agriculture • Business • Computer programming • Information technology
Engineering • Trades • Robotics • Science • Supply chain management • Technology

The TechWorks at CCA® program enables students to obtain hands-on, real-world experiences in technology related fields. TechWorks at CCA® seamlessly integrates new technologies and practices, from cutting-edge robotics to immersive and augmented reality, students will push the boundaries between education and industry.

A Hands-On Program Like No Other
Through TechWorks at CCA®, students can learn cybersecurity, IT and programming languages, use state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment, and earn their FAA-license as a certified drone pilot. Whether in person or virtually, students can gain practical experience applying career-based skills. Developing partnerships with businesses, industry, and educational organizations builds additional pathways to credentials, certifications, internships, and apprenticeships.

The hands-on career readiness offerings at CCA are set to grow with the addition of MedWorks at CCA™ that will focus on careers in the medical field.

High Need Family-Sustaining Jobs
As a Pennsylvania school, CCA understands the importance of preparing students for the job sectors most needed in the commonwealth. The medical field represents one of the largest and fastest growing skilled industry sectors in Pennsylvania with projected growth of nearly 85,000 new jobs by 2024.
CCA is proud to offer a College in the High School program to high school students. Families can invest in advanced courses such as Foundations in Law, Computer Programming and Fundamentals of Accounting that provide the rigor and experience of university instruction while acquiring credit recognized by participating postsecondary institutions. The robust list of current College in the High School courses boasts over 35 exciting and varied course choices. And the program continues to grow, with additional college partners and course offerings each year. Some postsecondary institutions that CCA partners with include:

**WORK-BASED LEARNING**

All CCA high school courses are situated within the Career Pathways framework to assist students in identifying the right courses that support their ambitions and future plans. CCA extends career-readiness beyond the classroom by offering a variety of work-based learning experiences from career consultations to internships.

Work-based learning offers students hands-on practice and the development of authentic relationships with industry professionals while learning what is required to succeed in specific careers. With the flexibility of the CCA schedule, students can gain valuable career experience when their peers who attend traditional school are required to be at their desks.

**Workplace Tours** - Students visit a workplace, learn about the business, meet employees, ask questions, and observe work completed in a particular industry.

**Informational Interview** - Students interview and seek advice from an adult professional to gain a better understanding of the skills and training needed for success in their career of interest.

**Job Shadowing** - Students follow an employee during a regular workday to provide an opportunity to experience the workplace and understand the roles and duties of an occupation.

**Career Mentoring** - Students are matched one-on-one with an adult professional in a chosen career of interest for on-going mentoring.

**Internship** - Students gain experience through real work and being productively engaged in the workplace. They may rotate through different departments and job functions, or work on a project of interest to the student and value to the employer.

**Pre-apprenticeship** - Students interested in trades, such as carpentry, construction, or advanced manufacturing, can participate in pre-apprenticeships or similar training programs, such as the Associated Builders and Contractors Inc. (ABC) Keystone Program, and The Pennsylvania College of Technology Advanced Manufacturing Pre-apprenticeship Program.

**Ian Waite**, Career Coordinator, Norristown

Using his Master’s degree in counseling, Ian regularly meets with CCA students for career consultations (virtually, in-person, individually, and in groups) and gets to see genuine student excitement in finding a career path.

“Every day we look for new career readiness opportunities to offer our students. At CCA, I have seen students show tremendous personal growth over an internship and students get hired as a result of completing a pre-apprenticeship.”

**COLLEGE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL**

CCA is proud to offer a College in the High School program to high school students. Families can invest in advanced courses such as Foundations in Law, Computer Programming and Fundamentals of Accounting that provide the rigor and experience of university instruction while acquiring credit recognized by participating postsecondary institutions.

The robust list of current College in the High School courses boasts over 35 exciting and varied course choices. And the program continues to grow, with additional college partners and course offerings each year. Some postsecondary institutions that CCA partners with include:
Enriching Social Opportunities at CCA

If you wonder how your child can navigate an online school social life, rest assured that CCA fosters important social connections among all students.

Captivating Field Trips
Every year, CCA develops, schedules, and hosts more than 700 exciting, curriculum-aligned field trips across Pennsylvania and the world, giving CCA students many chances to learn while socializing in person or online. CCA offers educational trips, including visits to museums and historic sites, enhancing what is taught in students’ courses. Social field trips include fun outings, such as roller skating and outdoor adventures. CCA offers in-person regional field trips to ensure that students have access to opportunities throughout the state. Using real-time video conferencing, CCA also offers virtual field trips that travel the globe, from visiting active volcanos with rangers at Hawaii Volcano National Park to a Broadway backstage meet and greet with one of the actors from Hamilton, and excite students about learning something new.

School-to-Community Connections
School field trips are especially important for the opportunities they provide for students to expand their horizons. Field trips let students see the connections between what they’re learning at school and the real world. They can start to see how the material they are mastering in virtual courses can help them solve real-life problems and perhaps open their eyes to a potential career.

Time Well Spent
Unlike brick-and-mortar schools, where students might miss classroom lessons to attend a trip, CCA has built-in schedule flexibility so students never miss an opportunity to learn online or on a field trip.

What Families Have to Say

In 2017, Mayra Vasquez was looking for a school with flexibility, an excellent curriculum, and special education services to allow her child, Mya, to learn at her own pace. Now a fourth-grader, the flexible guided live sessions and related services therapies offered at CCA have greatly improved Mya’s learning and communication skills. “My daughter received a certificate for the honor roll. We are so happy with CCA and how well my daughter is achieving her goals with the help of great teachers and staff!”

The family also enjoys the many extra-curricular opportunities available at CCA, especially those that allow Mya to excel in cooking. Mya’s father, Thomas, is a chef, so anything cooking-related Mya enjoys as an opportunity to learn alongside dad. From Home Life Club and Dance Club to Sign Language Club and Aquaponics Club, Mya is truly expanding her horizons at CCA. “The many different field trips and clubs are amazing. Mya enjoys socializing with others and creating delicious treats and crafts.”

“My daughter received a certificate for the honor roll. We are so happy with CCA and how well my daughter is achieving her goals with the help of great teachers and staff!”

-Mayra, CCA Parent, Philadelphia
CCA offers more than 50 clubs every school year and refreshes those offerings often to reflect students’ changing interests. CCA’s clubs make socializing with peers easy. Club members can gather virtually for their activities, although some meet in person for local events or competitions and at CCA’s regional Family Service Centers. Clubs also offer a great space for students from elementary to high school to socialize and problem-solve around subjects that are the building blocks of future careers. With groups geared toward a student’s interests, be it science experiments, photography, gaming, or any other interest students might want to explore, it’s easy to branch out and give a brand-new activity a try.

**STEM** – CCA offers clubs from gaming and chess to coding and science for learning and experimenting.

**Arts** – CCA offers multiple arts clubs, from arts and crafts to Film.

**Literary** – Students can exercise their writing, public speaking, and reading skills with a broad range of literary clubs.

**Volunteering** – CCA students help their communities through volunteer and service clubs.

**SCHOOL ON THE MOVE**

Innovation at CCA is not limited to the online environment. The fleet of mobile classrooms designed by our educators bring exciting hands-on learning opportunities to all corners of Pennsylvania. Families are always excited to see what interesting experiments or activities the CCA team brings to their town for field trips and other in-person events. Best of all, these versatile vehicles ensure CCA students can benefit from learning out in their communities instead of being confined to a school building.

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**FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2022-2023**

Commonwealth Charter Academy Charter School
Address: 1 Innovation Way, Harrisburg, PA 17110
Telephone: 1-844-590-2864 (toll free)
Email Address: CCACharterForm@ccaeducate.me

Warning: A child enrolled in another public school or a nonpublic or private school cannot, at the same time, enroll in a charter school.

---

I. **Student Information**

- **Last Name:** ___________________________  
- **First Name:** ___________________________  
- **MI:** ___________________________

- **Home Address:** ___________________________  
- **City:** ___________________  
- **State:** ____________  
- **Zip Code:** ____________

- **County:** ___________________________

- **Mailing Address:** (If different from Home Address)
  
  - **City:** ___________________  
  - **State:** ____________  
  - **Zip Code:** ____________

- **Date Of Birth:** ___________________________  
- **Age:** ___________________________

---

II. **School District of Residence and Former School Information**

- **School District of Residence:** ___________________________

- **Former School Information (Other Than Pre-School):**  
  - [ ] Public School  
  - [ ] Charter School  
  - [ ] Home School  
  - [ ] Non-public School

- **Student Not Enrolled in School Preceding Enrollment in Charter School Because:**  
  - [ ] Entering Kindergarten  
  - [ ] Re-Enrolling Dropout  
  - [ ] Other: ___________________________

- **Name of Former School:** ___________________________

- **Address of Former School:** ___________________________

- **Previous Grade:** ___________________________  
- **Withdrawal Date From Former School:** ___________________________

- **Was your child receiving Special Education Services based on an IEP?**  
  - [ ] Yes  
  - [ ] No

- **If Yes, do you have the child’s Special Education Records (IEP)?**  
  - [ ] Yes  
  - [ ] No
# CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMENT
## NOTICE AND COMPLETION FORM

### III. Parent/Guardian Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Lives With:</th>
<th>Both Parents</th>
<th>Both Parents</th>
<th>Mother Only</th>
<th>Father Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alternately</td>
<td>Legal Guardian</td>
<td>Foster Parents</td>
<td>Other Adult:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Special Custodial Court Instructions? | Yes (Provide copy of Court Order) | No |

Complete Parent/Guardian Name and Address Information As Applicable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Father’s Name:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip Code:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Telephone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Telephone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mother’s Name:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip Code:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Telephone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Telephone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the Student Is Not Living With Parents, Please Complete This Section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guardian OR Foster Parent OR Other Adult:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Zip Code:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Telephone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Telephone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

My signature on this form indicates my decision to have my child attend the charter school named on page 1 of this form and signifies my request that appropriate school records be forwarded from the school district to the charter school. My signature also certifies that my child is not, and will not be, enrolled in another public school, a non-public school or a private school at the same time he or she is enrolled in this charter school.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: __________________________ Date: __________

### IV. To Be Completed By Charter School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verification of Date of Birth:</th>
<th>Birth Certificate</th>
<th>Other:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proof of Residency:</td>
<td>Mortgage</td>
<td>Lease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement:</td>
<td>Utility Bill</td>
<td>Other:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Official Enrollment Date: __________ Anticipated Date of Attendance: __________

Grade Student Is Entering: __________________________

Signature of Charter School Representative: __________________________

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CCA offers year-round, easy-to-navigate open enrollment to all Pennsylvania families for students in grades K through 12. It’s free to enroll at CCA, and there is no cost to your family to attend. Here’s what you need to do to enroll:

**Create an account.** To begin enrollment, visit [ccaeducate.me/enroll](http://ccaeducate.me/enroll) and enter your email address to create an account. You do not need to enter or remember a password.

**Complete the enrollment application.** Using the unique link received by email, the simple online application takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. The application will collect preliminary information about the parent/guardian, student, your household, and technology in your home.

**Submit required documents.** Along with items listed below, you will need to complete and submit the Charter School Student Enrollment Notification Form (page 33). The CCA team will provide you access to the Parent Portal to conveniently upload these documents.

**Attend a Great Start Orientation Session.** These sessions provide new CCA families a comprehensive overview of parent, student, and staff responsibilities. For your convenience, families can choose to attend these sessions virtually or in person.

**Have a question?** CCA’s enrollment team is here to help. Call 844-590-2864.

**Required enrollment documents checklist:**

- Proof of age
- Proof of PA residence
- Immunization record
- Charter School Notification Form (see previous page)
- Student Information Form (filled out online)
- Academic records* (e.g. transcript, report card, Individualized Education Program)

*if available to family. CCA requests records from previous school upon enrollment.
2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

**AUGUST**
29-31 TECH TUNE UP DAYS

**SEPTEMBER**
1-2 TECH TUNE UP DAYS
7 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

**OCTOBER**
10 NO SCHOOL

**NOVEMBER**
9 END OF FIRST MARKING PERIOD
24-28 NO SCHOOL

**DECEMBER**
22-31 NO SCHOOL

**JANUARY**
2 NO SCHOOL
16 NO SCHOOL
27 END OF SECOND MARKING PERIOD
30 NO SCHOOL

**FEBRUARY**
20 NO SCHOOL

**APRIL**
4 END OF THIRD MARKING PERIOD
7-10 NO SCHOOL

**MAY**
29 NO SCHOOL

**JUNE**
9 END OF FOURTH MARKING PERIOD AND LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
12-15 GRADUATION

**TECH SUPPORT:** 833-204-2221
**GENERAL INFORMATION:** 844-590-2864

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**
Facebook.com/ccacharter
Twitter.com/commcharteracad
Instagram.com/commonwealthcharteracademy
ccaeducate.me