

# EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS

AT FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

2025-2026 VIEWBOOK



## ***The Kansas Academy of Math and Science (KAMS) and the Academy of Mathematics and Science (AMS) on the campus of Fort Hays State University (FHSU)***

offers an unparalleled academic program for gifted and talented high school students, immersing them in a full college experience in which they'll learn and live alongside like-minded peers.

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Established by legislative action from the Kansas Senate in 2006, KAMS enables exceptional 11th and 12th grade students to receive advanced education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Selected learners receive over 60 hours of college credit, a diploma from their sending school, hands-on research opportunities, leadership development, civic engagement, and co-curricular activities. Recently, these Early College Programs (ECP) have increased curricular flexibility, allowing you to study what most inspires you.

Why wait? Join a community of exceptional students and get a head-start on your future at KAMS!

***Start your journey with us at [FHSU.edu/KAMS](https://FHSU.edu/KAMS)***



**SCAN CODE  
TO APPLY**

***ECP will transform your interests into skills, preparing you for excellence wherever the future takes you.** Located on the historic FHSU campus, you will experience award-winning academics taught by Ph.D. faculty, who will challenge you academically in state-of-the-art facilities.*

## FHSU Facts

**12,878**

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

**3,742**

ON-CAMPUS ENROLLMENT

**1 to 17**

FACULTY-STUDENT RATIO

## KAMS Facts

**Campus Amenities:** Student Wellness Center, athletic events, tutoring services, mental health counseling, health services

**40** New spots available per year

**80 students** enrolled in the Academy per year

Outgoing ACT composite scores improve an average of **5 Points**

Complete a Bachelor’s degree in **2 years**

**95%** Program completion rate

Average Incoming ACT: **26 Composite**

Average Outgoing ACT: **31 Composite**

# A CURRICULUM CREATED FOR THE EXCEPTIONAL

**Select a curriculum made just for you!** Our curriculum pathways are designed to meet both your current academic abilities and high school graduation requirements. These individualized pathways will provide a roadmap to your future as a professional in the world of STEM.

**Choose from courses within FHSU's five, award-winning and innovative colleges:**

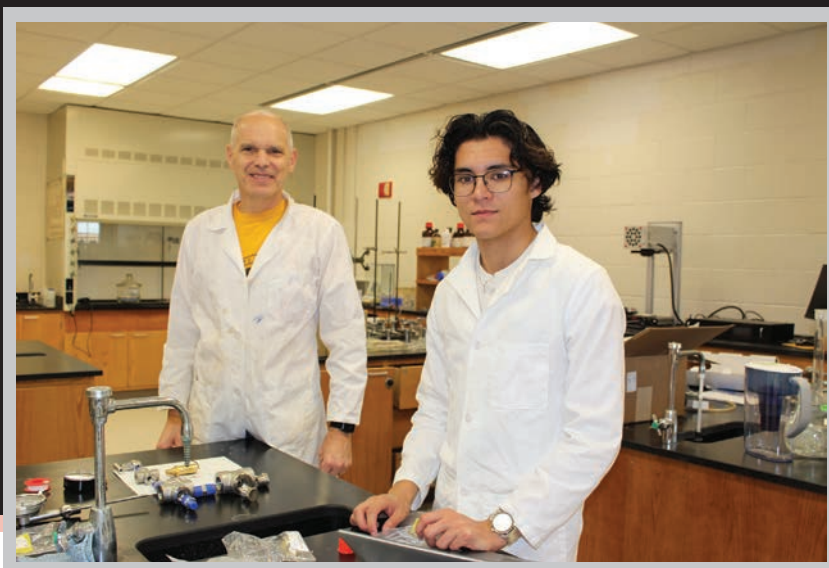
- *Science, Technology, and Mathematics*
- *Health Professions and Behavioral Sciences*
- *Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences*
- *Business & Entrepreneurship*
- *Education*



To start building your tailormade, early college experience as a KAMS student, scan the QR code and see which curriculum pathway is best for you.

Along with countless other professional disciplines,  
our past KAMS graduates have experienced  
***great success*** in the following areas:

- Accounting
- Agriculture
- Applied Technology
- Art and Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Dentistry
- Education
- Engineering
- English
- Finance
- Geosciences
- History
- Law
- Marketing
- Mathematics
- Medicine
- Music
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Veterinary Medicine







# Learn from EXPERIENCE

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*We know that some of the most valuable lessons aren't taught through lectures*—so all KAMS students are asked to complete a hands-on research project with a Ph.D. faculty member from FHSU. The opportunity to conduct this level of research at such an early age will set you apart from traditional high school graduates and provide a unique learning experience. Whether it be programming a robot, studying cancer cells, or traveling on a research trip, you are encouraged to use your creativity to explore the world and get involved.



Leo Harzman: KAMS 2021; Fort Hays State University 2023; Eastern Michigan University, Clinical Psychology Masters Program Class of 2025

*"I had several research experiences during my time at KAMS that were all fun and rewarding! My favorite project by far was the research I did with Dr. Jeanne Sumrall, in which we wrote and proposed a method of teaching cave mapping using the video game Minecraft. Our paper is currently under review to be published in an academic journal. It was super engaging trying to figure out how to translate real-life information to the mechanics of Minecraft. This research also taught me valuable literature review skills that allowed me to go on to conduct research in my undergraduate program immediately post-KAMS. The knowledge and experiences I gained in KAMS allowed me to finish my bachelor's degree at FHSU with a full ride in just two years!"*

**LEO HARZMAN** KAMS Class of 2021



Sylvie Yiqing: AMS 2025;  
Rutgers 2027

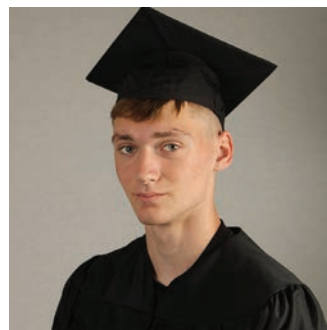
*"Through hands-on research in AI-based computational biology, I've explored one of the most cutting-edge areas in science today. With a focus on applying machine learning to biological problems, I've gained valuable skills in coding, data analysis, and critical thinking. In addition to laboratory work, I had the honor of presenting my findings at national-level conferences, which enhanced my public speaking and professional communication abilities. As a result of these experiences, I have grown more confident in navigating complex challenges and collaborating across disciplines. This foundation in research has prepared me for more challenging research opportunities and insight into a research career."*

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**SYLVIE YIQING** AMS Class of 2025

*"This program offers diverse research opportunities as reflected in my own experience. The first research team I was part of was to develop a comprehensive business plan in competition with UCONN, which we won back-to-back years. Following this, I joined and am currently a part of a bioinformatics research team focusing on database transfer between mitochondrial genome databases. These extraordinary, yet broad experiences gave me opportunities that have me in a great place for my future career."*

**BRYCE STEFFAN** KAMS Class of 2025



Bryce Steffan: KAMS 2025;  
Fort Hays State University 2027

# Focused Faculty

At FHSU, our faculty members are dedicated to helping you realize your academic and professional dreams. With their guidance, you'll have access to the knowledge, expertise, and resources to reach your full potential. Whether you envision yourself as a scientist, entrepreneur, educator, or something entirely unique, our professors are here to support your journey every step of the way. Their mentorship will not only inspire you but also equip you with the skills and confidence to excel in your chosen field, setting you apart and preparing you for success in ways that will exceed your expectations.

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***"I truly enjoy working with KAMS students. They are inquisitive and have a passion for learning and conducting research."***

Dr. Tara Phelps-Durr, Professor of Biological Sciences and Department Chair

***"KAMS students have hands-on learning experience by engaging in scientific research mentored by faculty experts. The research problem/question tackles current issues in the different areas of natural sciences, wherein students apply what they learn in the classroom to solve real problems using the scientific method. In so doing, students are able to choose their research discipline based on intellectual merit, broader impacts and interests."***



Dr. Arvin Cruz, Chair & Associate Professor of Physical Inorganic Chemistry



***"One of the most exciting aspects for KAMS students is the opportunity to engage in research with faculty and peers. I have worked with students on engineering projects for high-altitude balloons, studying cosmic ray counts, or collecting bacteria from 15 miles up. Our faculty are excellent in mentoring students from a starting question to a final presentation at a state, regional, or national meeting. KAMS students not only gain a solid foundation in STEM, but they also get to apply what they are learning to discover more about the world."***



Dr. Paul Adams, College of Education Dean,  
Anschutz Professor of Education & Professor of Physics



***"I have enjoyed working with talented mathematics students in their math classes and research ever since the program began. The Department of Mathematics has benefited from KAMS students' knowledge and abilities as several KAMS students have been members of teams that have placed in various years against students from other Kansas colleges and universities in the mathematics competition hosted by the Kansas Section of the Mathematics Association of America. Occasionally, we will compete against former KAMS students who are then competing for another university after completing the KAMS program."***

Dr. Keith Dreiling, Chair & Professor  
of Mathematics & Computer Science

# YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME

You will make timeless friendships, share laughs and late-night study sessions, all while having a genuine college experience in FHSU's Custer Hall. Here you will live amongst other high school-aged students from the Academy of Mathematics & Science (AMS), which hosts 11th and 12th graders from other states and countries. Custer Hall will quickly become your home away from home, where you'll live and learn with exceptional peers, just like you!

## CUSTER HALL PERKS

- **High-Speed Internet**
- **Card-Access Door Locks allow Custer Hall Access to Staff and ECP Students**
- **Curfew Checks every night for added security**
- **Professional Residence Hall Staff that live on-site**
- **Kitchens on each floor**
- **Game and Study Areas**
- **Laundry Room**



## Custer Hall Community Council

The Custer Hall Community Council (CHCC) is a student-led group that empowers KAMS students to shape life in Custer Hall. Members plan events, lead initiatives, and represent their peers in communication to staff and university leadership. From movie nights to service projects, CHCC fosters a vibrant, inclusive community where students can build leadership skills, form lasting friendships, and make a meaningful impact.



## Parent Booster Club

The KAMS Parent Booster Club is a supportive network of parents and guardians who help enhance the student experience. From care packages and event support to scholarships and program improvements, the club plays a key role in building community and staying connected. It's a great way for families to stay involved and make a lasting impact.



# *Supporting the* **WHOLE YOU**

## **FHSU Clubs/Activities**

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- ✦ **120+ Student Organizations**
- ✦ **300+ Intramural Activities**
- ✦ **FHSU Bands & Orchestra**
- ✦ **FHSU Chorus**
- ✦ **FHSU Sporting Events**



## **Competitions**

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- ✦ **First Robotics Competition**
- ✦ **Hackathon**
- ✦ **Math Madness & AMC**
- ✦ **Rocketry Teams**
- ✦ **And many more...**



## **Sports in KAMS – SB114**

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"On April 7th, 2025, Senate Bill 114 was signed into law extending the opportunity to compete in KSHAA sanctioned events such as sports, scholar's bowl, music, debate, and many other activities typical of a Kansas high school. Competing with Hays High, students have already participated in Track & Field events. This makes Track & Field the first KSHAA sanctioned event to have a KAMS student compete.







***At the Early College Programs at FHSU, you'll have opportunities to grow beyond academics, connecting to others who share your passions.***

## Community Activities

A wide variety of fun and engaging community events go on throughout the year to help students relax, connect, and make lasting memories. From Super Bowl watch parties and movie nights to water balloon fights and themed holiday celebrations, there's always something happening on campus. These events foster a strong sense of community, encourage friendships, and provide a healthy balance to the academic rigor of the program.



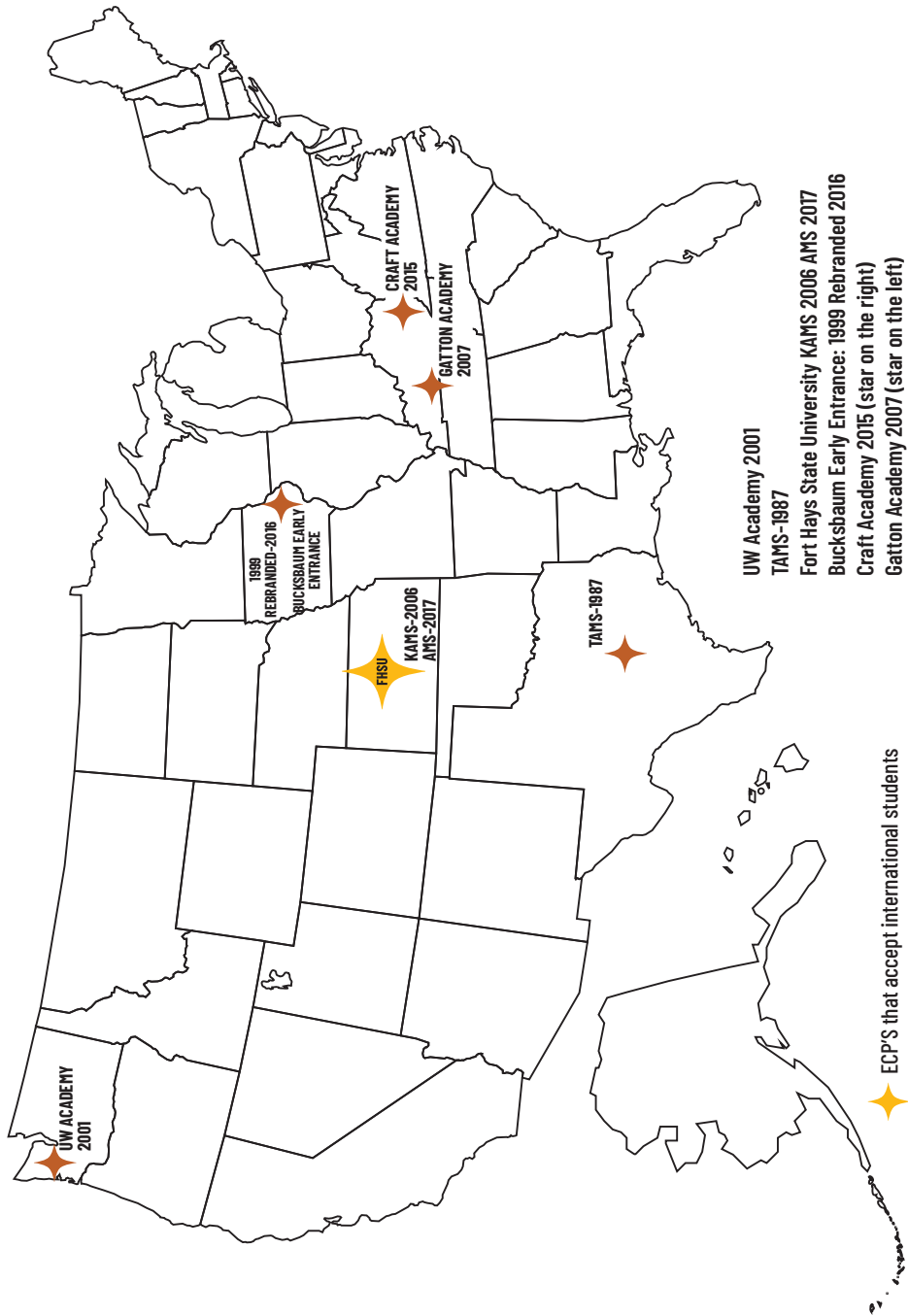
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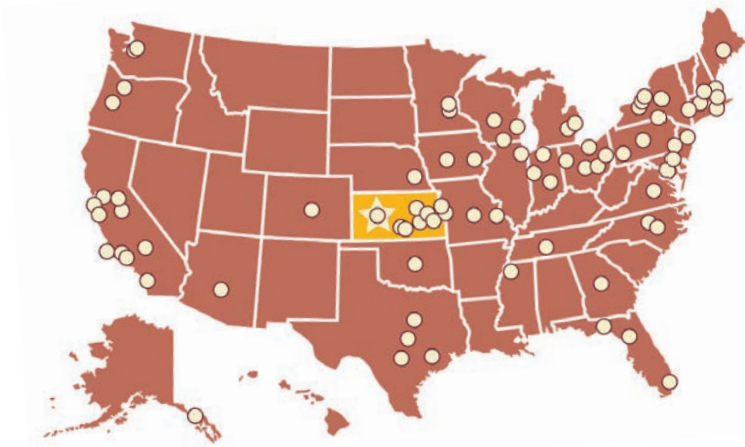
## Domestic & International Trips

ECP offers unique travel experiences that broaden students' academic and cultural horizons. Domestic trips include visits to national parks, STEM conferences, and fun tourist spots, giving students hands-on exposure to a world bigger than their own. International opportunities allow students to explore global perspectives through educational travel, blending cultural immersion with STEM-focused learning. These trips are designed to inspire curiosity, build global awareness, and connect students with real-world applications of their studies.

# RESIDENTIAL EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS



# College & University Acceptance



**SEE MORE!**

Colleges with **Bold text** indicate US NEWS & World Report's 2023 Top 50 universities in the United States.

**Boston University (Boston, MA)**

**California Institute of Technology (Pasadena, CA)**

**Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, PA)**

**Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH)**

Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen, China)

**Columbia University (New York City, NY)**

Florida State University (Tallahassee, FL)

**Fort Hays State University (Hays, KS)**

**Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)**

**Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)**

Hong Kong University (Hong Kong)

**Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)**

Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS)

King's College (London, UK)

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Boston, MA)**

Massey University (Palmerston North, New Zealand)

Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI)

New York University-Abu Dhabi, Shanghai

**Northeastern University (Boston, MA)**

**The Ohio State University (Columbus, OH)**

**Purdue University (West Lafayette, IN)**

**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, NY)**

**Rice University (Houston, TX)**

**Rutgers University (Piscataway, NJ)**

Singapore University of Technology & Design (Singapore)

**Texas A&M University (College Station, TX)**

University of British Columbia-Okanagan (Vancouver, Canada)

**University of California, Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Barbara**

University of Canterbury (Christchurch, New Zealand)

**University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)**

University of Colorado (Boulder, CO)

University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT)

**University of Florida (Gainesville, FL)**

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
(Urbana & Champaign, IL)**

University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS)

**University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)**

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul)

**University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, NC)**

**University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA)**

University of Queensland (Brisbane, Australia)

**University of Rochester (Monroe, NY)**

**University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)**

**University of Texas, Austin (Austin, TX)**

**University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA)**

**University of Wisconsin (Madison, WI)**

Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN)

Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, VA)

**Washington University (St. Louis, MO)**

Wichita State University (Wichita, KS)

This list showcases colleges that KAMS/AMS alumni have been admitted to in the past 5 years, schools that alumni have been admitted to that are featured on the most recent U.S. News and World Report Top 50 Best Colleges list, and other colleges that KAMS/AMS alumni have been admitted to that are important to note.

# Awards Ceremony & Completion Ceremony



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At the Early College Programs, we proudly recognize our students' academic excellence, leadership, and personal growth each year during two signature events: Awards Night and Completion Ceremony. Awards Night honors outstanding achievements in STEM coursework, research, service, and community involvement. The Completion Ceremony marks the culmination of each Senior student's transformative journey at ECP, celebrating their accomplishments and preparing them for the next chapter in college and beyond. These events showcase the dedication, passion, and potential of every ECP student.



✦ **ECP Class of 2025**

✦ **27 Graduated Seniors**

✦ **Top 95th Percentile in ACT**



# Alumni Speaker

## *Dr. Morgan Jibowu*



✦ *Shawnee Heights  
High School, Topeka*

✦ *KAMS Class of 2016*

✦ *PhD in Epidemiology*

✦ *Postdoctoral Associate  
at Baylor College  
of Medicine*

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"...As a fellow KAMS Alum, I remember sitting right where you were nine years ago, feeling that relief alongside the thrilling, maybe slightly terrifying anticipation of what comes next. KAMS has equipped you with an extraordinary toolkit. You've sharpened your analytical skills, pushed your intellectual boundaries, and learned to tackle problems that would make most people's heads spin. You are without a doubt prepared for success, at least a certain kind of success. And that is fantastic..."



**HEAR MORE!**



# ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES

**You have unique educational and career goals, and we have the resources to help you achieve them.** KAMS can be used as a stepping stone to get you to your dream school, program, or career. Whether you have aspirations to be a doctor, engineer, or even an astronaut, your KAMS experience will make you stand out among your peers and prepare you for success in ways you have possibly only imagined.



*"KAMS provided me with rigorous academic preparation that has made me a competitive student and given me an early start in graduate school. The program allowed me to develop not only as a student but as a leader by providing the tools to conduct integrated biotechnology research, pursue a job opportunity at FHSU that built my leadership skills, and complete advanced courses unavailable at my high school. Additionally, KAMS surrounded me with motivated students who pushed me to become the best version of myself. Overall, KAMS has been one of the most significant factors in shaping me into the leader, student, and person I am today, and I am grateful for the many ways it has contributed to my success."*

**PAIGE HOLOPIREK** (La Crosse, KS) KAMS Class of 2022, KU Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Studies Class of 2025, Third-year Student Pharmacist at the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy



*"Under the encouragement of my professors, I recruited several students and started an independent research program in Quantum Computing. Now we have finished a promising paper, which is now under revision by a journal. I could not have achieved all these things without the community at KAMS bringing the best out of me—openness, confidence, and pursuit of truth."*

**TONY LETIAN TANG** AMS Class of 2022, Carnegie Mellon 2025





*"KAMS offered me invaluable early exposure to research and career diversity, which became a pivotal point in my academic journey, providing me with the perfect platform to build a robust skillset that showcased my motivation for success in graduate school. Access to upper-level coursework allowed me to complete degree requirements efficiently and devote ample time to research endeavors. This not only enriched my knowledge but also equipped me with practical hands-on skills in field and lab settings, setting me apart from other perspective graduate school applicants. One of the standout features of KAMS is the dedicated support from their staff, who work closely with students, ensuring they are consistently challenged in both coursework and research, prepping them for any career path they pursue. Thanks to the early college experience I gained at KAMS, my trajectory through graduate school has been accelerated, setting the stage for ongoing success."*

**JORJA ELLIOT** Texas A&M University Biology Ph.D

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*"Choosing to attend AMS was one of the best decisions I've ever made. The Unique Extracurricular activities and research opportunities at KAMS/AMS gave me invaluable experience in research, leadership, and engineering. These experiences not only helped me get into a good university but also laid a strong foundation for early success in my career by helping me obtain undergraduate research and internship opportunities. Academically, the high-quality instruction from university professors prepared me for college-level coursework, and the 50+ transferable credits saved me more money than the entire cost of attending AMS for two years. Not only that, but I also just had a great time being part of the KAMS/AMS community. The tight-knit, supportive environment allowed me to build confidence, make life-long friendships, feel a sense of belonging thousands of miles away from home, and of course, have fun. AMS helped me grow not just as a student, but as a person, and I'll always be grateful for the experiences I had at AMS."*

**SEUNG GU LEE** AMS Class of 2022, Michigan Class of 2025 B.S. in Computer Science

# EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS

## KAMS

(students attending high school in KS):

***If you are a Kansas resident, your tuition and fees are covered by the state of Kansas! Kansas public school students are additionally loaned books and a personal computer free of charge.***

### ROOM AND BOARD COST

Cost includes an open access meal plan of \$9,309. **KAMS students** cannot qualify for federal financial aid due to their high school student status. KAMS provides options to assist domestic students with the financial obligations of the program.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

**KAMS Scholarship**—Need-based, non-renewable scholarship for incoming and returning **KAMS students**.

Need-based, non-renewable scholarship available to incoming and returning KAMS students. *To apply, please visit [FHSU.edu/kams](https://fhsu.edu/kams).*

- **Deadline: May 1**

### COST SAVINGS

**KAMS** program completers can expect to save \$18,000-\$150,000 in tuition and fees (depending on selected college).

**KAMS** program completers automatically qualify for \$8,000 over 2 years to stay at FHSU to complete their undergraduate degree!

**2025 KAMS** program completers were offered over \$2.5 million in scholarship money.



# Cost, Scholarships, Savings, and Next Steps:

## AMS

*(domestic students from outside of KS and international students):*

*If you are an international or out-of-state student, you will have to pay the same fees that traditional students would including things such as books, tuition, and housing.*

### TUITION AND UNIVERSITY FEES

International student: \$17,772/year

Contiguous State tuition: \$8,886/year

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### BOOKS AND SUPPLIES

Approximately \$1,400

### ROOM AND BOARD COST

\$9,309 (includes open access meal plan)

### MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE

\$1,500/year

### COST SAVINGS

AMS program completers can expect to save \$18,000-\$150,000 in tuition and fees (depending on selected college).

2025 AMS program completers were offered over \$2.5 million in scholarship money.

AMS program completers automatically qualify for \$8,000 over 2 years to stay at FHSU to complete their undergraduate degree!

# APPLICATION & ADMISSION INFO

Admission to KAMS/AMS is evaluated holistically. We are looking for exceptional students who are academically talented, mature, motivated, and ready to embrace their future. To download a copy of the application packet, *visit [FHSU.edu/kams](https://FHSU.edu/kams)*.

## KAMS Admission Requirements:

- Completed 10th grade of high school
- Completed high school Algebra II and Geometry
- Received a composite ACT score of 23 or 1150 composite SAT score
- Good standing; cumulative GPA
- Student Essay; Short answers
- Teacher, counselor, parent, and mentor evaluations

## AMS Admission Requirements:

- Completed 10th grade of high school
- Completed high school Algebra II and Geometry
- English Proficiency Scores (International Students Only):
  - TOEFL: 70
  - TOEFL iBT: 78
  - IELTS: 6.0
  - iTEP: 3.8
  - Duolingo: 95
- Interview with the AMS Director set up through an agent
- Student Essay (Recommended)
- Honors and Awards (Recommended)

## How To Prepare For KAMS:

- Visit with your high school counselor to discuss completing high school-specific credits for graduation before attending KAMS, such as physical education, history, and/or foreign language classes
- Attend a KAMS information session or webinar to learn more about KAMS.
- Visit campus. The best way to discover if KAMS is the right fit is to see it yourself. Sign up for Preview Day or a personalized campus visit by visiting the KAMS website (QR Code Below).

## How To Prepare For AMS: (International Students Only)

- Find an educational agency in your area to work with. Approved agencies can be found at [FHSU.edu/ams](https://FHSU.edu/ams).
- Apply for and schedule a VISA interview by June 1st before your arrival.
- Take the TOEFL exam by the end of the fall semester of your 10th-grade year.

## Admission Timeline:

The suggested deadline for application during your 10th grade year is April 1st. Applications are accepted after this date until all 40 new student slots are filled. We also offer an early admission opportunity for 9th graders.



**Schedule  
Visit Here!**

# ***10 things to ask the Early College Program Staff***

- What is the total cost of the program?
- What scholarships and aid are available?
- What opportunities for research will I have?
- How do KAMS/AMS graduates do with college acceptance, scholarships, and graduate school opportunities?
- What clubs and organizations are available?
- What residence hall options do I have as a KAMS/AMS student?
- What do Tigers do for fun in Hays?
- Who teaches the classes I will take?
- What would my four semesters look like if I studied here?
- How can ECP staff help me adjust to life away from home?

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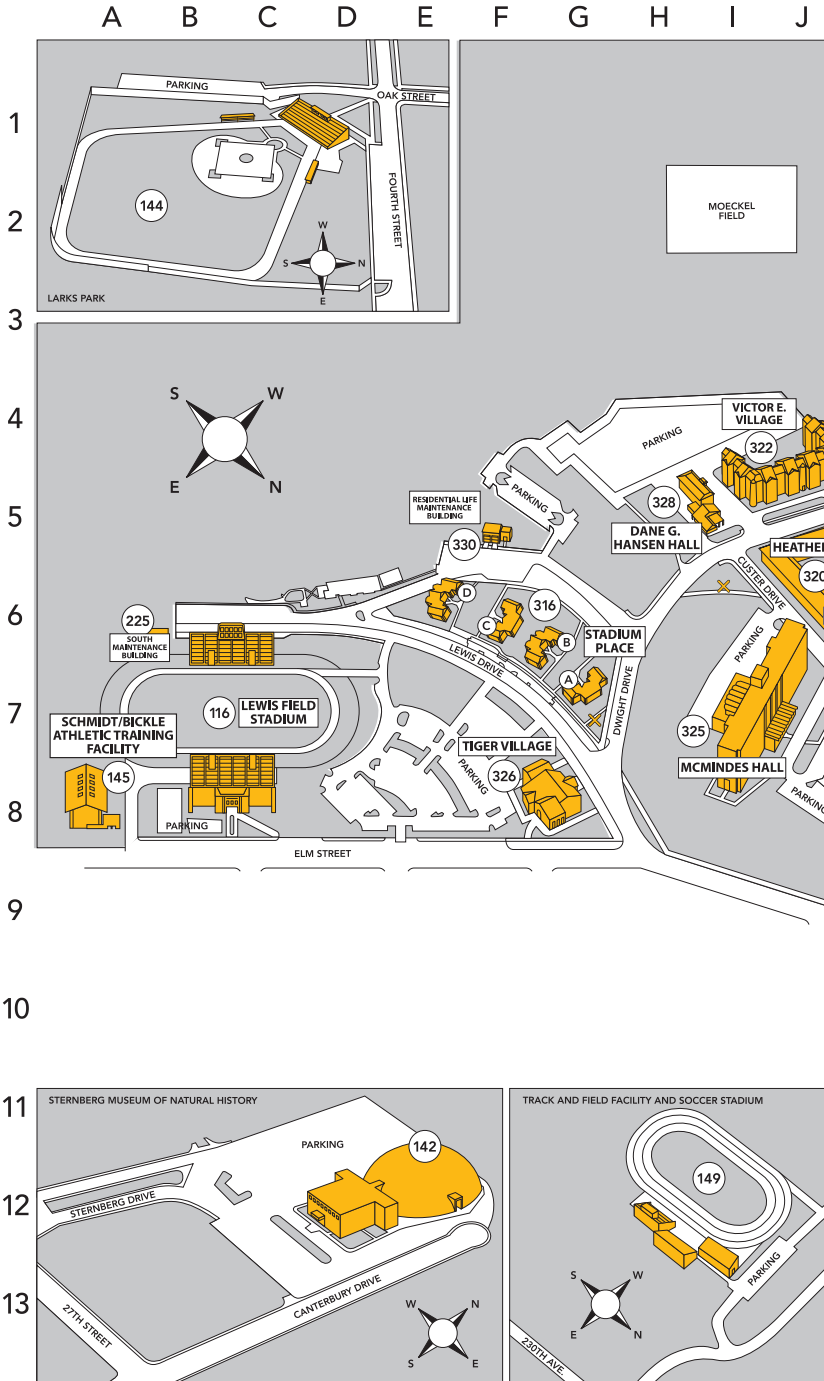


## ***4 reasons to schedule your campus visit today***

- Meet current students face-to-face and attend a class with them.
- See a room in Custer Hall.
- Tour campus and see yourself here.
- Meet with ECP staff to answer questions about cost, scholarships, academics, activities, and ways to get involved on campus.

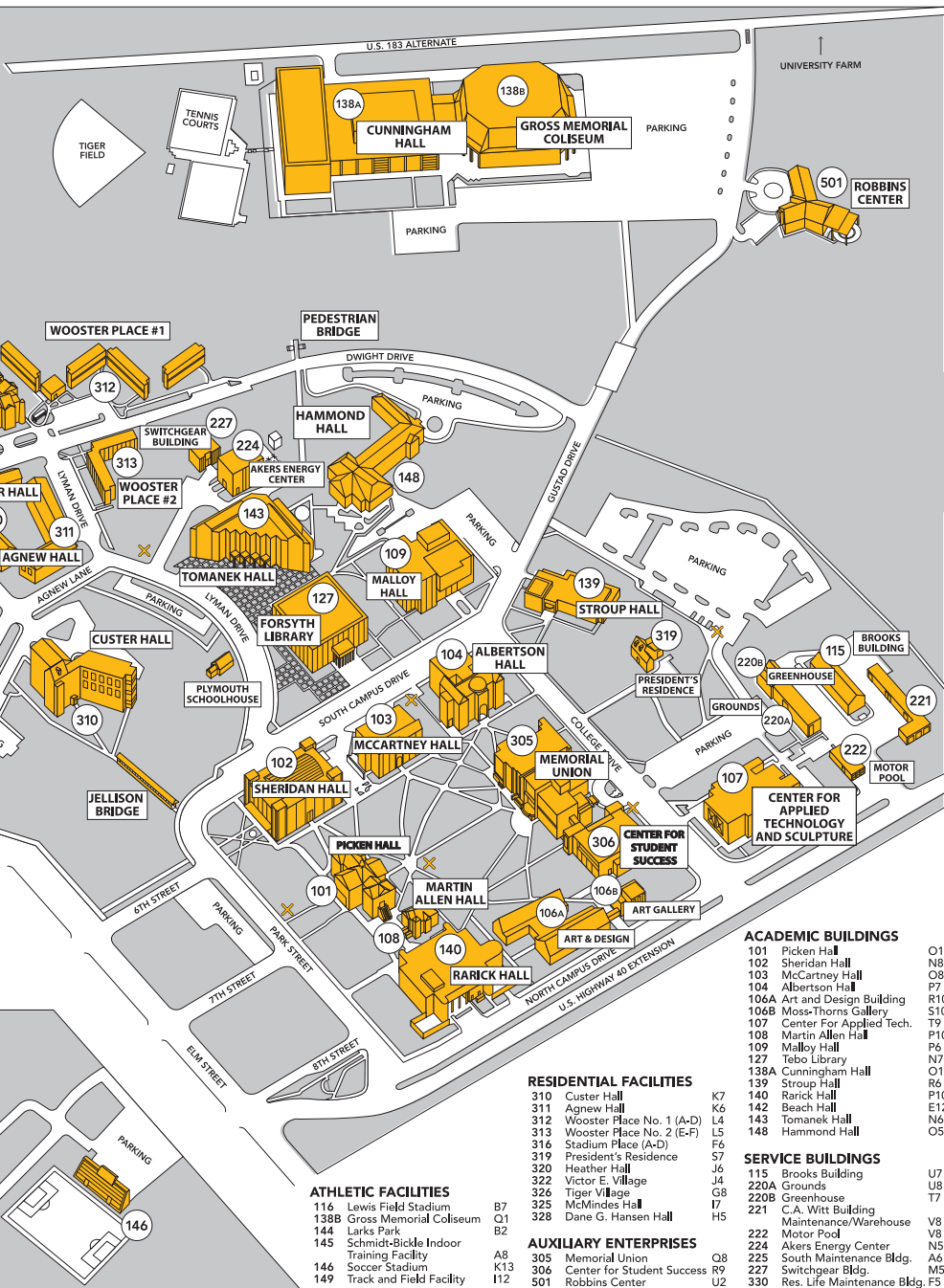


SEE YOURSELF at  
**FORT HAYS STATE  
UNIVERSITY**





K L M N O P Q R S T U V



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**PROGRAMS**  
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