Frequently asked Questions - Tuition

Tuition and Fee Information

Contact Hour System

Beginning in Fall 2014 the method used to calculate the cost of tuition at KVCC will be based on contact hours.

How Tuition is Determined:
Students will be charged based on the total number of contact hours rather than credit hours.

The main factor to determine contact hours is the number of hours the student is expected to either be in a class or in another “instructional” setting (such as a lab or clinical setting) in a typical week for a course.

For Example: a student who registers for BIO 100 (4-3-3) is taking a four credit hour course which has six contact hours- 3 lecture and 3 lab.

Course information (link to cross walk pdf sent with email) includes both the credit hours and contact hours for every KVCC credit course.

Why is KVCC doing this?
Charging by contact hour more fairly distributes tuition costs to students who receive extra instruction. For example, a student taking an Economics class has less contact time with an instructor than a student in a Biology class with a lab. Students will now pay for the amount of instruction time they receive.

For the majority of courses at KVCC, the credit hours and contact hours are the same.

KVCC is one of 19 (out of 28) Michigan community colleges basing tuition on contact hours.

KVCC tuition continues to be among the most competitive in the region.

Why don’t students receive credit hours for all of the contact hours we’re paying for?
Think of it like homework. There is an expectation that every course will require additional time out of class, supplementing it by working on homework and other projects. Students don’t receive credit hours for all of the time they spend doing homework for their classes. Think of contact hours as time spent doing practical application facilitated by an instructor to supplement a class. There are also national standards that must be followed in determining the amount of credit earned for a course. Violating these national standards would affect the transferability of the course to other colleges and universities.

How can KVCC help me pay for my classes?
The college offers a variety of ways in which students can pay tuition, including grants and scholarships https://www.kvcc.edu/admissions/finaid/ and payment plans https://www.kvcc.edu/admissions/registration/payment_plan_information.html