



RIDGEWATER

COLLEGE



2023-24 VIEWBOOK

HUTCHINSON | WILLMAR | ONLINE | RIDGEWATER.EDU



GETTING STARTED



SCHEDULE A VISIT

ridgewater.edu/visit or 320-222-5971

Visits are available in person or virtually. We also offer group events and information sessions.



APPLY TO RIDGEWATER

ridgewater.edu/apply

Complete your application online. It's easy and FREE!

Veterans/military members should receive approval from your ESO, military counselor or service prior to enrolling at Ridgewater College.



APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

fafsa.gov - Ridgewater's college code 005252

Complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Need help? Book an appointment with our Financial Aid staff at ridgewater.edu/financialaid. We're here to assist.



HOUSING

Ridgewater does not offer on-campus housing; however, there are many affordable housing options within walking distance of campus. Check out ridgewater.edu/housing for resources.

RIDGEWATER VISION

Ridgewater College is a student-centered educational leader focused on innovation, excellence and affordability.

WHO WE ARE



OUR COMMUNITIES: HUTCHINSON AND WILLMAR

- Regional, safe communities in central Minnesota
- Variety of shopping, dining, music, theater, cultural, and recreational opportunities
- Outdoor activities such as water sports, hiking, biking, disc golf, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, and skiing
- Access public transportation in both Willmar and Hutchinson
- Both campuses offer full academic programs and student services, including many online and blended programs and courses



ENROLLMENT: 3,573



1,772
Willmar

1,229
Hutchinson

— 572
Fully Online

WILLMAR

Population 21,015

HUTCHINSON

Population 14,590




CREATING

*You don't have to know your exact goal –
Ridgewater is a great place to start!*

BEGIN YOUR BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- A Liberal Arts & Sciences education is made up of general education courses that make up an Associates of Arts (AA) degree.
- An AA paves the way for a smooth transfer to any Minnesota public university for a four-year college.
- Pathway-specific (transfer pathways) AA degrees also transfer to Minnesota State universities but allow you to focus on a specific career area.

44%  of Ridgewater students enroll in general education courses to transfer to a four-year college

BE A CASUAL STUDENT

- Explore a passion or build a skill. Not all students seek a degree, diploma or certificate. Take a class that interests you!

Transfer Pathways:

Business

Communication Studies

Criminal Justice

Early Childhood Education

Elementary Education

Law Enforcement

Psychology


Special Education

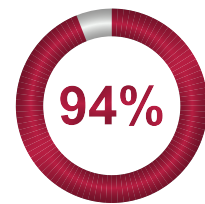
OPPORTUNITIES



LEARN A TRADE - PURSUE TECHNICAL TRAINING

- Obtain training and a degree, diploma or certificate for in-demand employment in two years or less
- Receive hands-on training to complement academic coursework
- Gain practical knowledge and skills for trades careers

56%  of Ridgewater students enroll in trade programs



Ridgewater graduates leave with jobs in a related field
(preliminary for 2021-22)

RIDGEWATER MISSION

Ridgewater College empowers diverse learners to reach their full potential and enrich their lives through personalized and relevant education in an accessible, supportive and inclusive environment.

WHAT CAREER



Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering

ridgewater.edu/manufacturing

Agriculture Automation - BH and BW
Computer-Aided Drafting & Design - O
Machine Tool Technology - H, W
Manufacturing Automation Technologies - H
Nondestructive Testing Technology - H
Welding - H, W

Agriculture & Veterinary Technology

ridgewater.edu/ag-vettech

Agri Business - W, O
Agricultural Science & Technology - W
Agriculture Automation - BH and BW
Agriculture Marketing and Communications - BW, O
Agriculture Power & Equipment Technician - W
Agronomy Applicator Technician - W
Agronomy Technology - W
Dairy Management - W
Farm Operation & Management - W
Meat Cutting - B
Poultry Management - O
Precision Agriculture - W
Veterinary Technology - W

Art, Design & Visual Communications

ridgewater.edu/art-design

Multimedia Design Technology - O
Photography & Design - O
Professional Photography - O
Web Developer - O

Automotive Trades

ridgewater.edu/autotrades

Auto Body Collision Technology - W
Automotive Service Technology - W

Key: Program Location/Delivery

H - Hutchinson

W - Willmar

O - Online

B - Blended online and in person on site,
i.e. BW is Blended online and
Willmar campus



Business & Marketing

ridgewater.edu/business

Accountant - O
Administrative Assistant - O
Agriculture Marketing and Communications - BW, O
Business Transfer Pathway - H, W, O
Entrepreneurship - H, W, O
Healthcare Administrative Assistant - O
Legal Assistant - O
Marketing & Design - BH, BW, O
Marketing & Sales Management - H, W, O
Multimedia Design Technology - O
Office Assistant - O
Photography & Design - O
Professional Photography Technology - O

Construction Trades

ridgewater.edu/construction

Electrician - H, W
Plumbing Technician - BW

Cosmetology & Massage Therapy

ridgewater.edu/cos-massage

Advanced Esthetics - W
Cosmetology - W
Estheology - W
Massage Therapy - H, W

AWAITS YOU?

See full program details at
ridgewater.edu/academics

Education

ridgewater.edu/education

Agricultural Science & Technology - W
Early Childhood Education Transfer Pathway
- BH, BW, O
Elementary Education Foundations
Transfer Pathway - BH, BW
Special Education Transfer Pathway - BH, BW

Health Care

ridgewater.edu/healthcare

Activity Director - O
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)* - BH, BW
Health Information Technician - O
Health Sciences Broad Field - H, W
Healthcare Administrative Assistant - O
Massage Therapy - H, W
Medical Assistant - H, W
Medical Coding - O
Nursing Assistant (NA)* - H, W
Nursing - Associate Degree - H, W
Nursing - Practical Nursing - H, W
Paramedic - BW
Phlebotomy - H, W

Information Technology

ridgewater.edu/computers

Computer Programmer - O
Computer Support Technician - O
Network Administration & Security - O
Web Developer - O

Liberal Arts & Sciences

ridgewater.edu/liberalarts

Transfer Pathways
Business - H, W, O
Communication Studies - H, W, BW, O
Criminal Justice - W, BW, O
Early Childhood Education - BH, BW, O
Elementary Education - BH, BW
Law Enforcement - BW, O
Psychology - H, W, BH, BW, O
Special Education - BH, BW

Additional Liberal Arts & Sciences Courses

Art - H, W, BH, BW, O
Biology - H, W, BH, BW, O
Chemistry - H, W, BH, BW
Coaching - BW
Communication Studies - H, W, BW, O
Economics - H, W, O
English - H, W, BH, BW, O
Geography - H, O
Global Studies - O
History - H, W, O
Mathematics - H, W, O
Music - O
Philosophy - BH, BW, O
Physical Education - W, O
Political Science - O
Psychology - H, W, BH, BW, O
Spanish - O
Theater - W, O

Mathematics, Science & Engineering

ridgewater.edu/stem

Health Sciences Broad Field - H, W
Manufacturing Automation Technologies - H
Nondestructive Testing Technology - H

Occupational Skills Program

ridgewater.edu/occupationalskills

Occupational Skills - W

Peace Officer, Legal & Emergency Services

ridgewater.edu/law-ems

Criminal Justice Transfer Pathway - W, BW, O
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)* - BH, BW
Law Enforcement Transfer Pathway - BW, O
Legal Assistant - O
Paramedic - BW
Peace Officer - BW, O

* EMT and NA are short-term career trainings with Customized Training and Continuing Education. Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training is also available.
ridgewater.edu/customized

Translate >>

To view program information in other languages, use our website's convenient language translator button. See Spanish and Somali versions of program fact sheets at ridgewater.edu/dei.

NOT SURE WHERE TO BEGIN?

We're here for you. Schedule a visit with our counselors at 320-222-5971 to explore education and career options. ridgewater.edu/explorecareers

ONLINE

Online and blended/hybrid courses can be great complements to face-to-face courses.

How MUCH FLEXIBILITY IS RIGHT FOR YOU?



Synchronous - online classes with set times



Asynchronous - online classes with no set times for maximum flexibility

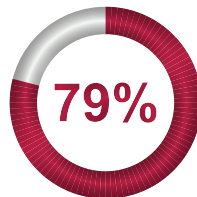


Blended/hybrid - scheduled in-person classes for the college experience and hands-on application plus online learning

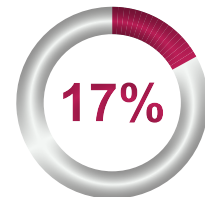


Discover options and explore how online might be right for you!

[ridgewater.edu/online](https://www.ridgewater.edu/online)



Students taking at least one online course



Fully online students

Some like the convenience of learning *anywhere*

FLEXIBILITY

FULLY ONLINE PROGRAMS

Accountant
Activity Director
Administrative Assistant
Agri Business
Agriculture Marketing and Communications
Business Transfer Pathway
Communication Studies Transfer Pathway and Certificate
Computer-Aided Drafting and Design
Computer Programmer
Computer Support Technician
Criminal Justice Transfer Pathway
Early Childhood Education (Certificate only)
Early Childhood Special Education (Certificate only)
Entrepreneurship
Health Information Technician
Healthcare Administrative Assistant
Law Enforcement Transfer Pathway
Legal Assistant
Liberal Arts & Sciences
Marketing and Design
Marketing and Sales Management
Medical Coding
Multimedia Design Technology
Network Administration & Security
Office Assistant
Peace Officer
Photography and Design
Poultry Management
Professional Photography Technology
Psychology Transfer Pathway
Sales and Management Associate
Web Developer



Others enjoy
a traditional setting
on campus



RIDGEWATER EQUITY COMMITMENT

Ridgewater College is committed to providing welcoming and inclusive campuses that value and respect the unique experiences, needs and contributions of individuals and groups from every background and identity to ensure that each student, employee and community member has a genuine opportunity for participation and success.

TAP INTO SUPPORT

Ridgewater offers exceptional student support services provided by caring instructors and staff members.



COUNSELING AND ADVISING

Every Ridgewater student is assigned an academic advisor to assist you in selecting courses and creating a schedule to achieve your educational goals. Our team of counselors is also available to assist with academic, personal or basic needs, plus career exploration and interest or skills assessments.



ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND STUDENT SUCCESS

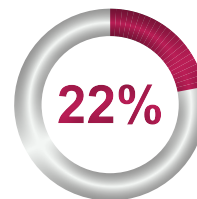
- Academic Support Centers
- Academic coaches
- Accessibility and Disability Services
- Basic needs resources
- Career Services
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- Developmental courses
- Library assistants
- Online tutoring
- Peer tutoring
- Study skills training
- Supplemental instruction
- Technology labs
- Testing assistance
- TRIO Student Support Services
- Veterans' services
- Warrior Pantry

YOU'LL FIT RIGHT IN AS A WARRIOR

STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY



- 1.6% Asian
- 2.7% Unknown
- 4.0% Other
- 4.8% Black/African American
- 10.4% Hispanic
- 76% Caucasian

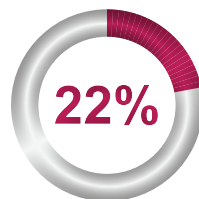


First-generation students

* First in family to attend post-secondary institution



1:20
Average
faculty-to-student
ratio



Students of color



Theater productions hit the stage in fall and spring



Clay target, one of many opportunities to meet others



Professional Agriculture Students (PAS) compete at nationals

JOIN THE FUN!

Make the most of your college experience.



ORGANIZATIONS

ridgewater.edu/studentlife

Choose from dozens of campus organizations. Student groups are a great way to get involved, try new things, develop leadership and career skills, and network with new people. A sampling includes:

- Student Senate
- DECA Professional Leaders Organization
- Multicultural Club
- Professional Agriculture Students (PAS)
- Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
- Hunting and Fishing League
- Rodeo Club
- Pride Respect Individuality Support Movement (PRISM)
- Theater



ATHLETICS - DIVISION III AND/OR CLUB SPORT

ridgewaterathletics.com

MEN'S: Basketball, wrestling, baseball

WOMEN'S: Volleyball, basketball, softball

CO-ED: Clay target (club sport)

Varsity and club sports are open to all students. They are based in Willmar, with the exception of clay target, which is available in both communities. Join the action on a team or cheer from the stands.



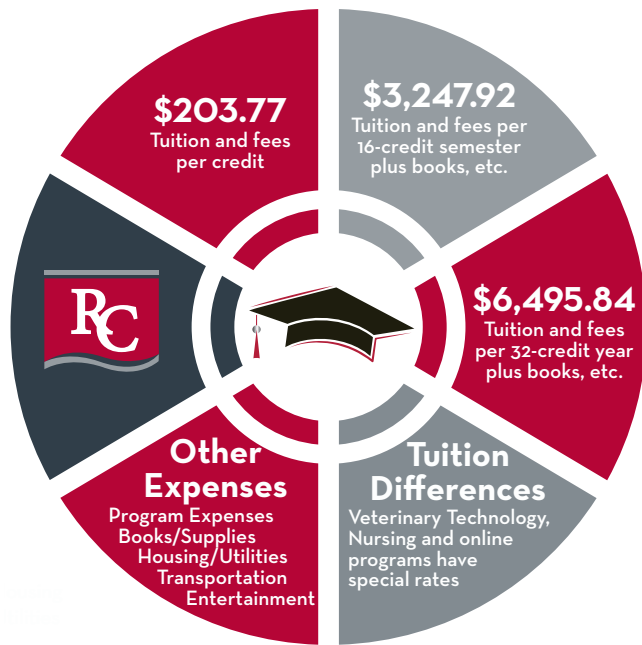
RECREATIONAL FUN

- Fitness centers
- Pool tables, bean bags and tournaments
- On-campus disc golf
- Student Life events



IT'S AFFORDABLE

Invest in yourself and your future. Ridgewater offers affordable tuition and educational excellence.



Student fees include student services, health services, technology, parking and the Minnesota State College Student Association. They total \$21.35 per credit for 2023-24 for most students. Online students do not pay parking nor health services fees.



SCHOLARSHIPS

ridgewater.edu/scholarships

Our Ridgewater College Foundation generously supports incoming and enrolled students every semester.



Don't miss the deadlines

\$395,000+
Scholarships awarded annually

EXCELLENCE

WARRIOR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

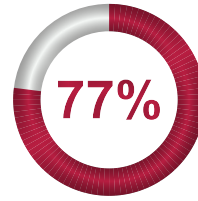


FINANCIAL AID

ridgewater.edu/financialaid

Ridgewater College offers an extensive financial aid program for qualified students.

- State and federal grants
- Work study
- Subsidized and unsubsidized loans



Students receiving financial aid



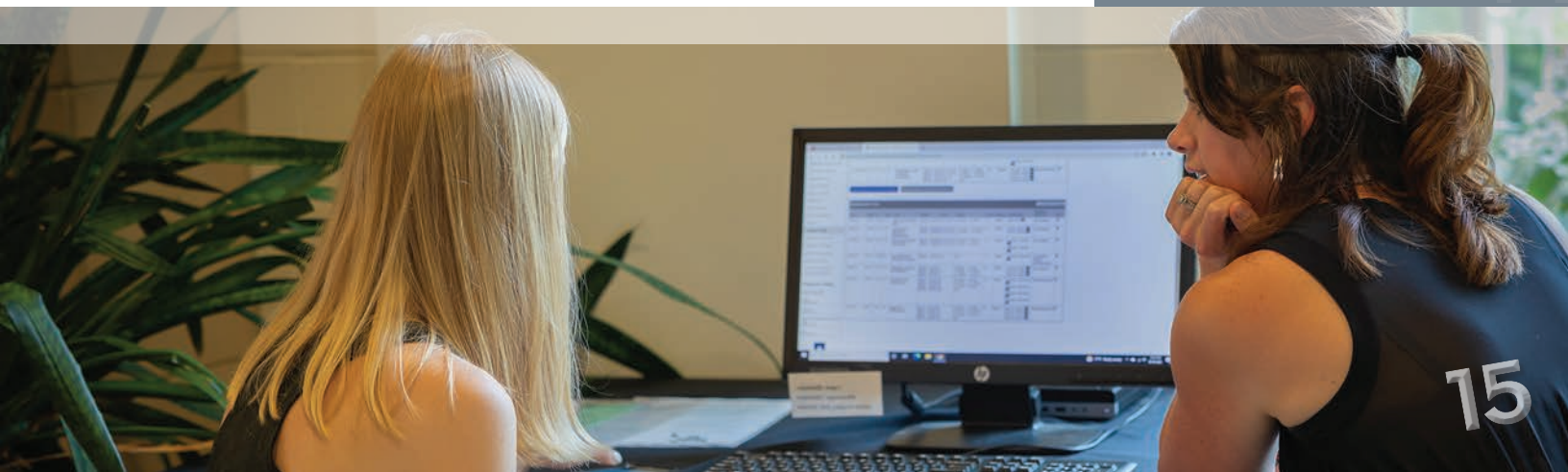
NORTH STAR PROMISE

Beginning in fall 2024, the North Star Promise Scholarship program will make college accessible and affordable for any eligible Minnesotan. The program will cover the full cost of tuition and fees for eligible Minnesotans at public institutions and tribal colleges in the state. Ask our Financial Aid staff to see if you qualify.

0% PAYMENT PLANS

Several payment plans can help you manage your educational investment, including 0% interest options. Ask - we're here to help!

- Enterprising
- Empowerment
- Excellence
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Trust and Respect
- Collaboration
- Curiosity and Creativity
- Accountability



GLAD WE CHOSE



“

I chose Ridgewater because it has an accredited program. Ridgewater was a good fit for me because even though my program is online, I was in direct communication with my teachers. I was able to work while going to Ridgewater because there was no set time I had to be online.

Lindsay Stampley, Activity Director, Alabama ”



Warriors on a Mission



“

I chose Ridgewater because of the affordable tuition and the great programs. The Professional Photography program was a good fit for me. The instructors are very good - very knowledgeable and they show their students the best ways to be successful in this field. What I liked the most was access to tools, equipment and a studio.

Si Koch, Professional Photography, Marshall ”

RIDGEWATER



“

I was immediately interested in the Marketing and Sales Management program since it fit with my desire to become a respectable entrepreneur. I learned how to be the best me. I leave Ridgewater humbled with dreams, ideas and aspirations to fly as high as I always wanted.

Samuel Choy, Marketing and Sales Management, Minneapolis ”



Find your future here!



“

If you're considering an agriculture major of any kind, definitely come to Ridgewater. They have several great hands-on classes, along with internship opportunities to help you figure out the right career path for you. It's also a lot cheaper than a four-year college.

Emma Johnson, Agri Business, Le Sueur ”



RIDGEWATER ANTI-RACISM COMMITMENT

Ridgewater College fully commits to opposing racism, bigotry and all forms of exclusion and unjust bias based on personal identity. We view such actions as critical threats to the health and well-being of our College and the communities we serve.

WHY RIDGEWATER?

THE WARRIOR EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENT INVESTMENT

Providing an affordable, high-quality, student-centered education for our diverse learners is our top priority.



CARING ATMOSPHERE

Friendly and welcoming campuses offer opportunities to engage in and out of class. Small classes and supportive student services staff offer helpful personal attention.



HANDS-ON OPPORTUNITIES

Learn by doing through lab experiences and real-world projects.



FLEXIBLE OPTIONS

Take classes full time or part time, on campus, fully online, or partially online blended with face-to-face on campus.



SUCCESSFUL START

Studies show that students who begin at Ridgewater and then transfer to four-year colleges perform as well or better in their junior/senior years than students who begin at four-year colleges.



EASY CREDIT TRANSFER

Associate degrees based on the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum pave the way for smooth transfer to any public university in Minnesota. Work with your advisor to ensure a smooth transition.



Check out the
Ridgewater Bookstore for
everything Warrior!
ridgewaterbookstore.com



HUTCHINSON CAMPUS
2 Century Avenue SE
Hutchinson, MN 55350



RIDGEWATER
COLLEGE



MINNESOTA STATE

Ridgewater College,
A member of Minnesota State



WILLMAR CAMPUS
2101 15th Avenue NW
Willmar, MN 56201

Viewbook data provided from 2021-22 and 2022-2023 academic years as available.



Ridgewater College is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 800-722-1151. Consumers with hearing or speech disabilities may contact us via their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service. 8/2023

ACCREDITATION

Ridgewater is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. [ncahlc.org](https://www.ncahlc.org)



RIDGEWATER.EDU | 800-722-1151