



## High School Nandagikendan (Seek to Learn) Academy Summer 2019 to Summer 2024 All Data Report

Since the Summer 2019 High School Seek to Learn Academy, data has been collected on attendees to evaluate programming and expand the program to support more Native American students in exploring college and career options while developing college readiness skills. Student names, their school, grade level, and attendance has been tracked since Summer 2019. Despite lower numbers during the COVID pandemic, the Academy rebounded and attendance for the academic year Academy increased greatly, as illustrated in Figure 1. The increase to the attendees for the academic year Academy is due to the rapid increase in participating schools, as there were only two schools participating in 2019 and that number jumped to eleven schools by the end of academic year 2023.

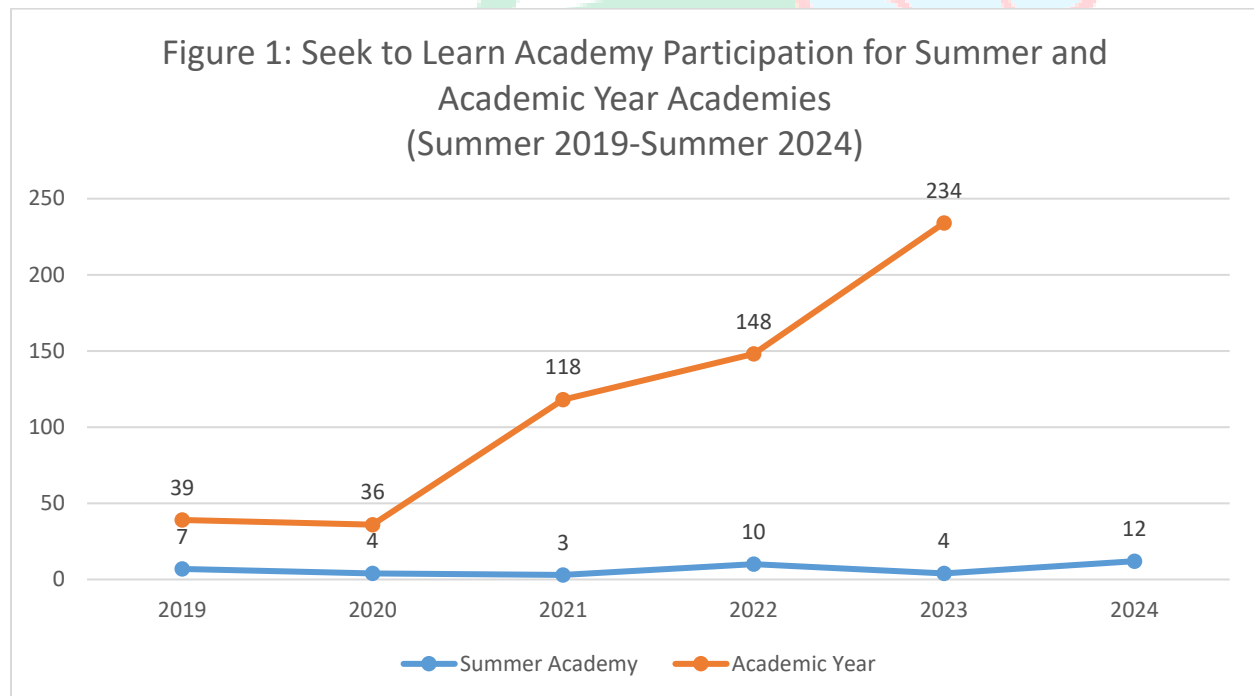


Figure 1: Trends of the number of participants for both the summer and academic year Academies. The summer Academy has remained stable while the academic year has greatly increased since 2020.

Two schools participated in academic years 2019 and 2020 with a third school joining in 2021. A fourth school joined in 2022 and in 2023, seven additional schools joined the program, although Center for Life (White Earth) only did one, two-day Academy event during the academic year due to their distance from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, and it required an overnight stay that the school financed. Figure 2 displays the schools and their years of participation.

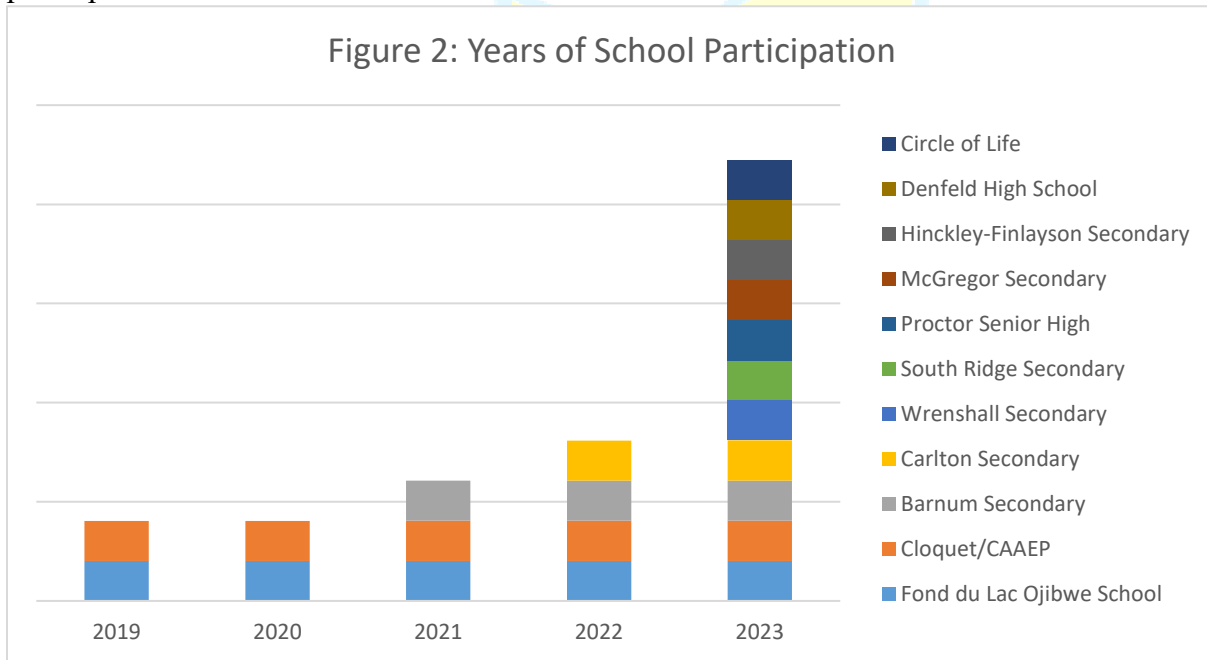


Figure 2: School participation increased greatly in 2023. Starting with only two schools in 2019, there are now 11 schools participating in the academic year Academy.

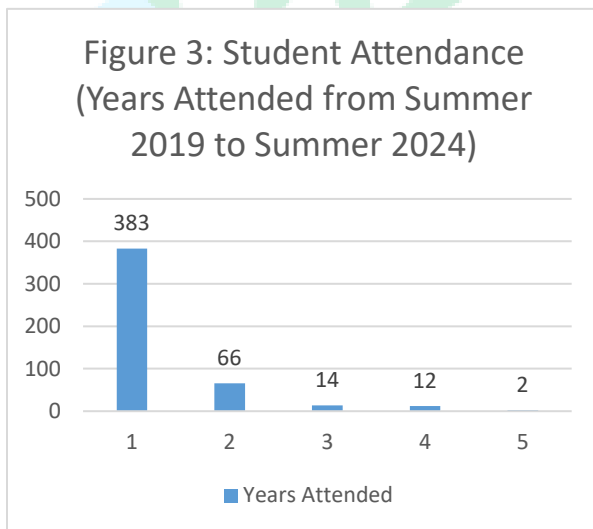


Figure 3: The image shows how many years students have attended Seek to Learn Academy events. The increase in schools participating supports the fact most students have only attended one years' worth of Academy events.

Students that began the program in Summer 2019 could have attended a total of six years' worth of Academy events if they attended the Summer 2019 Academy as an incoming freshman and attended the Summer 2024 Academy as a recent high school graduate. While this is not the case, two students did attend five years' worth of Academy events. A general trend worth noting is that while local students participate in academic year Academies, they don't tend to participate in the summer Academies, a trend that changed since the COVID pandemic. Most students have attended only one years' worth of Academy events, which matches the increase school participation in academic year 2023. The number of years students attended can be seen in Figure 3.

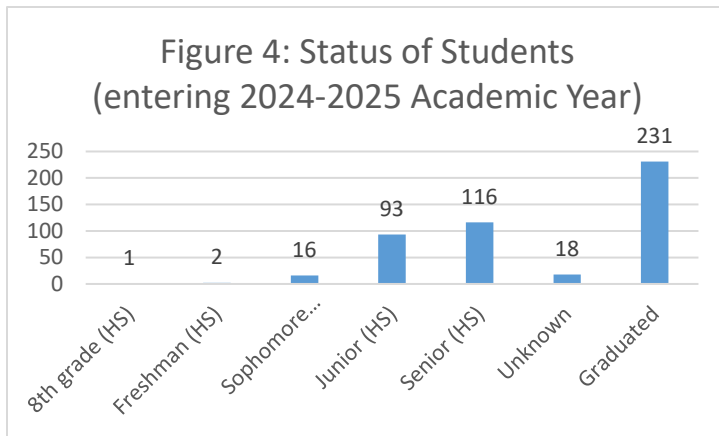


Figure 4: The grade/graduate status of Academy students entering the 2024-2025 academic year.

A breakdown of the 477 students that have attended Academy events since Summer 2019 was conducted to determine the grade level or status for each attendee. Approximately half of the attendees are in Graduated status entering the 2024-2025 academic year. Most of the attendees still in high school will be juniors and seniors entering the fall 2024 academic year. Figure 4 illustrates the number of students in each grade level entering the 2024-2025 academic year.

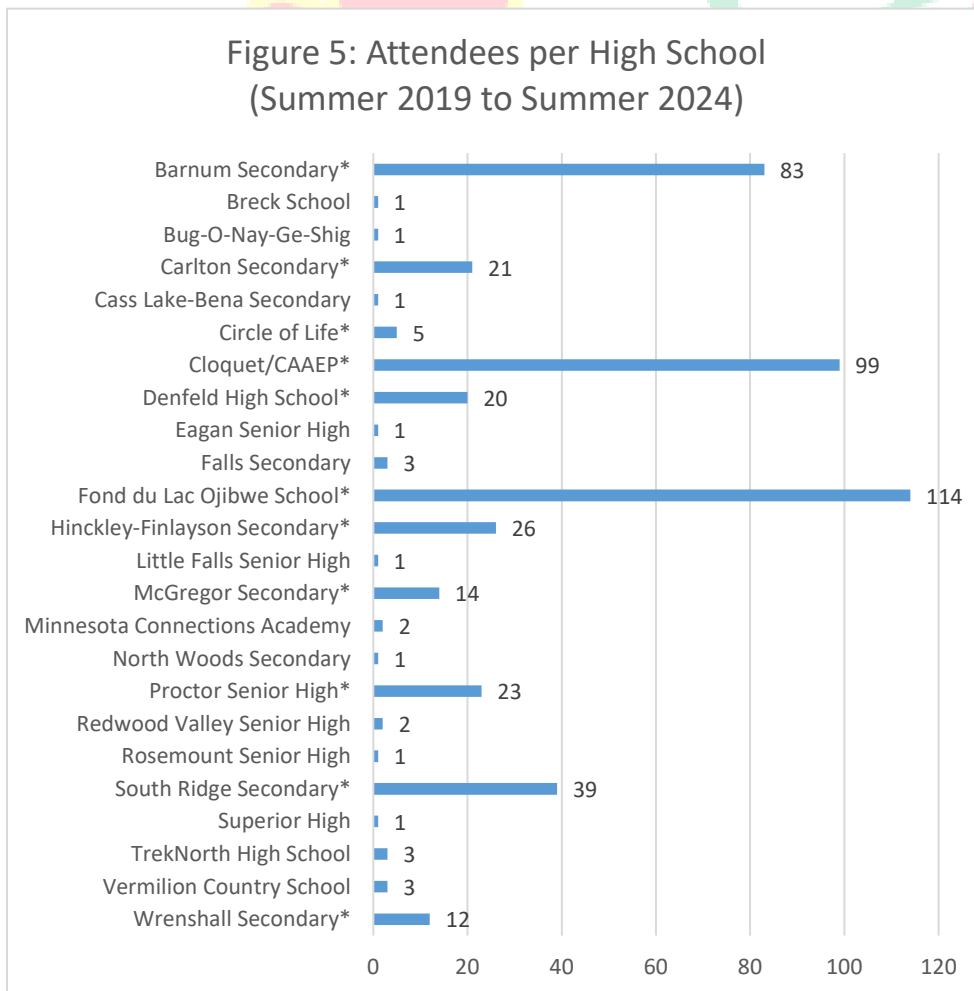


Figure 5: A breakdown of the schools that have had their students participate in Academy events. Summer Academy events have the highest variety of schools participating. The schools that have been part of the academic year Academy events have had the highest participation in Academy events. Academic year Academy schools have an asterisk.

A breakdown of the students participating in both summer and academic year Academy events further shows that the longer a school has participated in the Academy, the more students that school will have participate in Academy events, as seen in Figure 5. However, the variety of schools represented by students attending Academy events is greatly increased through summer Academy events where students from all over Minnesota can participate.

Figure 6 combines the data from Figures 4 and 5 to fully illustrate the schools that have been represented at the Academy events, and the 2024-2025 grade levels/graduate status of the students that participated in Academy events. The schools that are not part of the academic year Academy but have had students participate in the summer Academy have the lowest number of participants, which is to be expected. Schools that can participate in the academic year Academy can recruit more students for the events throughout the academic year. Transportation for students, prior obligations/summer jobs for students, and limited staffing for the Academy limit the number of participants for the summer Academy. However, the limited staffing situation will be addressed for the Summer 2025 Academy. The distance from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College is a limiting factor for school participation in the academic year Academy and is difficult to overcome without requiring the format Circle of Life completed. A two-day, one- or two-night stay for schools is financially challenging to accommodate but could be a future possibility for distance high schools that are hoping to participate in the Seek to Learn Academy.

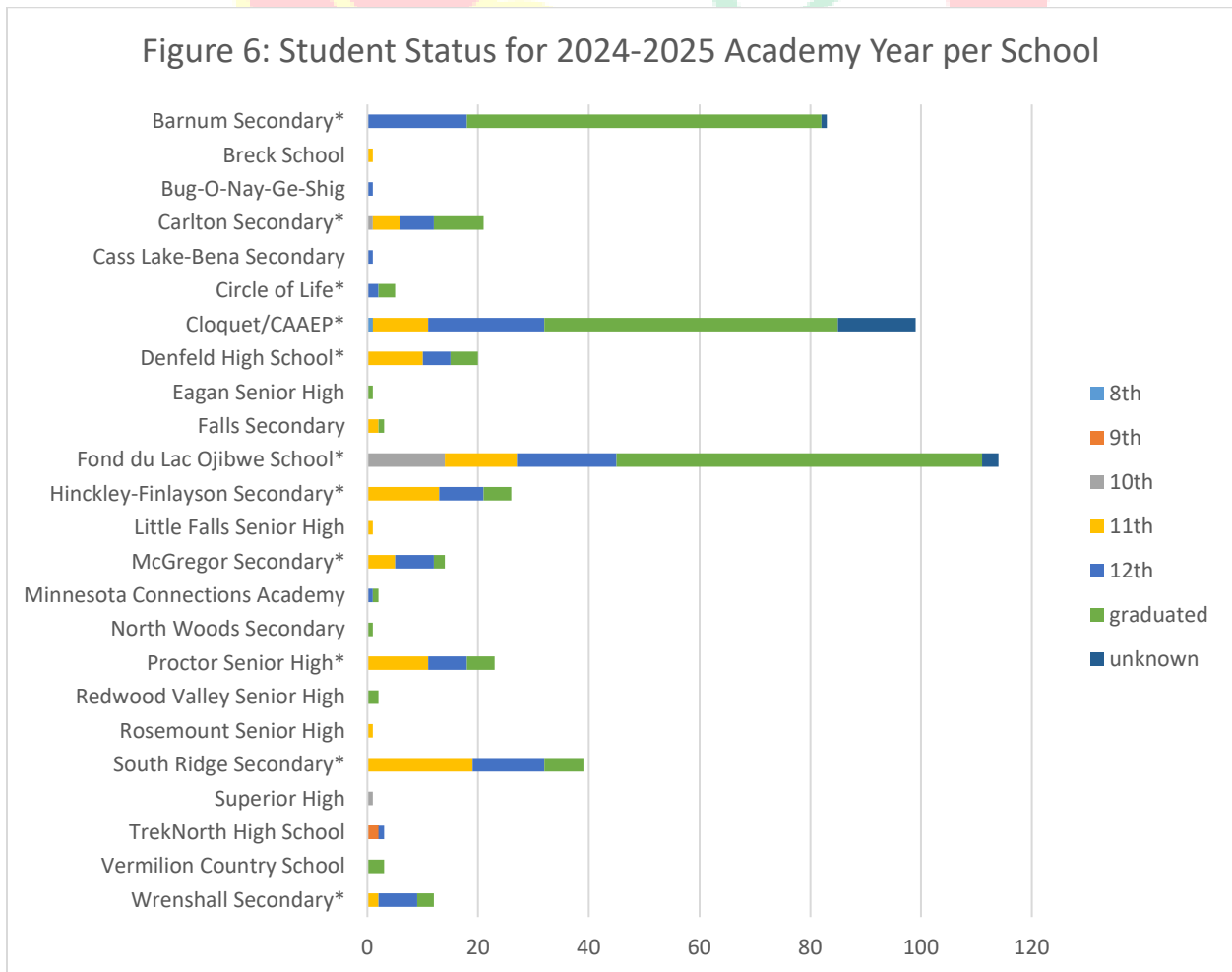


Figure 6: The list of schools that have had students attend Academy events. The schools that participated the longest in the academic year Academy have the highest number of attendees. The breakdown also shows the grade level/graduation status for participants. The schools with an asterisk denote the schools that are part of the academic year Academy.

The data used for Figure 6 can be found in Table 1 (below) for clarity of the number of students per grade level and per school. The schools with an asterisk denote the schools that are part of the academic year Academy. As expected, the schools that have participated in the academic year Academy have more students that have participated in the Academy and schools that are represented only by individual students that have participated in the summer Academy have much lower number of participants. It's also no surprise that schools that have been with the program longer have higher numbers of participants.

*Table 1: The grades/graduation status of Academy participants for the 2024-2025 academic year. Schools with an asterisk denote schools that are part of the academic year Academy program. Other schools represented are schools where students have individually attended a summer Academy.*

<b>Table 1</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>	<b>Graduated</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Total</b>
Barnum Secondary*					18	64	1	83
Breck School				1				1
Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig					1			1
Carlton Secondary*			1	5	6	9		21
Cass Lake-Bena Secondary					1			1
Circle of Life*					2	3		5
Cloquet/CAAEP*	1			10	21	53	14	99
Denfeld High School*				10	5	5		20
Eagan Senior High						1		1
Falls Secondary				2		1		3
Fond du Lac Ojibwe School*			14	13	18	66	3	114
Hinckley-Finlayson Secondary*				13	8	5		26
Little Falls Senior High				1				1
McGregor Secondary*				5	7	2		14
Minnesota Connections Academy					1	1		2
North Woods Secondary						1		1
Proctor Senior High*				11	7	5		23
Redwood Valley Senior High						2		2
Rosemount Senior High				1				1
South Ridge Secondary*				19	13	7		39
Superior High			1					1
TrekNorth High School		2			1			3
Vermilion Country School						3		3
Wrenshall Secondary*				2	7	3		12
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>477</b>

# Seek to Learn Academy Schools

Summer 2019 to Summer 2024

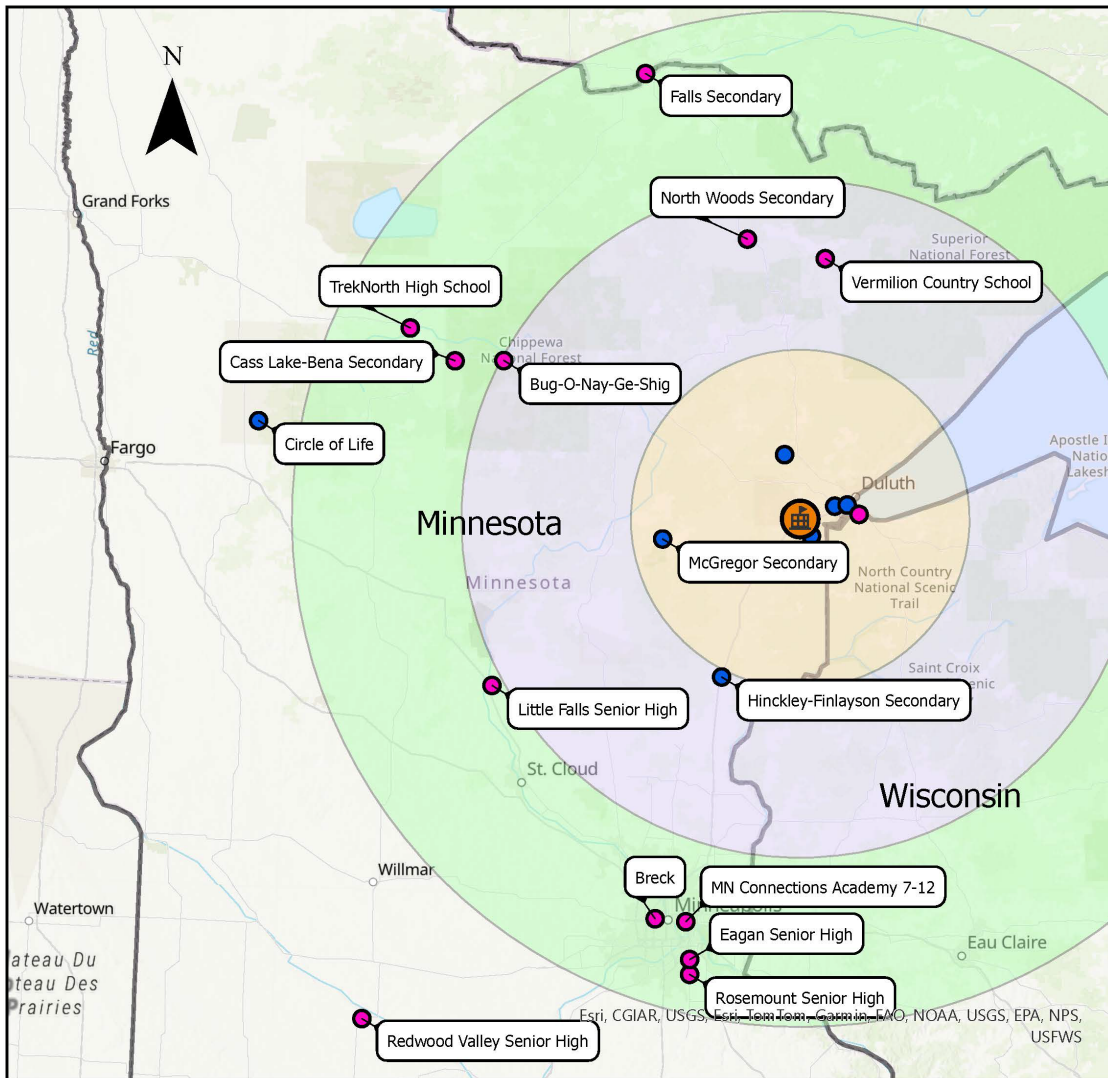
Schools Greater than 20 miles from FDLTCC



## Legend

- FDLTCC
- High Schools in Academy
  - Academic Year Participant
  - Not in Academic Year Program
- Distance from FDLTCC
  - 50 miles
  - 100 miles
  - 150 miles

Sources: Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction, Minnesota Dept. of Education, & Metropolitan Council



There are 25 schools that have been represented at the Academy events from Summer 2019 through Summer 2024. Fifteen of those schools are located beyond 20 miles from the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, as seen in the map above.

# Seek to Learn Academy Schools

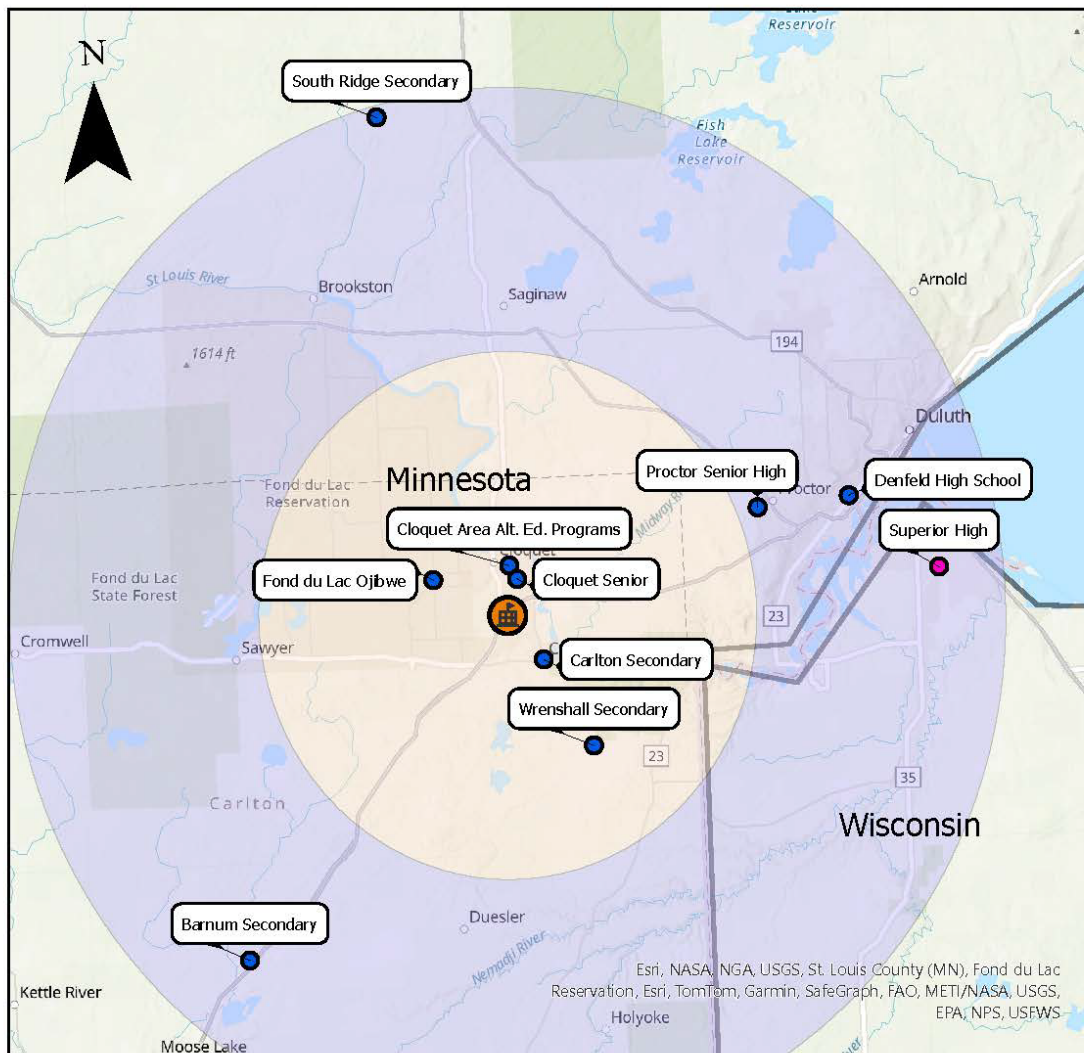
Summer 2019 to Summer 2024  
Schools Less than 20 miles from FDLTCC



## Legend

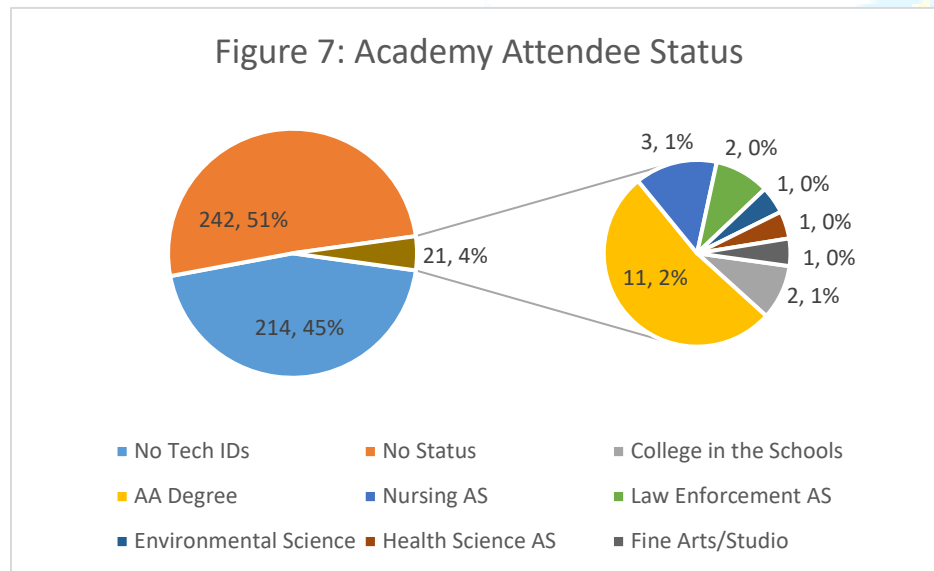
- FDLTCC
  - Academic Year Participant
  - Not in Academic Year Program
- Distance from FDLTCC
- 10 miles
  - 20 miles

Sources: Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction, Minnesota Dept. of Education, & Metropolitan Council



There are eleven schools located within a 20-mile radius from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College. Two of the schools, Cloquet Senior and Cloquet Area Alternative Education Program, are combined in the data of this report as Cloquet/CAAEP.

Of the 477 students that have participated in at least one Academy, 263 students have FDLTCC Tech IDs, which is their student identification number and is used to track students. The Tech IDs signify that a student has been a student at FDLTCC at some point in some capacity, such as Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO), College in the Schools (CITS), undergraduate, or graduate. Of the 263



students with Tech IDs, 21 have a current status at FDLTCC, as seen in Figure 7. Those with Tech IDs but without a current status could have transferred to another institution and would require Clearinghouse data to confirm status. In Figure 7, two of the AA degree seeking students and one of the Nursing AS students are PSEO students while four of the AA degree seeking students have graduated from FDLTCC.

Figure 7: The status of Academy attendees illustrates where students are at in terms of continuing their educational pursuits at FDLTCC. Students with Tech IDs have, at some point, interacted with FDLTCC as a student, whether that be as PSEO, CITS, undergraduate, or as a graduate. 21 of the 263 students have a current status and identified major or, if they have no major, are CITS students. The other 242 students that have a Tech ID may have transferred to another institution.

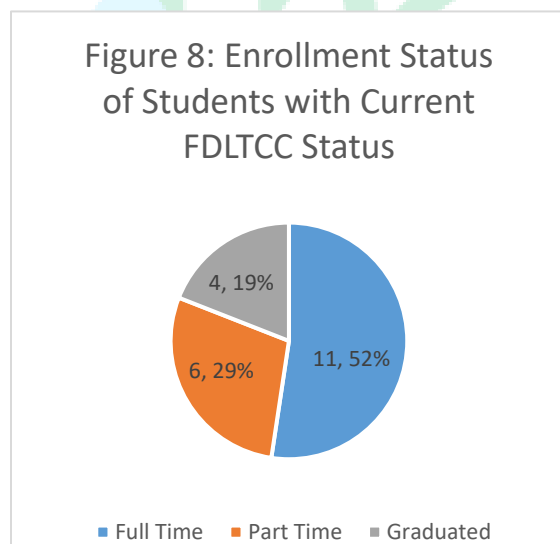


Figure 8: Of the 21 students that are currently affiliated at FDLTCC, four have graduated, six are enrolled at FDLTCC part-time, and eleven are enrolled full-time at FDLTCC.

Of the 21 students that are currently affiliated with Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, eleven are enrolled at a full-time status while six are enrolled at a part time status. The other four have completed degrees. Two PSEO and both CITS students are enrolled at a full-time status. The enrollment status count and percentages are shown in Figure 8. Although the number of students at FDLTCC are low, the number of students with Tech IDs is promising to the mission of the Seek to Learn Academy in that students seek higher education and have the resources to be successful. Students that are participating in the Academy and are still in high school will be tracked for future reporting. Further investigation of Clearinghouse data would assist in determining the success of students at other colleges and universities after having participated in the Seek to Learn Academy during their high school years.