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THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANATEE COUNTY FEATURES A STUDENT AND A CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHER



Your high school business career pathway could earn college credit toward an AS Degree in Business Administration/Accounting at MCC.



Continue your high school technology training at MTI or MCC for a high paying career as a network systems analyst.



Visit a medical program at Manatee High School, Manatee Technical Institute, or Manatee Community College.



Investigate the paramedic program at Manatee Technical Institute, and then articulate those credits to Manatee Community College's AAS program.

InnoVators

EARN COLLEGE CREDITS IN HIGH SCHOOL THROUGH TECH PREP & CAREER EDUCATION

This week's InquiziKidz explores Tech Prep, a nationally recognized program of study created to equip students with the skills needed for future jobs in Manatee County—and awards college credit while in high school!

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - THIS IS FOR YOU

You're a high school student. You get up every day, fix your hair, brush your teeth, and then head off to school. You may have vague thoughts about life after high school—after all, your parents are counting on you getting a job and moving out someday. But meanwhile, you study some math, a little science, maybe a foreign language...but wait! Did you say something about earning college credits by going to high school? Wouldn't that save a lot of time and money later on? And what about job skills?

Enroll in a high-wage/high-skill career Tech Prep program (more details to come)—and you'll earn up to nine college credits by the time you graduate from high school. Perhaps more importantly, the skills you learn in Tech Prep courses help prepare you for a real job making more than minimum wage. And, with good grades, Tech Prep may qualify you for the Florida Bright Futures Gold Seal Scholarship, a program that pays 75% of your college tuition. Now that's a deal worth looking into. (And your parents will love it, too!)

Tech Prep—an Overview

Tech Prep is a course of study that links high school and college career programs. This program gives students the opportunity to start a college technical major in high school that continues directly into your postsecondary (after high school) education. It consists of a coordinated sequence of academic courses plus three to four electives offering career and technical knowledge and skills. When high school students complete (with a "C" or better) a series of structured, sequential career and technical courses and then enroll in one of the partnering colleges or technical institutes, they are awarded an average of nine college credits in that specific field. Upon high school graduation, students continue their studies at a community college, technical center, or registered apprenticeship program. At the completion of their program, students receive a certificate/license, associate degree, and/or bachelor's degree, depending on the course of study. The Tech Prep program is designed for students who want a higher-paying, in-demand job and who plan to pursue educational opportunities after high school.

The Suncoast Tech Prep Consortium, which oversees the Tech Prep program, has developed **articulation** (credit-awarding) agreements between the Manatee and Sarasota school districts and:

- Manatee Technical Institute
- Manatee Community College
- Sarasota County Technical Institute
- Johnson & Wales University (Culinary Arts & Hospitality)
- University of South Florida
- St. Pete College
- Pinellas Technical Institute (PTEC)
- Hillsborough Community College
- Pasco-Hernando Community College
- Brewster, Irwin, & Learey Technical Centers (Hillsborough County)

This means that these listed schools accept qualifying Tech Prep credits when a student enrolls in the *same* career program after high school.

This nationally recognized program is challenging and rewarding, and gives students a sense of real-world learning that directly applies to their career goals. Students choosing a Tech Prep program realize that a high school diploma is no longer enough to find a high-paying job, and they want to get a jump start on the skills needed to succeed in the workplace. Most Tech Prep programs meet the criteria for Gold Seal Scholarship eligibility, giving students the opportunity to qualify for a Bright Future Scholarship and 75% off of Florida college tuition.

Articulation is a planned process with courses containing the same content as an equivalent college course and for which a postsecondary institution has agreed to award college credit or technical center program hours. These credits or hours are applied toward the completion of a career program. Program articulation assures that students experience a seamless transition from high school to college without additional delays (i.e. duplication of coursework or loss of credit).

Available Programs of Study

The following Tech Prep programs are available throughout Manatee County. Not all programs are located at each school. Students desiring a program not available at their school may apply to attend another school through school choice.

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| Accounting Operations | Early Childhood Education - Preschool Teacher |
| Administrative Assistant / Medical Secretary (Computer Applications) | Drafting |
| Automotive Technology | Electronics |
| Building Construction Technology | Engineering Technology |
| Business Supervision and Management | Health Careers |
| Commercial Air Conditioning Technology | Legal Administrative Specialist |
| Computer Network Support Services | Manufacturing Material & Process Technology |
| Construction Electricity | Marketing |
| Criminal Justice Operations | New Media Technology |
| Culinary Arts - Food Production & Services | PC Support |
| Digital Design & Publishing | TV Production |
| Drafting / Illustrative Design Technology | Tech Studies |
| Early Childhood Education - Childcare Development Specialist | Web Design |

FLORIDA'S FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS

Rank	Occupational	Annual Percent Growth	Average Hourly Wage	Education Attainment
1.	Medical Assistants	5.29	\$11.60	Voc. Cert. +
2.	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	4.94	\$28.23	Voc. Cert. +
3.	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	4.73	\$12.54	Voc. Cert. +
4.	Medical Assistants	4.38	\$9.12	Voc. Cert. +
5.	Personal Financial Advisors	4.34	\$40.47	Bachelors +
6.	Tile and Marble Setters	4.31	\$15.22	Voc. Cert. +
7.	Kindergarten Teachers	4.18	\$26.26	Bachelors +
8.	Database Administrators	4.18	\$25.95	Assoc. +
9.	Fitness Trainers	4.08	\$13.61	High School
10.	Public Relations Specialists	4.07	\$21.45	Assoc. +

To Find Out More...

Contact:
Carol Lewis, Tech Prep Coordinator
Adult, Career & Technical Education Department
School District of Manatee County
(941) 751-6550 Ext. 2025
lewisc@manateeschools.net

Online:
www.SuncoastTechPrep.com

Or see:
The guidance counselor or career contact at your school.



Check out the following websites:

- Suncoast Tech Prep - www.SuncoastTechPrep.com
- Florida Bright Future Scholarship - www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/
- Florida eChoices—Career Exploration - www.florida.echoices.com
- Manatee Technical Institute - www.manateetechnicalinstitute.org
- Manatee Community College - www.mccfl.edu
- University of South Florida - www.usf.edu



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