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 Ad Size: 6 x 21.25"  
 Ad Builder: Julie Beacham-Hooie  
 Insertions: 1

Code: 001300000  
 Revision No.: 6  
 Sales Rep: Blank #1  
 Rep Phone:  
 Rep Fax:  
 Date: Mon, Sep 22, 2008 - 1:17 PM

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Insertion Date Publication  
 Wed, Sep 24, 2008 Local

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



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www.SuncoastTechPrep.com

## Or see:

The guidance counselor or career advisor at your school.

InnoVators



## EARN COLLEGE CREDITS IN HIGH SCHOOL THROUGH TECH PREP/CAREER PATHWAYS

**T**his week's InquiziKidz explores Tech Prep/Career Pathways, a nationally recognized program of study created to equip students with the skills needed for future jobs in Manatee County. Tech Prep 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/Career Pathways—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:

Art Institute of Tampa  
 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.

**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).**

### Tech Prep Study Options

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 the school choice process.

**Tech Prep Pathway:**  
**Architectural Drafting**

Take these high school classes:

- Drafting 1
- Drafting 2
- Drafting 3
- Industrial Cooperative Education OJT

Pass all required assessments.

Earn these college credits at MCC:

- Introduction to AutoCAD - 3 credits
- Engineering Drawing - 3 credits
- Construction Drafting - 4 credits
- Internship in Technology - 1-4 credits

Drafting  
 Electronics  
 Engineering Technology  
 Health Careers  
 Interior Design  
 Legal Administrative Specialist  
 Manufacturing Material & Process Technology  
 Marketing  
 Multimedia Technology  
 New Media Technology  
 PC Support  
 TV Production  
 Tech Studies  
 Web Design

**Tech Prep Pathway:**  
**Business Supervision & Management**

Take these high school classes:

- Introduction to Information Technology
- Business & Entrepreneurial Principles
- Legal Aspects of Business
- Business Supervision 1-3
- Business Cooperative Education OJT

Pass all required assessments.

Earn these college credits at MCC:

- Computer Information Systems - 3 credits
- Introduction to Business - 3 credits
- Management & Supervision - 3 credits
- Internship in business - 1-4 credits

Accounting Operations  
 Administrative Assistant / Medical Secretary  
 (Computer Applications)  
 Automotive Technology  
 Building Construction Technology  
 Business Supervision and Management  
 Commercial Air Conditioning Technology  
 Computer Network Support Services  
 Computer Systems  
 Construction Electricity  
 Criminal Justice Operations  
 Culinary Arts - Food Production & Services  
 Digital Design & Publishing  
 Drafting / Illustrative Design Technology  
 Early Childhood Education - Childcare  
 Development Specialist  
 Early Childhood Education - Preschool Teacher

These two Tech Prep Career Pathways are just a sampling of the many programs available—each rewarded with college or technical center credit upon completion.



### Hot Jobs\* in Florida

Job Title	Annual Growth Rate	Annual Openings
Network, Systems and Data Communications Analysts	5.4%	1,202
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	5.2%	1,039
Physician Assistants	5.2%	230
Medical Assistants	4.9%	1,540
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	4.8%	939
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	4.5%	738
Database Administrators	4.2%	291
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	4.1%	531
Dental Hygienists	4.0%	929
Physical Therapist Assistants	4.0%	109
Dental Assistants	3.9%	531
Computer Systems Analysts	3.7%	361
Pharmacy Technicians	3.7%	912
Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten	3.6%	989
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	3.6%	151
Occupational Therapists	3.5%	130
Physical Therapists	3.4%	978
Personal Financial Advisors	3.4%	892
Legal Secretaries	3.4%	729
Medical Transcriptionists	3.3%	129

\*Hot jobs are jobs growing faster than the average for all occupations. In the year 11/89-90, have at least 36 annual openings, have an entry wage of at least \$16.66/hr and have an average wage of at least \$16.66/hr.  
 Source: a agency for Workforce Innovation - Labor Market Statistics; Occupational Projections Data 2007-2012

### Facts: Florida Career & Technical Education

Florida's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs provide successful strategies that link educational reform and economic development. Here are a few CTE facts:

- 80 percent of Florida's fastest growing occupations will require postsecondary career and technical education.
- Florida community college A.A.S. degree students earned more than Florida university bachelor's degree students in first quarter earnings. (\$10,457 vs. \$8,480 in first quarter earnings.)
- Florida's Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) serve more than 78,000 members in 1,700 chapters. These CTOS offer ways to learn the leadership, communication, and teamwork skills employers expect.
- For School-to-Career planning, Florida CHOICES opens a world of opportunities for youth by providing excellent information about occupations, colleges, and financial aid. Florida CHOICES is available at no charge to all public high schools. A free web version of Florida CHOICES, eCHOICES, is available at [www.florida.echoices.com](http://www.florida.echoices.com)

Source: <http://www.fldoe.org/fetpip>,  
<http://www.labormarketinfo.com>, and  
 Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation

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Check out the following websites:

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

BRADENTON  
 HERALD

Manatee County's Newspaper since 1922



InquiziKidz page is published every Wednesday in Bradenton Herald. Provided by Newspaper in Education, Christine Fritch (941) 748-0411 ext. 5464, [cfritch@bradenton.com](mailto:cfritch@bradenton.com) Julie Beacham-Hooie, Page Editor.