

Interested in a Career?

Want a college degree that prepares you to earn a living in two years?

Check out Tech Prep!

Tech Prep is a way to start a college technical major in high school. In a Tech Prep program you begin your course of study in high school and continue in a community or technical college. The result is a certificate or an associate of applied science (AAS) degree. Some technical courses may also apply toward a four-year degree.

College Tech Prep programs combine the academic courses needed for success in college and the technical courses that begin to prepare you for a career.

Students in Tech Prep programs can earn college credit through:

- Articulated credit (technical);
- Dual credit (technical & academic); and
- Advanced Placement (academic).

Want to find out more?

Contact your high school counselor, local two-year college counselor, or a Tech Prep office listed on the following web site:
www.TechPrepTexas.org

Funded by a grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board using funds from the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act of 1998.



**GET A JUMP-START
ON COLLEGE**

**Participate in
TECH PREP
PROGRAMS**

**Enroll in Courses
for College Credit**

WWW. TechPrepTexas.org

Earn College Credit in Tech Prep Programs Using Dual Credit, Articulated Credit, and Advanced Placement

DUAL CREDIT

- + Dual credit courses are college-level academic or technical courses taken by high school students for which they receive high school credit and college credit at the same time. Courses are taught by college-approved instructors.
- + Typically, courses are open to students in grades 11-12 who are in good academic standing. Specific eligibility requirements will be provided by the high school counselor.
- + Grades are awarded in the same way as college students who take the same course. Each high school determines how the grade is weighted toward the students' GPA.
- + A college or university awards credit for a dual credit course immediately after successful completion of the course.
- + Dual credit courses may require students to pay regular tuition and fees. Colleges may waive tuition and fees for high school students enrolled in dual credit courses.

ARTICULATED CREDIT

- + Articulated credit courses are college-level technical courses that allow high school students to qualify for college credit statewide through the Advanced Technical Credit Program (ATC) or through local agreements. Courses are taught by high school teachers. ATC teachers receive TEA-required training.
- + Typically, courses are open to students in grades 10-12 who are in good academic standing. Students may have to pass a prerequisite course.
- + Grades are awarded by the high school teacher. Each high school determines how the grade is weighted toward the students' GPA.
- + A college awards credit for an articulated course after the student meets specific criteria, such as earning a "B" or better in the course, and after the student enrolls in the college.
- + Articulated courses are free. Students may have to pay a small fee to have the college credit hours put on their transcript.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

- + Advanced Placement (AP) courses are college-level academic courses that allow high school students to qualify for college credit while still in high school. Courses are taught by high school teachers who receive training required for AP.
- + Typically, courses are open to students in grades 10-12 who are in good academic standing. Each high school develops its own criteria for student participation.
- + Grades are awarded by the high school teacher. Each high school determines how the grade is weighted toward the students' GPA.
- + A college or university awards credit for an AP course based on scores earned on AP examinations after the student enrolls in the college or university.
- + AP courses are free. Students pay \$82 for each AP examination. The Texas Education Agency may pay up to \$75 for each exam taken by eligible students with financial need.