



# Pre-Apprenticeship

After your junior year, you will participate in a pre-apprenticeship (like an internship) at a local business where you will practice skills that you have learned in your HECA courses and gain authentic experiences in the world of work.

## What Exactly is a Pre-Apprenticeship?

An internship, also called a pre-apprenticeship, is an experience where you work and learn at a business and gain exposure to the working environment. HECA pre-apprenticeships give students exposure to engineering and advanced manufacturing businesses.

Ideally, you'll spend your pre-apprenticeship time working on relevant projects, learning about the field, making industry connections, and developing both "hard" and "soft" skills.



## Where can I find out more about HECA Pre-Apprenticeships?

Talk to Mr. Cocchiola, Mr. Jenkins or Mr. Sanchez if you have questions.

Visit [www.Hamden.org/HECA](http://www.Hamden.org/HECA) to view other Pre-Apprentice information.

## HECA Pre-Apprenticeship FAQs

- **How long is a pre-apprenticeship?**  
HECA students are required to complete 150 hours.
- **When does the pre-apprenticeship occur?**  
HECA pre-apprenticeships can start any time after completing your Junior year. We recommend starting during the summer – maybe even completing the pre-apprenticeship before the start of your Senior year. It's possible to finish your pre-apprenticeship in a month if you are working full time, but it can also be completed over a longer period of time, working fewer hours per day or fewer days per week.
- **Will I be paid and/or earn credit for the pre-apprenticeship?**  
Yes. The Connecticut Department of Labor requires that all Pre-Apprenticeships are paid. In addition, you will be earning college and HHS credits, gaining important experiences, and making valuable connections.
- **What will I do in the pre-apprenticeship?**  
The type of business along with decisions of your onsite supervisor will determine exactly what work you will be doing. HECA pre-apprenticeship sites have been asked to involve our students in meaningful work related to skills you have learned in HECA courses. However, there may be times when you are asked to help with other tasks as well.
- **Will I get credit for the pre-apprenticeship?**  
Yes. You will receive .5 HHS credit and 3 Gateway Community College credits upon successful completion of your pre-apprenticeship.
- **Will a pre-apprenticeship be assigned to me?**  
No. It is up to you to contact businesses on the approved list of pre-apprenticeship sites to set up an interview. After interviews, interested businesses will contact you. From those that contact you, you choose the one that best meets your interests.
- **Where are the pre-apprenticeships and how do I get there?**  
Pre-apprenticeship sites are in CT communities. It is your responsibility to arrange transportation to and from your pre-apprenticeship. If you are having difficulties in this area, please let Mr. Cocchiola know.
- **What are the hours and days of my pre-apprenticeship?**  
You and your pre-apprenticeship site supervisor will determine the exact days and hours you will work. It could be full days or part time, and days of the week may vary.
- **How do I dress for my pre-apprenticeship?**  
Depending on the where your pre-apprenticeship will be and the kind of work you will do, the clothing you should wear will vary. Talk to your pre-apprenticeship site supervisor to understand his or her expectations.
- **What requirements are there for my pre-apprenticeship?**  
You will be required to attend your pre-apprenticeship the days and hours assigned. You must also complete periodic entries in a pre-apprenticeship log, and meet with your school-based pre-apprenticeship instructor.