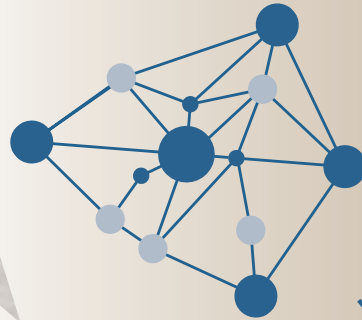
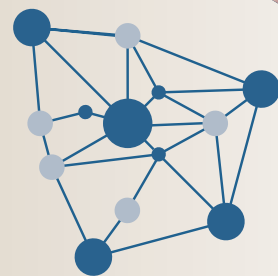


# P-TECH OHM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*



**P-TECH OHM**  
Oneida • Herkimer • Madison BOCES  
"Creating Tomorrow's Leaders Today"



## What is NYS P-TECH?

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) is a globally recognized 9-14 program. Over the course of six years, students earn a high school diploma, an industry-recognized associates degree, and gain relevant experience in a growing field.

## What is P-TECH OHM?

P-TECH OHM is an integrated high school and college curriculum focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) while also providing workplace skills including leadership, communication and problem solving. Upon completion of the program, students will earn a NYS Regents Diploma issued from their high school, an associate degree from Mohawk Valley Community College, and positive relationships and work experience with members of industry, all at no cost to their families. It will enroll freshmen in a flexible (four-, five-, or six-year) program combining academic rigor and career focus. **Available associate degree programs include:**

- ▶ Business Administration
- ▶ Civil Engineering Technology
- ▶ Computer Aided Drafting: Architectural-Mechanical
- ▶ Computer Applications Programming
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Computer Science: Cybersecurity
- ▶ Electrical Engineering Technology
- ▶ Engineering Science
- ▶ Human Services
- ▶ Mechanical Engineering Technology
- ▶ Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems
- ▶ Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology

## How did P-TECH OHM begin?

P-TECH OHM is funded through a New York state grant program and is delivered at no cost to students or their families. A consortium of OHM BOCES, its component school districts, Mohawk Valley Community College and Mohawk Valley Edge applied for and received a seven-year grant to launch P-TECH OHM. OHM BOCES serves as the lead implementation partner and handles all programming and coordination of the program. The grant covers the costs associated with the school.

## What college costs are covered for students enrolled in P-TECH OHM?

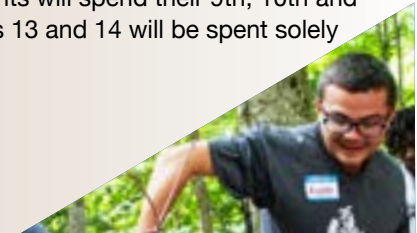
All tuition for credits, labs and books are covered. Room and board are not included.

## What kind of students are good candidates for P-TECH OHM?

P-TECH OHM is open to incoming ninth graders who are faced with barriers that may prohibit the completion of a college degree. A student who will succeed in P-TECH OHM is motivated to learn in new and exciting ways, committed to a rigorous course of study and has the ability to thrive in a non-traditional classroom setting. It is vital that students have an interest in science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Potential students should have the desire to develop and hone 21st century skills, academic skills, technical skills and professional skills for workplace proficiency. They should also see themselves having a future career in technology and be eager to earn an associate degree in one of the many programs offered to compete in the STEAM workforce.

## Where is P-TECH OHM located?

P-TECH OHM is located at the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES main campus in New Hartford. Students spend their full school day on campus for the entire school year. The program also includes a summer bridge component. Students will spend their 9th, 10th and 11th grade years at P-TECH OHM. Their 12th grade year will be at P-TECH OHM and at MVCC. Years 13 and 14 will be spent solely at MVCC and in internship placements with our local business partners.



## What P-TECH OHM is not:

- ▶ A traditional high school experience
- ▶ An alternative education program



### **Is transportation provided to P-TECH OHM students?**

Yes. Home districts will transport their students to and from the program.

### **Can students participate in extracurricular activities?**

Yes. P-TECH OHM students are still members of their home districts, and are encouraged to be active participants in their home school. They may participate in sports, dances, clubs and other extracurricular events.

### **What supports are there for students at P-TECH OHM?**

There will be a full-time school counselor and opportunities to add AIS, resource room or other services and supports in an individual's schedule as needed. Small student to teacher ratio and individualized goal setting and planning will also help students to be successful.

### **Which school districts are participating in the P-TECH OHM program?**

All of the OHM BOCES component districts are eligible to send students to the P-TECH OHM program. The 13 school districts include: Brookfield, Clinton, Holland Patent, New York Mills, New Hartford, Oriskany, Remsen, Rome, Sauquoit Valley, VVS, Waterville, Westmoreland and Whitesboro.



### **Do P-TECH OHM students take part in their home high school graduation?**

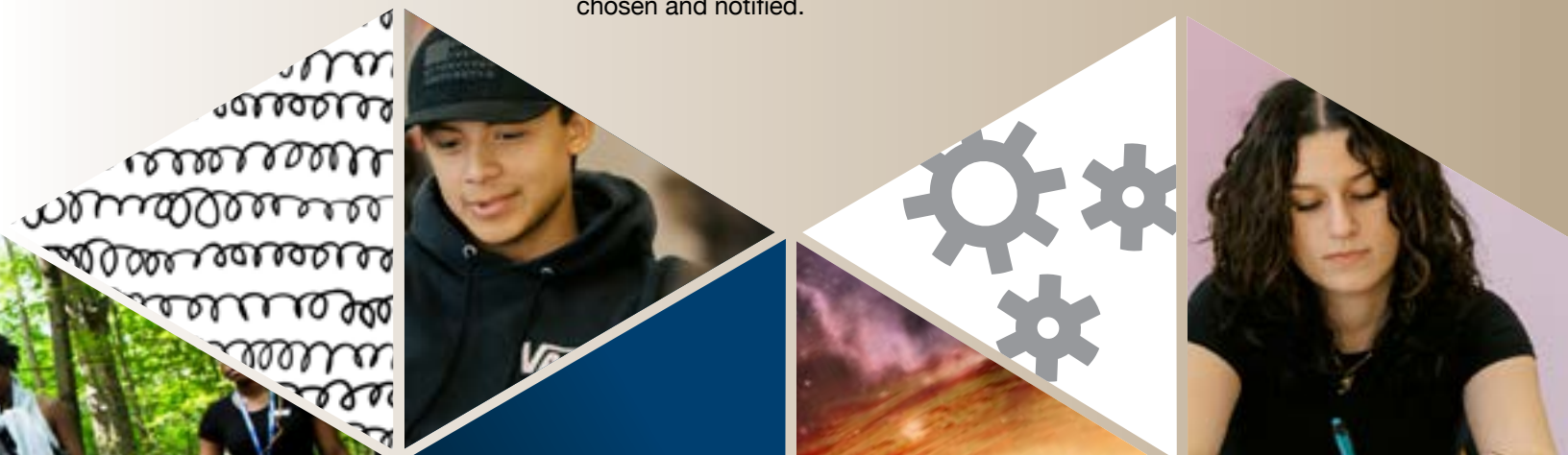
It is recommended to the school districts that students are able to walk with their peers during graduation if they have met the graduation requirements, although they won't actually receive their diploma until they complete the P-TECH OHM program. There is also a P-TECH OHM Completion Ceremony.

### **Is freshman year the only time students can enter P-TECH OHM?**

Yes. Due to curriculum structure to allow for acceleration into college courses, only eighth graders are eligible to apply to P-TECH OHM, and students must enter the program at the beginning of their freshman year of high school.

### **What if a student who applies is not selected for admission?**

Students who meet the requirements but are not selected will be placed on a waiting list. Should a slot become available before the start of the school year, students from the waiting list will be chosen and notified.







## What degrees are offered?

- ▶ Business Administration
- ▶ Civil Engineering Technology
- ▶ Computer Aided Drafting: Architectural-Mechanical
- ▶ Computer Applications Programming
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Computer Science: Cybersecurity
- ▶ Electrical Engineering Technology
- ▶ Engineering Science
- ▶ Human Services
- ▶ Mechanical Engineering Technology
- ▶ Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems
- ▶ Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology

More information regarding these degree programs can be found on the Mohawk Valley Community College website, mvcc.edu.

## What if a student has taken accelerated classes in middle school?

An education at P-TECH OHM is individualized to each student. Curricular pathways for students are adjustable to meet the needs and proficiency of students.

## What makes P-TECH OHM different from a traditional high school?

Students complete both their high school and college requirements concurrently. A small cohort of students provides for an individualized education with needed supports. Project-based learning allows for integration of coursework and authentic learning experiences. Industry partnerships provide students with group mentoring beginning in ninth grade, and these connections progress to individual mentoring, industry challenge projects, worksite visits, job shadowing and internships over the course of six years. Students will learn in a 1:1 computing environment.

## How are academics delivered?

Teachers will use technology-rich instructional tools for academics. The curriculum is delivered through project-based learning experiences and integrated academic content. The high school curriculum follows the NYS Common Core Standards and exceeds NYS graduation requirements. The P-TECH OHM six-year scope and sequence integrates college courses with the high school program beginning in ninth grade. A major focus of P-TECH OHM is career readiness. Instructional staff will collaborate to create unique, relevant and authentic project-based learning experiences for students that integrate all academic areas.

## Who are the business partners, and what role do they play?

The regional business partners are committed to serving as mentors for students throughout their P-TECH OHM career, guiding job shadowing experiences, internships and placing P-TECH OHM graduates in line for jobs within their companies. Mohawk Valley EDGE and more than 40 local companies have agreed to participate as business partners.

## How can students apply?

During the winter semester, interested eighth grade students should meet with their home school counselor to obtain an application to the program. The application process involves obtaining recommendations from teachers and counselors, along with completing an application that includes a written statement and a parental consent form. Students then complete an interview process as the final component of the application process. Students will be required to attend a summer bridge program if they are accepted.

