

Somerset County Vo-Tech Program Overview

Automotive and Light Duty Diesel Technology



Employment of automotive service technicians and mechanics is projected to have 69,000 openings per year. The median annual wage for 2020 was \$44,050 or \$21.18 per hour.

(Source: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)



The Automotive and Light Duty Diesel Technology Program is an accredited and certified program by the ASE Education Foundation, and includes a light duty diesel component. Students learn the fundamentals of maintaining and repairing cars and light trucks. Students gain experience through demonstration, practical theory and hands-on shop projects, while working in a state-of-the-art facility. After three years in the Program, students are eligible for work-study placement in repair shops throughout the region.

Students who graduate from the Automotive and Light Duty Diesel Technology Program can pursue a career as an Automotive Technician as well as related careers. Graduates may also elect to further their education by attending college or a post-secondary technical institution. Some fourth year students may have the opportunity to earn credits for real world employment.

Curriculum:

- Year 1: Shop Safety, Automotive Fundamentals; Manual Driveline; Automotive Electricity and Electronics I
- Year 2: Automotive Electricity and Electronics II; Gas and Diesel Engine Performance; Automatic Transmissions/Transaxles
- Year 3: Steering, Suspension and Alignment; Brake Systems; Heating and Air Conditioning Systems
- Year 4: Advanced and Independent Study

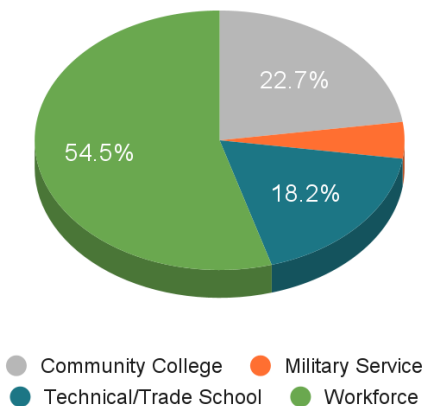
Classes meet for 3 periods/2 hours per day, 5 days a week

Average number of new students accepted per year: 12

Opportunity for professional certifications: YES (9 ASE Student Certifications A1-A8, G1)

Opportunity to earn college credits: NO

Automotive-Diesel Student Plans at Graduation



FUTURE CAREERS

- Automotive Service Technician
- Automotive Business Owner
- Diesel Service Technician
- Service Writer/Manager
- Maintenance Mechanic
- Mechanical/Automotive Engineer

RECENT STUDENT POST-SECONDARY DESTINATIONS

- Advanced Technology Institute
- Autosport Honda
- Lincoln Tech Diesel Campus
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Raritan Valley Community College
- Supertool Automotive
- United States Army

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SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel by providing educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation’s classrooms.

SCVTHS students have the opportunity to compete for state and national recognition in the annual SkillsUSA competitions

Recent Awards

2016	Silver Medal	NJ Auto Maintenance Competition
2017	Gold Medal	NJ Auto Maintenance Competition
2017	Silver Medal	NJ Diesel Equipment Technology Competition
2019	Silver Medal	NJ Diesel Equipment Technology Competition



All Somerset County Vocational & Technical School programs are supported by a community advisory panel. The Automotive and Light Duty Diesel Technology advisory panel members are from:

- Bridgewater Motorworks
- Mercer County Technical Schools
- Hunter Engineering Company
- Belle Mead Garage
- BMW of Bridgewater
- American Tire & Auto Care
- Snap-On Tools

- Fullerton Auto Group
- Nissan North America
- Mercedes-Benz USA
- Mavis Discount Tire
- Hunterdon PolyTech
- Shade Tree Garage

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