UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS PROFILE 2024-25

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded

Chairwoman

Lourdes M. Leon

Vice Chairwoman

James E. Baker, Jr.
Joseph Bodek
Michèle S. Delisfort
Sergio Granados
Bette Jane Kowalski
Alexander Mirabella
Rebecca Williams



County Manager

Amy Wagner

Deputy County Manager



1776 RARITAN ROAD SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076 908-889-8288 WWW.UCVTS.ORG

UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jean Perkins President

Jon-Henry Barr Vice President

Andrew Casais

Phyllis Mirabella

Daryl Palmieri
Interim Executive County
Superintendent

UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION

Gwendolyn S. Ryan

Superintendent of Schools

Walt Smolenski

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Janet Behrmann

School Business Administrator Board Secretary

Colleen Gialanella

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

John Downey

Director of Technology

Michele Dorney

Director of Human Resources

Laura Reigelsperger

Director of Student Services

Dr. Anne Marie McNamara

Supervisor of Career and Technical Education

STUDENT SELECTION: Applicants are selected from a diverse population of eighth grade students in each of the twenty-one municipalities of Union County. Admission to UCVTS is competitive and is based on middle school grades and two admissions assessments – one in Mathematics and one in Language Arts Literacy. Applicants for the Academy for Performing Arts for Dance or Theatre Arts are also required to audition. For the Class of 2028, approximately 40% of applicants to UCVTS were offered admission.

ENROLLMENT: As of September 2024, UCVTS has a total enrollment of 1,727 full-time students.

School	Class of 2028	Class of 2027	Class of 2026	Class of 2025	Total
AAHS	82	79	79	73	313
AGL	45	n/a	n/a	n/a	45
AIT	84	83	71	72	310
APA	61	68	57	60	246
MHS	76	77	72	81	306
UC TECH	126	120	132	129	507

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION: The UCVTS day is divided into four 83-minute blocks of instructional time in an alternating A/B day schedule. Faculty aim to provide immersive experiences for students by designing instruction that incorporates cooperative and flexible grouping and engagement in performance tasks and projects.

All students in full-time academies have opportunities to participate in clubs, seek out extra help from instructors, and collaborate with their peers during co-curricular period between the first two and last two blocks of instruction daily. District curriculum incorporates intensive study within a career and technical education specialization as well as rigorous academic coursework across all subject areas.

COURSE DESIGNATION: Students are admitted to UCVTS through a competitive process and, therefore, all courses are designed and taught at the honors level. Courses designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination are designated as "AP." Due to the number of core course requirements, even the most ambitious students may have limited access to AP courses.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: The minimum coursework for UCVTS is as follows and exceeds the New Jersey state graduation requirements:

English – 4 years

Social Studies – 3 years

Visual, Performing, and/or Practical Arts – 1 year

Health, Safety & Physical Education – 4 years

Technology Literacy – integrated throughout

Mathematics – 4 years

Career Education – 4 years

Financial Literacy – ½ year

TECHNOLOGY: The UCVTS one-to-one technology initiative allows students to collaborate on the cloud based Google Apps for Education platform and integrate technology throughout the learning environment. High performance computer labs, running the latest Apple, Microsoft, and Google technologies, give students access to industry standard equipment.

STUDENT SERVICES: UCVTS is dedicated to providing high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables all students to meet, and exceed, the NJ Student Learning Standards. Appropriate services are provided to students with IEPs through consultation between the students' Case Managers and members of the IEP Team including parent input. These services are coordinated through the Special Services Department and are consistent with both State and Federal regulations.

2024-2025 COURSE OFFERINGS

English: World Literature, Early American Literature, Modern American Literature, Modern & Contemporary British Literature, AP English Literature and Composition, AP English Language and Composition, Writers of the African Diaspora, Dramatic Literature: Modern Drama

*Mathematics**: Combined Algebra (covers both Algebra I and II topics), Geometry/Trigonometry, Mathematical Analysis, AP Calculus I/AB, AP Calculus II/BC, Multivariable Calculus & Linear Algebra, Mathematical Statistics & Data Sciences, Calculus, AP Statistics, Probability & Statistics, Business Intelligence & Analytics

Science: Scientific Inquiry and Analysis, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics: Mechanics, AP Physics: Electricity and Magnetism, Microbiology, Bioinformatics

Social Studies: World History, U.S. History I & II, AP European History, AP Government & Politics: U.S., AP U.S. History, Genocide Studies & The Holocaust, U.S. History through Crime, War & Conflict in Modern America

*World Language**: Spanish I-IV, Spanish for Heritage & Native Speakers, AP Spanish Language & Culture, AP Spanish Literature & Culture, Linguistics

Interdisciplinary Studies: Financial Literacy, Dance Appreciation

Health and Physical Education: Fitness I-IV, Health I-IV; Students participate in one marking period each year of Project Adventure.

^{*} Initial placement is determined by UCVTS.

GRADING POLICY

Grades may be interpreted as follows:

A	90-100
В	80-89
С	70-79
D	65-69
F	64 or below

QUALITY POINT AVERAGE: Each marking period counts for 20% of the student's final course grade. Midterm and final examinations each count for 10% of the final course grade. The Quality Point Average (QPA) is unweighted and includes all subjects, with the exception of repeated coursework. QPA is calculated by multiplying the final course grade by the number of credits received for the course. The total credits and the total quality points are then divided to produce the QPA.

Class rank is not computed due to our competitive admissions process, small graduating class sizes, and the exceptional performance of our students.

HONORS

High Honor Roll: Awarded each marking period to students earning 90 or above in all subjects

Honor Roll: Awarded each marking period to students earning 80 or above in all subjects.

National Honor Society: Open to juniors and seniors who meet the society's standards for academics, character, leadership, and service. Students must have a QPA of 92 or above in order to be considered.

Spanish Honor Society: Open to juniors and seniors who meet the society's standards for academic excellence in Spanish. Students must have a QPA of 90 or above in Spanish and an overall QPA of 80 to be considered.

National Dance Honor Society: Open to APA junior dance students who have an average of 90 in Dance for freshmen and sophomore years combined. Students must meet the society's standards for attendance, work ethic, character, and professionalism.

International Thespian Society: Open to APA junior theatre students who have a final grade of 92 or above in Theatre for freshman and sophomore year combined. Students must meet the society's standards for attendance, work ethic, character, and professionalism.

National Vocational-Technical Honor Society: Open to UCTECH juniors and seniors who meet standards of leadership, service, and character. Students must meet attendance and academic requirements.

STUDENT ACTIVITES

Art Club
Chess Club
Class Council – 9, 10, 11, 12
Coding Club
Dance Club
Debate & Speech Club
Drama Club

Educators Rising FFA Organization

Future Business Leaders of America

Gay/Straight Alliance Robotics Club
Health Occupation Students of America Science Club
Intramural Athletics Skills USA
Math League Spanish Club
Multi-Cultural Club Spanish Honor Society
Music Club Student Government

National Honor Society Technology Student Association Newspaper Club Yearbook Club

Relay for Life

In addition to UCVTS student activities, all students are permitted to participate in athletic programs in their resident district.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Every student is encouraged to complete a total of 40 hours of community service while attending UCVTS. Twenty hours should be completed by the end of the sophomore year and the remainder before graduation. These hours should be fulfilled with at least two different community service activities.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Students graduating from the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools further their education beyond high school by attending four-year colleges and universities. Graduates have been accepted for admission to the institutions listed below, as well as a number of additional colleges and universities.

Adelphi University Albany College of Pharm. Albright College Allegheny College American University Amherst College Arcadia University Babson College Barnard College Bennington College Bentley University Bethany College Boston College **Boston Conservatory Boston University Brandies University** Braunschweig U. of Art Brigham Young U. **Brown University Bryant University** Bryn Mawr College **Bucknell University** California Inst of Tech California Polytechnic Canisius College Carnegie Mellon U. Case Western Reserve Catholic University Cedar Crest University Clark University Clarkson University Clemson University Coastal Carolina U. Colby College Colgate University College of the Holy Cross The College of NJ College of William & Mary Columbia University Connecticut College The Cooper Union Cornell University Culinary Inst. of America Dartmouth College Davidson College Delaware State University DePaul University DeSales University **Drew University** Drexel University **Duke University Duquesne University** East Stroudsburg U.

Elizabethtown College

Elmira College

Elon University Embry-Riddle Emerson College **Emory University** Fairleigh Dickinson U. Fashion Institute of Tech. Florida A & M University Florida State University Fordham University Franklin & Marshall Full Sail University George Mason University Georgetown University George Washington U. Georgia Institute of Tech. Gettysburg College Gonzaga University Goucher College Hamilton College Hampton University Harvard University Hobart William Smith Hofstra University Hood College Howard University Indiana University Iona College Ithaca College James Madison University John Jay College Johns Hopkins University Johnson & Wales U. Kean University Kenyon College Keystone College Lafayette College La Salle University Lehigh University Loyola Marymount U. Loyola University LIM College Long Island University Manhattan College Marist College Marshall University Mass College of Pharm Massachusetts Inst of Tech McGill University McDaniel College Merrimack College Michigan State University

Middlebury College

Monmouth University

Montclair State University

Morgan State University

Mount Holyoke College Muhlenberg College New Jersey Inst. of Tech. New York Inst. of Tech. New York University North Carolina A & T North Carolina State Northeastern University Northwestern University Oberlin College Oglethorpe University The Ohio State University Pace University Parsons School of Design Penn State University Pepperdine University Philadelphia University Pomona College Pratt Institute Princeton University Purdue University Quinnipiac University Rensselaer Polytech Inst. Rice University Richard Stockton College Rider University Rochester Inst. of Tech. Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech Rowan University Rutgers University Sacred Heart University Salve Regina University San Francisco State Univ. Santa Clara University Savannah Coll Art& Design School of Visual Arts Seton Hall University Simmons College Skidmore College Smith College Stanford University St. John's University St. Joseph's University Stevens Institute of Tech. State Univ. of New York Suffolk University Swarthmore College Syracuse University Temple University Tennessee Tech Texas A&M University **Towson University** Trinity College **Tufts University Tulane University**

Tuskegee University Union College U.S. Military Academy U.S. Naval Academy University of Arizona University of California The University of Chicago University of Colorado University of Connecticut University of Delaware University of Hartford University of Hawai'i University of Kentucky University of Maryland Univ. of Massachusetts University of Miami University of Michigan University of Minnesota Univ. of New Hampshire University of New Haven Univ. of North Carolina University of Notre Dame Univ. of Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh University of Richmond Univ. of Rhode Island University of Rochester University of the Sciences University of Scranton Univ. of South Carolina Univ. Southern California University of Texas University of Vermont University of Virginia University of Wisconsin Vanderbilt University Valparaiso University Vassar College Villanova University Virginia Commonwealth Virginia State University Virginia Polytechnic Inst. Wagner College Washington University Wellesley College Wentworth Inst. of Tech. Wesleyan University Western New England Wheaton College Widener University Wilkes University William Paterson U. Williams College Worcester Polytech. Inst. Yale University