

# Accelerated Career Diploma

South Effingham High School  
2024-2025



# What is the Accelerated Career Diploma?

- Accelerated Career Diploma (ACD) is an **alternate path** to a high school diploma. Students choosing this option have a career plan and want a quicker route to the credentialing needed to get to work.
- Students will complete fewer high school credits and at least one of the following: two technical certificates, one diploma, OR one associates degree in an approved **skill trade** area from a technical college in Georgia.
- **If students are considering a 4 year college as part of their future plan, ACD is not their best option.**

# Traditional High School Diploma Requirements

- 4 Language Arts
- 4 Mathematics
- 4 Science
- 3 Social Studies (World History, Government, US History, Economics)
- 3 Credits of a Pathway (CTAE, World Language, Fine Arts)
- 1 Personal Fitness & Health
- 5 Elective Credits

**TOTAL Credits = 24**

# Accelerated Career Diploma Requirements

- 2 English (must include American Lit)
- 2 Math (must include Algebra I)
- 2 Science (must include Biology I)
- 2 Social Studies
- 1 Personal Fitness & Health

**TOTAL High School Credits = 9**

1 of the following from an approved technical college:

- Associate Degree
- Diploma
- Two (2) Technical Certificates of Credit from approved, specific career pathways.

# Why Skilled Trades?

- There are many jobs in high demand that do not require four years of college.
- Learning a skilled trade from a technical college can be a highly rewarding and well-paid option.
- Job Security. For every four people retiring from the trades, only one is stepping up to take their place.

# Is the ACD Option for You?

## Pros–

- Begin a focused Program of Study in as early as 10th grade.
- May be able to graduate early and begin a career.
- Tuition funded by the state.
- Obtain technical certifications required for job placement while in high school.

## Cons–

- Fewer HS academic courses make it harder to attend a 4 year college later (not impossible).
- If the Accelerated Career Diploma option doesn't go well, the student may not graduate on time.
- Less flexibility of course choice (summer courses may be needed).

A technician wearing a headlamp and safety glasses is lying on the floor of an aircraft hangar, working on the underside of a large aircraft. The technician is wearing a tan and grey flight suit. To the left is a red metal cart. To the right is a large aircraft engine with various wires and components visible. The background shows the interior of a hangar with other aircraft parts and equipment.

# Savannah Technical College

Approved ACD Courses

## **Welding**

(Effingham Campus)

- Oxyfuel cutting techniques
- Flux cored arc welding practices
- Shielded arc welding

2 Semesters

## **Precision Machining & Manufacturing**

(Effingham Campus)

- Machinists
- Fix and make machines
- Work in fields such as Aerospace, Field systems, and Industrial power plants

3 Semesters (Beginning in Summer)



## **Healthcare**

(Effingham Campus)

- Nurse Aid
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Geriatric (elderly) care

3 Semesters

## **Early Childhood Care & Education**

(Effingham Campus)

- Child care centers
- Head Start
- Georgia Pre-K programs
- Para-educators in public and private school settings.

2 Semesters

## **Avionics Technology**

(Crossroads Campus - Pooler)

- Aviation fundamentals
- Basic electricity principles
- Installing different type of wiring in aircraft
- Service/maintaining of aircraft

2 Semesters (Beginning in Summer)

## **Cybersecurity**

(Online/Savannah Campus)

- Understand and maintain computer information systems security
- Prepares students to continue more advanced studies in cybersecurity (Diploma or Associates Degree)

4 Semesters

## **Automotive Technology: EV Program** (Savannah Campus)

- Preferred Training Pathway to Hyundai
- Safe & effective automotive shop operations
- Automotive electrical principles
- Operation & service of electric vehicles

2 Semesters

The background image shows a large, well-lit industrial workshop. In the foreground, a blue semi-truck chassis is being worked on. In the background, several students in blue shirts are working on red engines mounted on stands. A red semi-truck is parked in the background. The workshop has a polished floor, various tools, and equipment.

# Ogeechee Technical College

Approved ACD Courses

## **Air Conditioning Technology**

- HVAC Contractor
- HVAC Repair & Installation
- HVAC Sales

2 semesters

## **Automotive Technology**

- Engineer Lab Tech
- Parts Salesman
- Tire and Lube Technician

3 semesters

## **Carpentry**

- Carpentry Fundamentals
- Advanced Carpentry

4-5 semesters

## **Diesel Technology**

- Heavy Diesel Service Technician
- Farm & Construction Equipment Technician
- Parts Salesman

3 semesters

### **Early Childhood Care & Education**

- Teaching Assistant
- Paraprofessional
- Pre-K Childcare Provider
- Daycare Childcare Provider

2 semesters

### **Emergency Services**

- Emergency Medical Responder
- Emergency Medical Technician

3 semesters

### **Electrical & Industrial Systems Tech**

- Electrician
- Maintenance Mechanic
- Solar Photovoltaic Installers


2 semesters

### **Welding**

- Welder
- Production Supervisor
- Machine Operator

2 semesters



A photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a floral patterned shirt, smiling and leaning over a light blue table. Two young children are seated at the table. One child, a girl with blonde pigtails in a white shirt, is playing with a colorful stacking ring toy. The other child, a boy in a red and white striped shirt, is looking towards the woman. In the background, another woman in a white shirt is partially visible, and a wooden shelf filled with books and toys is on the left. The scene is set in a bright, child-friendly environment.

## Eligibility Information

# Who is eligible to participate?

- 9th Graders: are **not** eligible to participate in Dual Enrollment; however, students can begin requesting their HS schedule be altered to prepare for the Accelerated Career Diploma option.
- 10th Graders: May begin taking approved CTAE courses for the Accelerated Career Diploma option at Savannah Technical College or Ogeechee Technical College.
- 11th & 12th Graders: May begin taking any approved courses for the Accelerated Career Diploma. Beginning senior year, Accelerated Career options are very limited.
- Students must meet college entrance requirements and maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the high school and the college.



# I'm interested! What's next?

1. Complete the STC or OTC admission application online.
  - a. Savannah Tech: <https://www.savannahtech.edu/admissions/apply-online/>
  - b. Ogeechee Tech: <https://www.ogeecheetech.edu/admissions/next-steps>
2. Complete a transcript request form (can be found in the counseling office) and give it to Ms. Riner.
3. Go to [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org) to complete the GSFAPP to cover funding.
4. Notify your counselor that you have completed both applications, and they will schedule a meeting with you to ensure everything is ready to go!
5. **Steps 1-4 must be completed by MAY 1st!!**
6. There is a mandatory meeting that must be attended by students and parents. These meetings are held in the spring each year so make sure you sign up.



**Questions?**