A MESSAGE TO PARENTS, STUDENTS & OUR COMMUNITY

Protective Services Program: What's Changing for 2026–2027

Starting this fall, our juniors and seniors in Protective Services will spend most of the school year training at Butler County Community College (BC3).

WHO
Returning BCAVTS Protective Services students (juniors & seniors).

WHERE
BC3 and BCAVTS, students will travel between both campuses.

How will this work?

- Students ride a school bus from BCAVTS to BC3, accompanied by a BCAVTS Protective Services substitute teacher. There will be days that students are accompanied by another BCAVTS staff member or after some time, without a BCAVTS staff member.
- All students, across all three sessions, will now attend **first session: 7:55 AM–9:55 AM**.
- The bus departs BCAVTS after sending-district buses arrive and returns before sending-district buses depart.
- On days students remain at BCAVTS, their substitute teacher extends the curriculum and reinforces hands-on skills.

Why are we making this change?

Our program has experienced consistently low enrollment, and the community, including BC3, already offers many of the same certification opportunities. This partnership gives students one more year in the program to build additional skills and to consider their 2027–2028 plans. For juniors entering the 2027–2028 school year, we offer a variety of Programs of Study, including our Diversified Occupations program. More information will follow.

What's expected of students?

The same as always: attend school and do their best.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will BCAVTS continue to support students during this time?
Yes. We have hired Substitute Protective Services teacher or another staff member to accompany students (on some days) to BC3 and to continue building their skills while at BCAVTS.

Will BC3 instructors manage students with an IEP?
No. BC3 instructors won't be responsible for managing IEPs. Our substitute Protective Services teacher will coordinate with our special education department to provide student support.

Will Protective Services function as a PDE (PA Department of Education) Approved Program of Study?
With a hired Substitute Protective Services teacher, our program can continue to function as a true PDE Program of Study. Managing this responsibility rests with BCAVTS, not BC3.

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Course/Training

Based on our Program of Study, EMS and fire training will be offered.

1. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

184 hours (adapted to 180)

Basic training in all aspects of emergency medical care an EMT is permitted to provide in Pennsylvania, following current
National Education Standards.

To complete, students must:

- Maintain a 70%+ cumulative grade on assignements, quizzes & exams.
- Obtain required NIMS online education (IS 100, IS 700)
- Complete an approved Hazmat Awareness program
- Become eligible for National Registry & PA Dept. of Health EMS exams

Includes: 180-hour EMT program (instructors & materials), American Heart Association Basic Life Support, EMS Testing via Platinum Education LLC.

2. Fire Training Courses

74 hours total

Four classes aligned with our current program, offered in regular fire training and the summer Cadet program for young adults.

- 48-hour EL-26 Fireground Support Class
- 16-hour ICS for Fire Service
- 4-hour Traffic Incident Management Class
- 6-hour Hazmat Awareness