Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School
210 Campus Lane • Butler, Pennsylvania 16001 • Phone (724) 282-0735
Fax (724) 282-7448

Welding Program Welcome Letter

Hello, my name is Mr. Petronelis, BCAVTS Welding Instructor. I have over 30 years in the welding/fabrication industry and this will be my 12th year of teaching at a CTC and my 8th year teaching at BCAVTS. I also own and operate a small mobile welding and fabrication business. I am excited for you to be a part of the welding program here at BCAVTS.

WELCOME TO BCAVTS WELDING!

Welding is a metal joining process that uses electric arc machines and filler metals. Career opportunities include welding sales, fabricator, shop welder, mechanical or welding engineer, various union fitter/welder positions such as millwrights, steelworkers, ironworkers, sheet metal workers, pipefitters, & steamfitters.

Attendance and punctuality will be of paramount importance this year based on the curriculum/schedule I have prepared for your student. Please join me in encouraging your student, as part of the transition into the workforce, to keep missed days and late arrivals to a minimum. Absences and tardies are a disruption of their learning and decrease their opportunity to learn the material and earn certifications.

Parents/Students Responsibilities upon the First Day of School:

A. Steel toe/composite toe boots 8 inches high, all leather (no hiking boots or any boots other than leather)
B. Welding helmet/hood
C. Welding cap/beanie
D. Extra helmet/hood batteries, extra inside and outside clear lenses
E. Regular fit jeans in good condition, no frays or holes are acceptable

The above items are for student safety. If additional items are required, you will be notified.

Students Will Study the Following During the Three-Year Program

• Write clear, concise, legible, and accurate project paperwork and keep an updated and organized binder of their work
• Communicate using welding/fabrication industry language
• Perform basic manipulative skills of the trade
• Interpret plans, drawings and code specifications, analyze specifications, contracts and drawings
• Make accurate labor and material estimations
• Describe business functions and principles, the complexity of the welding industry, and the complex interrelationships among the numerous trade and professions within the industry
• American Welding Society (AWS) Welding Certification. Available to qualified and recommended students
• S/P2 Safety Training Certificate

The Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School is an equal opportunity educational institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability in its activities or programs and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Jared Ryan, Principal/Assistant Director, Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator at ryanj@butlertec.us, 210 Campus Lane, Butler, PA 16001, (724) 282-0735.

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• NOCTI (National Occupational Competency Testing Institute)

Welding Class Rules and Shop Dress Code

Students in the Weld Shop are *REQUIRED* to wear Proper PPE (Personal Protective Equipment):

1. Safety Glasses (Required by Pennsylvania Law, ACT No. 116 of 1965)
2. Regular fit blue jeans, no holes or frays. (No baggie pants or sweatpants, nylon clothing or shorts) Pants must fit over boots and pants cannot be tucked into boots.
3. No ball caps, stocking caps to be worn under a helmet/hood or hoodies to be worn in the shop
4. Clear lens safety glasses (must be always worn)
5. Welding helmet
6. Welder's cap/beanie
7. Navy Blue or leather welding jacket
8. 8-inch-high, leather, steel toe/composite toe (no nylon) boots, must be always tied
9. Work gloves
10. Heavy duty welding gloves for Labor, Stick, Mig, Tig welding

PPE Provided but are Subject to Change:

1. Safety glasses (Required by Pennsylvania Law, ACT No. 116 of 1965)
2. Navy Blue Welding Jacket
3. Gloves
4. Hearing protection/ ear plugs
5. N95 masks

Weld Shop Rules

1. Safety First
2. Safety glasses (Required by Pennsylvania Law, ACT No. 116 of 1965)
3. Be on time, dressed and ready to work
4. Maintain and work to a high standard
5. Always follow ALL safety rules and procedures
6. Respect all BCAVTS Instructors and employees
7. Treat equipment with respect
8. Maintain a positive attitude about completing your assignments
9. Live up to your obligations and do your duties as given
10. Proper housekeeping is a must to prevent injuries
11. Long hair must be pulled back
12. No loose jewelry such as rings, earrings, and/or necklaces
13. Zero tolerance for using or having a cell phone in the shop or theory room
14. Zero tolerance for wearing or using earbuds in the shop or theory room

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15. NOTE: We have provided a place in our theory room for cell phone storage and a charging station for our students

We encourage you and your students to keep an open channel of communication with us. We are more than happy to keep you updated with your child's performance in our shop and classroom. Through communication, you will be able to assist in monitoring your child's shop assessments, theory assessments, attendance, and overall productivity. You will also be able to monitor your child's grades and attendance through our student information system eSchoolData.

Sincerely,

George Petronelis

Welding Instructor, BCAVTS
Phone: 724-282-0735 EXT: 233
Email: petronelisg@butlertec.us

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American Welding Society (AWS)
Student Welding Certification Letter of Explanation

Any student in good standing with Butler County AVTS: grades, attendance, aptitude and attitude will have an opportunity to attempt to take an AWS test and upon passing, become a certified welder before leaving our program.

The cost of the test will be determined later as we communicate with the welding inspector. Two attempts will be given to each student who qualifies for testing.

Step 1: Sign up and pay to get on our schedule.

Step 2: Prepare test plates, grind mill scale, layout and tack together (fit-up) test plates.

Step 3: Begin the test under supervision. The inspector/witness shall witness the root pass and two hot passes. The student then shall fill the joint with weld. Then the student will apply the cover pass.

Inspection Points: Fit up, root pass, hot passes and cover passes. The student may proceed with the testing after the inspector/witness confirms the visual inspection of each inspection point. Guidance will be provided to students throughout the testing process.

Actual Destructive Testing: The students who finished test will then be cut to specifications and test pieces will be bent to determine whether the student passed or failed.

Testing Dates: To make our testing organized, we will post tentative testing dates in our theory room. While we will do our best to adhere to these assigned dates, we will consider adjusting as well as exceptions based on individual needs or issues as they arise.

Thank You,

Mr. Petronelis

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