

Accelerated Career Diploma

South Effingham High School
2025-2026



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 English II)
- 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

*We are currently offering the 2 TCCs of Welding here at SEHS.

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



Ogeechee Technical College

Approved ACD Courses

Advanced Emergency Services

- Emergency Medical Technician
- Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

2 Semesters

Computer Information Systems

- CompTIA A+ Certified Preparation
- Network Technician

2 Semesters

Air Conditioning Technology

- Air Conditioning Technician Assistant
- Air Conditioning Electrical Technician

2 Semesters

Automotive Technology

- Auto Electrical/Electronic Systems Technician
- Automotive Chassis Technician Specialist
- Automotive Climate Control Technician
- Automotive Engine Performance Technician

3 Semesters

Diesel Technology

- Diesel Electrical/Electronic Systems Technician
- Diesel Engine Service Technician
- Diesel Truck Maintenance Technician

3 Semesters

Early Childhood Care & Education

- Early Childhood Care and Education Basics
- Child Development Specialist

2 Semesters

Electrical & Industrial Systems Technology

- Basic Electrical Technician
- Photovoltaic Systems Installation & Repair Technician

2 Semesters

Healthcare/Nursing

- Nurse Aide
- Geriatric Care Assistant

2 Semesters

Welding

- Basic Shielded Metal Arc Welder
- Gas Metal Arc Welder
- Gas Tungsten Arc Welder

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 to complete the **GSFAPP** to cover funding.
4. Complete the ECSD Mandatory DE ACD Contract meeting. Email your counselor to obtain the video and the Google Form that must be completed.
5. Notify your counselor that you have completed both applications and the ECSD Contact.

Steps 1-5 must be completed by MAY 1st!



Questions?

Contact your counselor

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