

PARKWAY WEST AREA CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

West Allegheny Senior High School students who are interested in obtaining vocational/technical education may attend Parkway West Area Career and Technology Center beginning in 9th grade.

Students attend for half-day sessions, with the other half-day being spent at the home school following a schedule of required academic courses.

Students receive three to four Carnegie unit credits for each year successfully completed at Parkway West Area Career and Technology Center. All credits earned are considered elective credits and are transferred to the home school to become part of the students' permanent records.

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AUTO BODY REPAIR



The Auto Body Repair program is certified by the National Automotive Technology Education Foundation (NATEF) and provides instruction in the most current techniques for repair and replacement of damaged automobile parts. Students learn to repair collision damage and to replace quarter panels, door skins, and fenders. The curriculum also includes painting, MIG welding, collision repair, frame straightening, and damage analysis. Students gain experience in mixing and tinting paint, custom painting, computerized estimating, and auto detailing. Practical experience is also provided through a full-service auto body repair shop. Students have the opportunity to earn **PPG Blue Level Paint** and **I-Car MIG Welding** certifications. They are also eligible to earn **I-Car Points**.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY



Automotive Technology is certified by the National Automotive Technology Education Foundation (NATEF) and affiliated with all of the major automotive manufacturers through Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES). Students prepare to take the Pennsylvania State Inspection License examination. Students learn basic vehicle maintenance, repair, and replacement of drive trains, brake systems, chassis components, and fuel and electrical systems. Special emphasis is placed on troubleshooting and engine performance via the use of state-of-the-art electronic diagnostic equipment. Practical experience is also provided in the auto repair shop. Under the Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES) apprenticeship program, students may qualify to become an apprentice working under mentor technicians. Students can earn certifications from **AYES**, the **National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE)**, and the **Coordinating Committee for Automotive Repair (CCAR)**.

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CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY CLUSTER



First-year students will select one of the five programs in the Construction Technology program in which they have the most interest and spend one quarter in that program. For the other three quarters students will be randomly assigned to three of the additional four courses offered in the Construction Technology Cluster. The courses offered are *Building Construction Technology*; *Electrical Systems Technology*; *Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration*; *Masonry*; and *Welding Technology*. Upon successful completion of the one-year rotation, students will be given the option to experience the fifth course before choosing one area of concentration for the remainder of their enrollment at PWCTC. The five programs consist of the following:

- **BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY:**



A student in the Building Construction Trades program will apply technical knowledge and skills to layout, fabricate, erect, install and repair structures and fixtures using hand and power tools, scaffolding, and specialty tools used in the construction trade. This program includes instruction in common systems of framing, construction materials, estimating, blueprint reading and finish carpentry techniques. Students will be given the opportunity to earn a **10-hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Construction** card.

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- **ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY:**



Electrical Systems Technology teaches students the integral components of the electrical industry for entry level employment in residential, commercial, and/or light industrial locations. The basis of instruction is in the layout, assembly, installation, wiring, maintenance, and trouble-shooting of electrical systems. Understanding programmable logistical controls (PLS's) and how transformers operate are also covered.

- **HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR-CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION (HVAC/R):**



The Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration program, which has been newly renovated with state-of-the-industry equipment, provides instruction in basic and

advanced electrical theory, troubleshooting, and repair of residential and commercial heating, air-conditioning, and refrigeration systems. Students will be given the opportunity to earn a **10-hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Construction** card.

- **MASONRY:**



Masonry offers instruction in the construction of brick and block walls for residential or commercial structures. Students learn techniques of ornamental masonry, ceramic tile, and natural or cultured stone installations. Students will also be introduced to versa-lok, an interlocking retaining wall system. Students will be given the opportunity to earn a **10-hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Construction** card and may have a greater opportunity to join the **Bricklayers' Union (BAC)** after graduation.

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- **WELDING TECHNOLOGY:**



The Welding program covers several types of welding processes by which metal may be bent, cut, or welded together, including oxy-fuel, shielded metal arc, gas metal arc, gas tungsten arc, flux core welding, carbon arc, plasma cutting, and oxy-fuel brazing. Students will learn the importance of industry safety, measuring instruments, hand tools, grinders, metallurgy, blueprint reading, electrical principles, layout/design, and fabrication. They will also learn how to prepare materials lists for cost estimates. Students have the opportunity to earn several **American Welding Society (AWS)** certifications.

COSMETOLOGY



The Cosmetology program prepares students to perform technical services including all aspects of hair, skin/nail beautification, and personal maintenance. These skills are supported and reinforced with theoretical background including sanitation, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, as well as structure, function, and disorders of the hair, skin, nails, and scalp. The Cosmetology program helps students develop into well-rounded professionals who practice real-world services in Parkway's salon, which is open to the public two days a week. Utilizing an integrated approach to teaching and learning, students learn about interpersonal relations, professional attitude, and career fundamentals along with technical knowledge and skills. Techniques and abilities are practiced and tested on mannequins, classmates, and the general public. Students who are able to attend this program for three years will have the opportunity to earn 1,250 hours of the state-regulated course requirements to take the **state licensing exam to be a licensed cosmetologist**, which encompasses

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providing services to the public for hair, skin, and nails.

Students who are able to take one or two years of instruction in the Cosmetology program may choose from the following specialized license fields:

- **NAIL TECHNICIAN LICENSE:** This license requires 200 hours of instruction and can be completed within one year. An individual holding a nail technician license is qualified to perform nail technology services only.
- **COSMETOLOGY TEACHER LICENSE:** Prerequisite for this course is having successfully passed at least one of the above licensures. This license requires 500 hours of required studies and can be completed within one year. An individual holding a teacher's license is qualified to perform the functions of a teacher in whatever specialized area the individual has obtained licensure.

CULINARY ARTS



The Culinary Arts program provides practical instruction in the preparation of banquet, buffet, and a la carte styles of food preparation. Practical experience is provided through the operation and management of an in-house, full-service restaurant. Students also provide goods and services for Parkway's food store, where pastries and select meats are sold. Students learn to design cakes, sculpt ice, and prepare many different types of cuisine. First-year students spend one school year in Culinary Arts Level I. Second and third-year students will advance into Culinary Arts Levels II and III. Senior students who have completed at least two years of Culinary Arts will have the opportunity to earn both the **National Restaurant Association's ServSafe** certification and the **American Culinary Federation** certification.

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DIGITAL MULTIMEDIA



The Digital Multimedia program provides instruction in basic graphic design using computers and design software such as Adobe Illustrator, Acrobat, Photoshop, InDesign, and Dreamweaver. Students learn entry-level skills for desktop publishing, web design, digital photography, and graphic animation utilizing Flash. Several software applications are used to design, edit, and publish documents, images, and multimedia presentations in print and electronic form. From designing a poster to developing a website, students will have the opportunity to apply their creativity to projects that resemble those within industry. Students can earn the **Adobe Certified Associate in Visual Communication** and the **Adobe Certified Associate in Web Communication** certifications via Certiport.

HEALTH ASSISTANT



Students in the Health Assistant program have the opportunity to participate in a wide-range of real-world clinical and job shadowing experiences at many different local healthcare providers. Clinical experiences may include: child care, long-term care, emergency nursing, recovery room nursing, radiology, medical records, operating room observation, pharmacy, physical/occupational therapy, and/or lab technician. Students will have the opportunity to earn and complete the American Heart Association **“CPR for Health Care Providers”** certification and the following certifications in relation to the Health Care Industry:

- **Pennsylvania State Nurse Aid Registry (C.N.A.):** For first and second year students, instruction begins with anatomy, physiology, and medical terminology. Special attention is given to medical office examinations, treatment, and patient care.
- **Personal Care Home Direct Care Staff:** For first and second year

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students, this component offers a competency test from the PA Department of Public Welfare, and it prepares students to work in a personal care home as a direct care giver.

- **Pharmacy Technician Certification (CPhT):** After successful completion of this one-year, 12th grade course, students will assist the pharmacist in a variety of tasks. Module and lab work includes: controlled substances, laws and regulations, drug classifications, frequently prescribed medications, prescription information, preparing/dispensing prescriptions, calculations, sterile products, unit dose, and repackaging.
- **Phlebotomy Technician Certification (CPT):** This is a one semester certification course directed toward 12th grade students. Module and lab work includes: anatomy and physiology, infection control, safety and compliance, patient preparation, collection techniques, and processing of collected samples. Students must demonstrate a minimum of 30

successful venipunctures and 10 successful capillary punctures.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ESSENTIALS



The Information Technology Essentials program prepares students who are interested in networking and computer diagnostics. It begins with Cisco IT Essentials, PC hardware and software, and network operating systems. Students initially prepare for CompTIA A+ and CompTIA Server+ certifications and then, through the Cisco CCNA Discovery course, students learn networking concepts based on typical networks that one might encounter in a home or small office, or in larger, more complex enterprise models. Finally, students can prepare for the **Cisco CCENT** and **Cisco CCNA** certifications.

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PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY



The Public Safety Technology program focuses on careers relating to emergency medical services, fire fighting, law enforcement, and emergency management services. In order to successfully complete the program, students must meet minimum proficiency levels in all public safety areas. Instruction is provided in disaster situations/management, hazardous materials handling, pre-hospital medical care, map reading, fire fighting, the judicial system, and emergency dispatching. Students have the opportunity to earn the following certifications: **Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B)**, **Basic Vehicle Rescue (BVR)**, **Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC)**, **Hazardous Materials Recognition and Identification (Haz-Mat R&I)**, and multiple Federal Emergency Management Agency certifications.

SPORTS MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION THERAPY TECHNOLOGY (SMARTT)



The Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Therapy Technology program prepares students to work in the field of physical therapy, occupational therapy, and sports medicine. Students will develop skills in prevention, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, assessment, prognosis, and the rehabilitation of injuries and other health conditions. Students will learn the principles of developing a plan of care including: evaluation, interventions (exercise, manual therapy, modalities, and neuro re-education), assessment, goal setting, and discharge. Students will also learn how to develop a proper diet for healthy individuals and tailor it for special populations through a comprehensive understanding of nutrition. Upon successful completion, students should be able to assist in the development and implementation of a plan of care for healthy and special populations.

Careers available directly out of the program could include: Personal Trainer, Coach, Physical Therapy Aid. This program also provides a solid educational base on which to build a post-secondary degree or

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advanced certification. Careers available with additional post-secondary schooling include: Personal Trainer, Athletic Trainer, Physical Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant, Occupational Therapist, Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant, Strength and Conditioning Coach, Medical and Exercise Physiology Researcher, Sports Psychologist, Dietician, and Exercise Physiologist.

APPLIED ACADEMIC COURSES

In the event of a course conflict or need for specific credits at the home school only, West Allegheny may allow a student to take an applied academic course at PWACTC. Students should contact their counselor for more information

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY



In the Veterinary Technology program, students will learn to keep medical records, schedule, offer client education, practice laboratory procedures, assist with nursing duties, prepare for surgeries, and assist during a routine exam. Students will also gain a solid educational base on which to build a post-secondary degree. This program may lead to additional career pathways such as Animal Trainer, Animal Breeders, Non-Farm Animal Caretakers, Laboratory Animal Caretakers, Groomers, Animal Control Worker, Veterinary Technician, Veterinary Technologist, and Veterinarian. Students may earn the following certifications: **Purina Certified Weight Coach; Pet Tech First Aid and CPR.**