



## STUDENT'S FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHAT IS TECH PREP?

Tech Prep is a national educational initiative defined in the federal Carl. D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 (Perkins IV). It is a college preparatory program that provides students with skills and abilities needed to successfully enter the workforce.

### HOW DO TECH PREP AND COLLEGE PREP DIFFER?

College prep traditionally prepares students for the four-year route in pursuit of a traditional professional career. Tech Prep provides multiple exit points for the student. Some pursue certificate programs after graduation, others continue on toward an associate degree, while still others continue in pursuit of a bachelor's degree. The student can also earn tuition-free college credit while still in high school.

### HOW DO I EARN TECH PREP CREDIT?

Students will receive articulated credit or "escrow credit" for their courses by:

1. Completing College Tech Prep classes in high school with a grade of "B" or better
2. Enrolling at the college of agreement within 24 months of graduating from high school and take one non-developmental 3-credit course
3. Request articulated credits be transferred to college credit

### Is Tech Prep Right for Me?

You are a good candidate for Tech Prep if...

- You earn a "C" or better in Algebra
- You maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average
- You maintain good school attendance
- You reach 11th grade with no academic deficiencies
- You keep a positive attitude and stay on top of high school and college assignments

### Where Can I Study?

Tech Prep students are pursuing a wide variety of degrees and certifications through the Alamo Colleges includes: St. Philip's College, San Antonio College, Palo Alto College, Northwest Vista, and Northeast Lakeview College.

Availability of certain programs depends on what is offered through your high school, and if those programs articulate to a local college program. Check with your high school counselor, career specialist or CTE teacher right away to find out what is available locally.

## ARE TECH PREP CREDITS TRANSFERABLE TO FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES?

Many colleges recognize Tech Prep credits. Once a student has earned an Associate's Degree, they may be more appealing to the four-year College or University especially since they have proven their success.

## WHY SHOULD A STUDENT TAKE TECH PREP CLASSES IF THEY KNOW THEY ARE GOING TO A FOUR YEAR COLLEGE?

Tech Prep courses prepare students for the real world by providing job-ready skills. While the student may not pursue that particular career, the courses may provide a starting point in the career search. It is also the first opportunity for many students to take college-level courses while still in high school.

## ARE TECH PREP STUDENTS REQUIRED TO PAY FOR TUITION?

No. Students will receive tuition-free college credit for their courses by declaring that they are a Tech Prep student.

### **Tech Prep Students Get Ahead by:**

1. **Saving Time & Money:** Tech Prep students graduate from high school with college or articulated credit toward a degree or certification. They can bypass introductory courses, and start at advanced levels.
2. **Being Job Ready:** Tech Prep Students are prepared for high wage and in demand occupations. They are prepared to face the challenges of a highly competitive, highly skilled workforce.
3. **College Savvy:** Tech Prep students are savvy about life after high school. They become accustomed to a college environment and the expectations of post-secondary courses and learn how to balance school and work priorities, which is a critical skill to be a successful and happy adult.
4. **Getting Real World Education:** Tech Prep learning is relevant and interesting. Programs emphasize real-world work experiences and connections to employers.

### **How Do I Enroll**

Talk to your high school career counselor and parents about your career interest.

- Find out what options and programs your school offers.
- Contact your Counselor, CTE Teacher or a local Tech Prep representative for enrollment periods and requirements.

*See Tech Prep 101 and Terminology for more information.*