

Students who choose welding as a skill, will find a rewarding future. No other skill lends itself to so many crafts as welding.

It is not uncommon to leave high school and make \$10.00 to \$25.00 per hour as a welder. This \$15.00 range depends on how much time and effort the student is willing to work on perfecting his/her skills while attending high school.

I would suggest to any student, male or female, graduating from high school to seek out companies who have advanced training or apprenticeship programs. They are the companies who generally care about their employees and offer good benefit packages, such as insurance and retirement.

Higher Education: It is not uncommon for career tech students to achieve a degree from either a two or four year college upon graduating high school.



Equal Opportunity Employment

It is the policy of the Shelby County Board of Education that no person in the school district shall, on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital or veteran status, the presence of a non-job-related medical condition or handicap, or any other legally protected status, be denied the benefits of or be subject to discrimination in regard to employment, retention, promotion, transfer or dismissal in any educational program or activity under the jurisdiction of the Board.



To begin the required application process for Welding Technology please contact Counselor Amy Shannon

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Welding Technology
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Welding Technology

at the
Shelby County
College and Career
Center



Educating and
Training Students
in the
Welding Industry
and
Preparing them
for a Lifetime
in the Work Force

What is Welding?

Welding is a process of permanently joining two or more pieces of metal. In this process, heat is applied to metal pieces, melting and fusing them to form a permanent bond. The strength of welding is so great that it is used in aerospace applications, machinery manufacturing and repair, shipbuilding and thousands of other manufacturing activities. Welding is also used to join beams in the construction of many structures such as bridges and buildings, as well as joining pipes in pipelines, refineries and power plants.

Why Choose Welding?

The United States employs more than 500,000 welders both men and women, of whom the average age is in the mid-fifties. The welding industry is on the verge of an employment crisis, as many of these skilled men and women will retire within the next ten years.

Studies show that for every three welders that retire only one re-enters the welding industry. It is projected that over 378,000 welders will be needed in the U.S. by 2022.

Welding is a \$34 billion industry within the manufacturing, construction and mining sector, a \$3 trillion industry group which makes up approximately one-third of the United States gross domestic product. Virtually all construction and manufacturing companies require some form of welding.



The following data was recently published by the American Welding Society:

- >40% of member companies are turning away business due to lack of skilled workers.
- > 60% of manufacturers reject half of all applicants as unqualified because of the lack of basic skills and failure of drug tests. Moreover, entry-level manufacturing skills have become more sophisticated requiring more education and training to get to the first run.

Is a Welding Career Right for You?

Do you enjoy building things? Are you a great diver? Do you enjoy working on cars? Good at Math and Science? Want to travel the world? Are you a passionate communicator who enjoys working with others? Ever wonder how a plane takes flight? Want to own your own business? If you are intrigued with any of these questions contact the Shelby County College and Career Center to explore your opportunities in welding.



Career

Welding is a career that offers more choices of industries to work in and advancement opportunities than just about any other career choice. Welders are needed in almost every industry and those who want to advance their career have the ability to do so with additional schooling. Here are just a few examples of the fields in which welders can find career opportunities: Machine Shops, Construction Companies, Steel Companies, Manufacturing Firms, Shipyards, and Maintenance Facilities.

There are many career opportunities for students to pursue such as a Welding Inspector, a Welding Instructor or a Welding Technician. Some occupations are Structural Welders, Pipe Fitters, Boilermakers, Ironworkers and Fabricators.

What Students Can Expect

Class fees to attend Welding Technology are \$115.00. In Welding Technology, students must successfully pass a written safety test with 100% accuracy before entering the welding shop.

Students will use the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum, including Basic Construction Math, Hand & Power Tools and Blueprint Reading. The curriculum begins with Oxy Fuel Cutting and progresses through all the processes of welding. Extensive theory will be taught in the classroom and hands-on in the shop.

Students will receive certifiable credentials for each NCCER Module passed with at least 70%. Additionally, a 10 hour OSHA Certification and AWS Welding Certifications are offered to each student.

Our Welding Program is designed to teach students work ethic in order to prepare them for employment. A large part of each student's overall grade is work ethic. This is based on attendance, tardiness, being prepared with proper attire and tools, following ALL safety rules, and class participation. Strong work ethics and good career technical skills will take students far in their careers.

Welding Technology students are required to join Skills USA. This is an organization for students in technical, skilled and service careers. Skills USA offers welding students an opportunity to compete against other students not only from Alabama but all over the United States. Shelby County CCC has had several students compete and win on district, state and national levels. This is a great achievement and experience for these students.

