

East Central College

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Four Rivers Career Center

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East Central College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a participant in the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP)

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THE CAREER

Automotive service technicians and mechanics inspect, maintain and repair automobiles and light trucks that run on gasoline, electricity or alternative fuels, such as ethanol. The responsibilities of these professionals have evolved from simple mechanical repairs to high-level technology-related work.

The increasing sophistication of automobiles requires workers to be versatile with a variety of systems and tools. They need to be able to use computerized shop equipment and work with electronic components while also maintaining their skills with traditional hand tools.

PROFESSIONAL TRAITS

Those pursuing a career in this field should:

- Have mechanical aptitude and a working knowledge of automobiles
- Be able to diagnose the source of a problem quickly and accurately
- Have strong communication and analytical skills
- Possess solid reading, mathematics and computer skills

EMPLOYMENT AND SALARY INFORMATION

The automotive service profession is experiencing about average growth, per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. By 2022, the number of positions is expected to increase by 9 percent.

Median hourly earnings for automotive service technicians and mechanics, including commission, were \$17.60 in May 2012.

The median hourly rate in the industries employing the largest numbers of these workers were as follows:

Local government, excluding schools	\$22.71
Automobile dealers	\$19.88
Automotive repair and maintenance	\$15.97
Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	\$15.02
Gasoline stations	\$14.94

THE PROGRAM

The East Central College automotive technology program is recognized as an Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certified program. It is offered at the ECC Washington site in partnership with Four Rivers Career Center.

Students enrolled in the program gain a solid understanding and working knowledge of the automotive industry. They study automotive technology, with emphasis on lab demonstrations while working in the well-equipped shop area. Students are given hands-on mechanical training from the very start, progressing from basic systems to the more complex. They first work on bench units before moving on to live engines on stands, live cars belonging to the program and finally consumer automobiles.

New students must enroll in the fall and should plan on attending full-time, choosing either a morning or afternoon time block. Students currently in high school can choose to articulate coursework to the AAS degree program and continue with the general education block of coursework at ECC.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Students must have completed:

- ✓ High school diploma or the equivalent (documentation sent to the registration office)
- ✓ Application for admission
- ✓ A placement test as specified by the college (some courses require minimum placement results)

TRANSFER OPTIONS

The AAS degree is designed for students seeking employment immediately upon graduation. However, many of the credits, particularly the general education electives received with this degree, may qualify as transfer credit at four-year schools.

These decisions are made solely by the bachelor degree-granting institution, not East Central. Students seeking to transfer are advised to contact the institution of their choice before beginning a program or reviewing other degrees and coursework offered through ECC.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

PROGRAM OF STUDY

AAS Program (62 credit hours)

This program of study is for a full-time student; part-time study is also available. Please contact an academic advisor for full course options. All academic schedules are subject to change. Many of these courses are also part of the Automotive Technology Certificate of Achievement program (CA). For the most current schedule or to view our Certificate Program, visit www.eastcentral.edu.

YEAR 1

FALL SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
FS 1000 Campus Orientation/ FS 1001 Foundation Seminar	1
EN 1223 English Comp I or EN 1233 Honors English Comp I	3
AT 1001 Introduction to Automotive Technology ^{CA}	1
AT 1004 ASE Brakes ^{CA}	4
AT 1043 ASE Suspension and Steering ^{CA}	3
MT 1083 Applied Algebra and Trigonometry or MT 1303 Intermediate Algebra	3
Total Hours	15

SPRING SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
AT 1063 ASE Manual Drive ^{CA}	3
AT 1082 Auto Transmission and Transaxel ^{CA}	2
AT 1104 ASE Engine Repair ^{CA}	4
EN 1403 Technical Writing	3
Program Elective	3
Total Hours	15

YEAR 2

FALL SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
AT 2038 ASE Electrical Systems ^{CA}	8
HI 1000/ PS 1000 Constitutions Study Module	0
History or Political Science Requirement	3
Science Requirement	3
Program Elective	3
Total Hours	17

SPRING SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
AT 2057 ASE Engine Performance ^{CA}	7
AT 2071 Heating and Air Conditioning (Auto) ^{CA}	1
BU 2881 Business and Industry Capstone ^{CA}	1
Program Elective	3
Ethics and Social Responsibility Elective (ESR)	3
Total Hours	15