



CONTACTS

Technical Scholars offers you an opportunity to attain an associate degree from Aiken Technical College while working for local industries.

A sponsoring company pays for your books and tuition. In addition to an hourly wage, a sponsoring company may provide a fringe benefit package at its discretion.

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Aiken Technical College

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TECHNICAL SCHOLARS

PARTNERING TO MEET WORKFORCE NEEDS



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Technical Scholars Program is a concentrated effort, in partnership with business and industry, to recruit, educate and graduate technicians in fields where workforce shortages exist.

During the next three to five years alone, a total of 670 new manufacturing jobs will be created in Aiken County. Job growth in Aiken County's manufacturing sector is predicted to rise by 5 percent over the next decade, compared to a national decline. While new positions are being added, it is also projected that 5.6 percent of the county's manufacturing workforce will be lost to retirement through 2018, causing a severe shortage of qualified workers.

The skilled workforce shortage means that employment opportunities and earning potential are tremendous.

Industries are so serious about their needs that they are willing to sponsor students who meet the Technical Scholars criteria in full scholarships and to offer part-time employment in the students' field of study.

Technical Scholars are required to maintain a 2.5 grade point average. They must remain in good standing as an employee of the sponsoring company. The Technical Scholar must also permit ATC to release academic progress reports and semester grade reports to the sponsoring company.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Review the Technical Scholar materials. The associate degree programs included in Technical Scholars are Computer Technology, Electronic Engineering Technology, Engineering Graphics, Industrial Maintenance Technology, Machine Tool Technology, Radiation Protection Technology and Welding Technology. For more information on these programs, view the course catalog on the Aiken Technical College website at www.atc.edu.
2. Enroll at Aiken Technical College in an applicable associate degree program.
3. Ensure that your high school or equivalent transcript is on file with ATC and give a copy to the Technical Scholars Coordinator.
4. Apply for financial aid. You may be eligible for the Technical Scholars program even if your request for financial aid is rejected or partially filled.
5. Complete the Technical Scholars Application.
6. Provide a resume to be submitted to prospective employers. ATC Career Services can assist you in developing a resume.
7. Take the Work Keys Test (applied technology, math, and reading). There are three sections to this test. Please allow one hour of time to take each section of the test.
8. Sign the Student/ATC/Employer Agreement which includes a release to allow the college to send transcripts to your employer each semester.
9. Register for classes as a full-time student. Any developmental classes must be completed before you are eligible for the Technical Scholars program. During the first semester, you must be enrolled in EGR-105.
10. Arrange to be trained in interviewing skills. ATC Career Services can assist you in practicing your interview skills.
11. Attend interviews with prospective employers.
12. Notify the Technical Scholars Coordinator upon acceptance of any position with an employer.



BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

You will gain the skills necessary to excel in today's business world, including communication, people, analytical and critical thinking skills. You will gain valuable work experience with a leading employer related to your field of study as you learn in real-life situations. Technical scholars also have excellent employment opportunities after graduation.

As a Technical Scholar, you will be the recipient of a full scholarship in one of several identified technical programs. All of the classes in the Technical Scholars program use a variety of teaching and learning approaches including lectures, labs, groups and projects in state-of-the-art classrooms and labs.