

Bellingham Technical College

# Transportation & Mechanical Technology



Automotive Collision Repair Technology  
Automotive Technology  
Diesel Technology

**FORGE YOUR  
OWN PATH**  
[www.btc.edu](http://www.btc.edu)



2023/24

# FORGE YOUR OWN PATH



[www.btc.edu/Transportation](http://www.btc.edu/Transportation)

*You feel confident when you're working on your car. You've heard that four-year college is the only way to succeed, but BTC's Diesel and Automotive programs give you the skills to turn your passion into a high-paying career.*

## **Transportation & Mechanical Technology**

- Automotive Collision Repair Technology
- Automotive Technology
- Diesel Technology

***Hands-on capabilities and problem-solving proficiency***

### **➤ Practical & Professional**

*Your learning goes beyond the classroom, with hands-on work in BTC's shop spaces, high-tech equipment, internships and instructors with industry experience.*

### **➤ Built-in Community**

*BTC's transportation programs offer small classes and cohorts, so you'll build a supportive community of classmates and get plenty of one-on-one time with instructors.*

### **➤ Return on Investment**

*With strong financial support for students and shorter certificates and two-year degrees, you'll graduate with less debt ready to join the transportation and automotive workforce.*



## About Bellingham Technical College

**Bellingham Technical College** has been training students for in-demand, high-paying careers for more than 65 years. At BTC, the focus is always on our students and helping them succeed. We're proud to have one of the highest graduation rates of all public two-year colleges in Washington state, as well as high job-placement rates for our graduates.

At our vibrant campus in the heart of Bellingham, we educate a diverse population of over 3,700 students in 50 degrees, 41 certificate programs and two bachelor of applied science degrees.

***Bellingham Technical College's mission is to provide student-centered, high-quality professional technical education for today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.***

BTC students prepare for careers in many areas, including high-demand fields such as advanced manufacturing, engineering, nursing, accounting and more.

Smaller classes mean your instructors really know you, and our lectures are reinforced in the lab, whether it is in a fast-paced kitchen, on the welding floor, or in a salmon hatchery.

**At every step, you'll know that BTC's faculty and employees are here to support you in pursuit of your professional goals.**

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*Bellingham Technical College would like to acknowledge that our service area today is within the usual and accustomed lands of the Lhaq'temish or Xwlemi (Lummi) Nation, and of the Noxws'á?aq (NookSack) Tribe of the Coast Salish peoples, as well as the original territory of the s?éməš (Samish) Indian Tribe. Our respect and gratitude go to our indigenous neighbors, whose care and protection of the land and water continues to this day.*

## BTC's programs in Transportation & Mechanical Technology are ideal for students with

***hands-on capabilities and problem-solving proficiency.***

You'll learn skills needed for a career in the highly technical transportation industry — skills highly sought by employers like car and truck dealerships, vehicle collision repair companies, aircraft detail and repair shops, maritime manufacturers, and industrial manufacturing plants.

**The employment outlook** for program graduates in this field is strong, and students can expect to earn excellent wages.

**Our graduates** are sought after by the industry, and there are ample job opportunities in transportation and mechanical technology.

## BTC Degree Options

BTC's Transportation and Mechanical Technology programs offer multiple options for degrees depending on your education goals.

### **Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree:**

A two-year technical degree that allows you to go directly to work in your field.

### **Associate of Applied Science-Transfer (AAS-T) degree:**

A two-year technical degree with transferable general education courses that allows you to either go directly into your field or choose to transfer to a specific program at a four-year college or university.

**Transitioning to BTC:** BTC accepts both traditional and non-traditional credit for equivalency to BTC courses on a case-by-case basis. Contact Admissions at [admissions@btc.edu](mailto:admissions@btc.edu) or call 360.752.8345.

Learn more: [www.btc.edu/transfers](http://www.btc.edu/transfers)

\*Wage & Employment Data Sources

Employment and Wage Estimates (esd.wa.gov) reflect 2018–21 employment; average annual wage reflects the 50th percentile, and earning potential reflects the 75th percentile of annual wages across Washington state.

Employment data come from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and reflect WA/OR employment for students enrolled in BTC between 2017-18 and 2019-20.

# Automotive Collision Repair Technology

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Associate of Applied Science – Transfer Degree

Program Length: 6 quarters

Train for a career as an automotive collision repair technician, automotive glass specialist, painter, or vehicle body shop technician or manager. BTC's Auto Collision Repair program will prepare you for all aspects of automotive body repair, using the latest technological processes and equipment. You'll learn trade-specific skills, including how to repair and refinish damaged vehicles to I-CAR industry standards.

Graduates of the two-year degree also receive I-CAR training and the opportunity to attain aluminum and steel welding certifications.

BTC's Auto Collision Repair program will give you the hands-on instruction sought after by employers such as independent collision repair shops, detailing shops, automotive manufacturers, and automotive recyclers.

*"This program has really prepared me to get a job in the workforce, something I'm happy to do every day. The knowledge I've learned at Bellingham Technical College will really set me in the right direction."*

— Michaelangelo Vega Ortiz, Auto Collision Repair graduate

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*About 91% of Auto Collision Repair Technology students are employed within nine months of graduation. The average annual wage in this field is \$47,085, with an earning potential of about \$61,241 per year.\**

# be you



*You've never shied away from a challenge, but the idea of a college degree always seemed out of reach. At BTC, you found affordable technical education to launch your career, with high wages and the flexibility to take you where you want to go. **FORGE YOUR OWN PATH. BE YOU.***



# Automotive Technology

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Program Length: 7 quarters

## General Automotive Repair

Certificate of Completion

Program Length: 3 quarters

Choose this program to prepare for a rewarding career in the automotive service industry. Occupational choices are extensive in this field; you could work as an automotive or light duty truck technician, service advisor, parts specialist, electric/hybrid vehicle specialist or one of many other related positions.

Check out Automotive Technology at BTC if you're looking for a program that provides a wide range of high-demand skills you'll use with employers such as automotive dealerships, independent automotive repair shops, federal and local government repair shops, and fleet maintenance facilities.

BTC's General Automotive Repair certificate prepares graduates to work in entry-level automotive positions like lubrication, tire, and muffler service.

**Note:** Students must show proof of and maintain a valid driver's license.

*"There's a lot of hands on. They're training me on the real world; we're working with cars just like they would at a shop."*

*— David Carrera, Auto Technology student*

*About 83% of BTC Automotive Technology students are employed within nine months of graduation.*

*The average annual wage in this field is \$48,381, with an earning potential of about \$61,214 per year.\**





*"I had a couple friends that went through this program and they're in the industry doing great. They said the instructors are really good, the administrators are helpful, and there's a lot of job opportunities and potential to grow."*

*— Jagjit Singh, Diesel Technology Student*

# Diesel Technology

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Program Length: 7 quarters

## Heavy Duty Chassis Maintenance & Repair Certificate of Completion

Program Length: 3 quarters

If you are looking for a high-paying career upon graduating from BTC, then you should consider Diesel Technology.

You'll be prepared to work right away as a diesel technician, repairing and maintaining heavy trucks, buses, and off-road equipment like bulldozers, excavators, and tractors. Other positions you'd qualify for are diesel engine specialist, maritime technician, electrical specialist, hydraulic technician, or a supporting role within the heavy duty diesel industry such as parts and warranty.

BTC has a wide range of equipment and training aids to get hands-on experience prior to entering the workforce. You'll learn how to maintain and repair leading-edge diesel engines, transmissions, brake and hydraulic systems all while working in an actual shop. There is a strong emphasis on electrical/electronics as the industry rapidly electrifies.

Employers who hire graduates from the Diesel Technology program include diesel trucking companies, equipment and material handling rental companies, highway contractors, farm and heavy equipment companies, marine dealers, dealerships, state and county facilities, and transportation depots.

**Note:** Students must show proof of and maintain a valid driver's license

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*The average annual wage in this field is \$52,704, with an earning potential of about \$66,481 per year.\**



Find more information:

[www.btc.edu/admissions](http://www.btc.edu/admissions)

Admissions & Funding checklist:

[www.btc.edu/admissionsteps](http://www.btc.edu/admissionsteps)

### Apply to BTC

Apply at [www.btc.edu/applyonline](http://www.btc.edu/applyonline) and get your ctcLink ID number.

### Apply for Financial Aid

File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) if you are a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.

<https://studentaid.gov>.

File the Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) if you are not eligible to complete the FAFSA.

<https://wsac.wa.gov/wasfa>

For other funding resources, visit:

[www.btc.edu/financialresources](http://www.btc.edu/financialresources)

### Assess Your Starting Point

Degree- and certificate-seeking students need to determine their math and English starting points.

BTC offers multiple options to determine where you start in those classes. Visit: [www.btc.edu/assessment](http://www.btc.edu/assessment)

### Meet Your Navigator & Register for Classes

Students will meet with College Navigators for a mandatory GET Started appointment: navigate Goals, create an Education plan, become Tech ready, and register for classes.

Contact Admissions & Registration to schedule your appointment: [admissions@btc.edu](mailto:admissions@btc.edu) or call **360.752.8345**.

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