



Career Opportunities Abound at New ATEC Facility

In the three months since its opening, the College of the Canyons Canyon Country Campus' Applied Technology Education Center (ATEC) has attracted a growing number of students and community members who have shown an interest in exploring the various types of Career Technical Education (CTE) training opportunities the facility was designed to provide.

The college's new ATEC facility is located on the south side of the Canyon Country campus in Quad 700, adjacent to the Campus Safety department, on a hillside overlooking the campus' two main parking areas.

Featuring approximately 10,000-square-feet of workshop and laboratory space, the facility also includes four modular building classrooms and computer labs, and is highlighted by the presence of the college's new state-of-the-art automotive technology lab.

Other college programs housed in the new ATEC facility include: water systems technology, plumbing and the college's new solar technology and renewable energy program, which debuted this fall.

"The ATEC facility is significant in that it symbolizes the exciting future of the campus – a future characterized by unparalleled new opportunities for students seeking a path to challenging and

rewarding careers in emerging, or new technical fields," says Dr. Dena P. Maloney, Vice President of the Canyon Country Campus and Economic Development. "We've seen a growing interest in these programs, which has necessitated the addition of a second offering of the alternative energy – solar program in the fall semester."

Solar Technology and Renewable Energy

The college's solar energy technician certificate program includes 13 units of instruction spread over three courses, with students typically able to complete the program in two to three semesters.

The first course in the program, Introduction to Energy Technology, debuted at the Canyon Country campus this fall, with subsequent lab courses in the program scheduled to arrive in spring 2012. Including instruction in electricity fundamentals, alternative energy technologies, energy efficiency concepts and industry relevant mathematics, this introductory course will also serve as a prerequisite for future degree and certificate options in the college's solar and energy series.

Upon successful completion of the solar energy technician certificate program students will possess a detailed understanding of the PV and solar thermal energy technologies currently being employed, and will be qualified to accept entry-level positions in the fields of solar

PV and solar thermal design, installation and maintenance.

Automotive Technology

The college's automotive technology program is a two-year program designed to equip students with the skills needed to work as an automotive technician.

Both the associate degree and certificate of achievement program options will provide students with an in-depth level of hands-on training experience, allowing students to learn the key aspects of automotive diagnosis, repair and service. With ongoing opportunities to hone their skills in the ATEC's state-of-the-art auto facility, students will spend an abundance of time "under the hood" practicing the skills they've learned in the classroom.

Upon completion of the course work required for the auto tech program options, students will have achieved competencies in the areas of brakes, suspension, electrical components and wiring, transmissions, engine diagnosis and drivability.

Water Systems Technology

Filling the region's continued need for certified water distribution and treatment professionals, the college's water systems technology (WST) program offers courses for both students and current industry professionals looking to advance their careers in this all-important industry sector.



Among the various types of Career Technical Education (CTE) training opportunities available at the new Applied Technology Education Center (ATEC) facility are programs in water systems technology and plumbing technology. This month, the COC Career Services Department is hosting a pair of information workshops designed to help students and community members learn more about the employment opportunities available in these two industry sectors. A water systems technology information workshop will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9, while a plumbing technology information workshop will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29. Both workshops will be held at the campus' ATEC facility. For more information, or to RSVP to attend, please call (661) 362-3286.



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As one of just a handful of water programs offered in the 110-member California Community College System, water systems technology courses at COC will teach students about the types of control equipment and processes employed to remove or destroy harmful materials, chemicals and microorganisms from the public's water supply. Students will also learn to control pumps, valves and other equipment that moves water and/or wastewater through the various treatment processes.

Those who complete the college's WST program are often employed as water distribution operators, treatment plant operators, service representatives, wastewater collection workers and/or wastewater treatment operators.

Plumbing Technology

COC is in the process of developing a 16-unit plumbing technology certificate program designed to help address the state's current and long term need for a sustainable workforce of well trained and qualified plumbers.

Including a combination of classroom and lab instruction, class sessions are held in the ATEC's state-of-the-art plumbing laboratory, which was developed in collaboration with industry partners to ensure that instruction would meet the industry's various skill standards.

With the first course in the program, Plumbing Fundamentals, having already debuted at the Canyon Country campus this fall, COC will soon become just the second community college in the region to offer a plumbing technology program.



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