



Get a head start



on your CAREER



Why enroll in a Career Program?

Career Programs provide fundamental training and work experience while students are still in high school.

Benefits may include:

- Free tuition for post-secondary program
- Earn dual credits – high school and post-secondary credits concurrently
- “Hands on” learning
- Work experience in a direct career path
- Pursuing a passion and building skills to transition to work in a given field
- Career opportunities
- Build professional skills that are required in the workplace

How to apply:

Visit the Career Programs website to learn more about your chosen field and download the application.

When to apply:

Applications are accepted throughout the year with most programs having a deadline date of March 1st. Exceptions are Baking & Pastry Arts (February 1) and Plumbing (December 1).

How much does it cost?

Students enrolled in the Health Care Assistant program and Youth Train in Trades programs do not pay tuition for level 1 technical training. However, students are responsible to pay for supplemental fees assigned for equipment, tools, and consumable materials. More information on the VSB Career Programs website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/site/career-programs>

School Based Programs

There are four specialty programs available to students throughout the district who have a keen interest in the areas of fashion, IT networking, and construction. Participants divide their time between their home school and the program school.

CISCO & IT NETWORKING (Killarney)

Develop skills to build computers, install software, and connect computers to networks and the internet..

Killarney Secondary School, Semester 2

Earn up to 16 graduation credits.

Characteristics

Interest in computers, software and hardware.

Recommended

Grade 10 , Information and Communication Technology, Computer Science and Math courses

Career Opportunities

IT firms in both private and public sectors

EXPLORE TRADES SAMPLER (Tupper Tech)

Hands-on experience in a variety of trades. Sir Charles Tupper School, Semester 1 Earn up to 24 graduation credits.

Characteristics

Hardworking, self-disciplined, manually dexterous, and a desire to explore the trades.

Requirements

Math & Technology courses 11 and 12 (recommended) Good academic standing

Career Opportunities

Transition into a post-secondary program or an apprenticeship



ENHANCED TRADES (Killarney)

Designed for Grade 11 students interested in trying multiple trades.

Killarney Secondary school, Semester 2, February to June

Earn up to 16 graduation credits for

Metalwork/Welding 11, Automotive 11,

Drafting/Engineering 11 and Social Studies 11.

Characteristics

Good hand-eye coordination, enthusiastic, and hard working.

Requirements

Grade 10

Career Opportunities

Skilled trades

FASHION DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Develop a portfolio, design and create fashion garments and participate in work experience.

Eric Hamber Secondary, Semester 2

Two-year program held during Grades 11 and 12.

Earn 32 graduation credits.

Characteristics

Hardworking, creative, and have an eye for fashion.

This is a very intensive program that requires great time management skills and dedication.

Requirements

Textiles and Art courses (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Clothing and textile companies

Youth Work in Trades

The Youth WORK in Trades program provides students with skill development through practical, hands-on work experience. Students who attend high school and are employed in a trade recognized by the Skilled Trades BC may be eligible to earn credits for both graduation and apprenticeship.

Requirements

A student must work with an employer who is Red Seal certified and willing to sponsor the student as an apprentice.

Dual Credit

The Vancouver School Board has partnered with several post-secondary institutions to offer students a head start to pursue their chosen career. These partnerships give students both secondary graduation and post-secondary credits.

Students in Dual Credit programs must be on a path to complete secondary school graduation as well as meet the individual program requirements. For Youth TRAIN in Trades [YT] achievement of 70% or greater is required to receive credit for Level 1 Technical Training.

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

Aircraft Maintenance Engineer [YT]

Learn skills to service aircraft engines, mechanical, hydraulic and flight control systems; learn to troubleshoot and repair structural, mechanical, and electrical problems.

British Columbia Institute of Technology Aerospace campus, Monday to Friday, 18-month continuous program.

The Vancouver School Board pays tuition for the first term only.

Characteristics

Mechanically inclined, manual dexterity, and good colour vision

Requirements

English 12 and at least +60% in Math 11

Automotive Technology 11

(recommended) Physics 11

(recommended)

Career Opportunities

Airports in cities and rural communities

AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION AND REFINISHING TECHNICIAN

Automotive Collision and Refinishing Foundation [YT]

Learn to prime, repair, and finish damaged vehicles

Vancouver Community College, 35 weeks, September to June, Monday to Thursday

Earn 32 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training

Characteristics

Mechanically inclined, able to tolerate noise and strong odors, physical strength and stamina, good manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination, good eyesight and normal color vision.

Requirements

English 10, Math 10, Automotive Technology 11&12 (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Automobile dealerships, automobile repair shops and automobile appraisal

Dual Credit

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Automotive Service Technician Foundation [YT]

Perform routine maintenance, diagnose, test and repair motor vehicles.
Britannia Secondary School, Semester 2 plus 50 hours at Vancouver Community College
Earn 20 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Mechanically inclined, able to tolerate noise and vibration, good manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination.

Requirements

English 10, Math 10 with a min c- grade, Automotive Technology 11&12 (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Motor vehicle dealers, garages, fleet maintenance companies, service stations, automotive specialty shops, and transportation companies.

BAKER

Baking and Pastry Arts [YT]

Develop industry standard baking preparation skills.

Vancouver Community College, July to December, Monday to Thursday
Earn 24 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Artistic, good dexterity and hand-eye coordination, able to stand for long hours, and work well under pressure and in extreme heat.

Requirements

Successful completion of Gr. 10 with English 10 and Math 10, FOODSAFE Level 1
Food Studies/Culinary Arts courses (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Specialty bakeries, restaurants, hotels and supermarkets



CARPENTER

Carpentry Foundation [YT]

Acquire basic skills, build frames and structures, concrete form work.
British Columbia Institute of Technology, February to April, Monday to Friday
Earn 20 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

This program has limited seat availability.

Characteristics

Physically fit, good dexterity and hand-eye coordination, comfortable working at various heights.

Requirements

English 12, Math 12, Woodworking and Drafting (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Residential, commercial, light industrial or heavy construction fields

CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN

Electrical Foundation [YT]

Learn to lay out, assemble, install, test, troubleshoot and repair electrical wiring, and fixtures.

British Columbia Institute of Technology, September to March, Monday to Friday
Earn 24 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

This program has limited seat availability.

Characteristics

Physically fit, have good hearing, eyesight, and hand-eye coordination.

Requirements

Pre-Calculus 11 (60%) or Math 11 (60%), English 12, and Physics 11 (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Residential, commercial and industrial settings

HAIRDRESSER

Hairstylist [YT]

Train to cut, design and style hair.

Vancouver Community College, September to June, 3 days a week
Earn 44 graduation credits and VCC Hair design certificate.

Characteristics

Artistic, good eye for detail and depth perception, normal colour vision, hand-eye coordination, able to stand for long periods of time.

Requirements

English 10, Art courses (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Hair salons, spas, barber shops, schools, hair replacement clinics, health care establishments, hotels, and in the cruise, fashion and entertainment industries

HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT

Develop knowledge and skills necessary to function effectively as a front-line caregiver.

Vancouver Community College, September to April, Monday to Friday
Earn 28 graduation credits.

Characteristics

Good communication skills, able to handle trauma, has endurance and empathy.

Requirements

English 10, Criminal record check, Immunization history, Standard First Aid and FOODSAFE Level 1 and a N95 Respiratory Mask

Career Opportunities

Hospitals, nursing homes and care facilities



HEAVY DUTY EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN

Heavy Mechanical Trades Foundation [YT]

Inspect, service and repair commercial vehicles and industrial heavy-duty equipment.

Vancouver Community College, September and May, Monday to Thursday
Earn 28 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Mechanical aptitude, good manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination, able to tolerate noise and vibration.

Requirements

English 10, Apprentice & Workplace Math 10, Automotive Technology 11 & 12 (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Equipment dealer, mines, road construction companies

INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC

Millwright Foundation [YT]

Install, repair, overhaul, and maintain machinery and heavy mechanical equipment.
British Columbia Institute of Technology, September to March, Monday to Friday
Earn 20 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Physical strength, good hearing, good eyesight, normal colour vision, manual dexterity and hand/ eye coordination, practical mathematical skills and mechanical aptitude.

Requirements

English 12, Pre-Calculus 11 (60%) or Foundations of Math 11 (67%) or Workplace Math 11 (73%), Applied Design, Skills and Technology courses (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Ski resorts, bottling plants, mines, pulp and paper

Dual Credit

METAL FABRICATOR (FITTER)

Metal Fabrication [YT]

Build, assemble, and repair products made of steel.

British Columbia Institute of Technology, February to June, Monday to Friday
Earn 20 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Good hand/eye coordination and in good physical condition.

Requirements

English 12, Math 10, Applied Design, Skills and Technology courses (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Construction, mining, logging and ship building

MOTORCYCLE MECHANIC

Motorcycle & Power Equipment Technical Foundation [YT]

Diagnose, repair, overhaul and replace mechanical and electrical parts of motorcycles and other power equipment.
British Columbia Institute of Technology, February to June, Monday to Friday
Earn 20 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Mechanical aptitude; manual dexterity; and good hand/eye coordination.

Requirements

English 10, Math 10, Applied Design, Skills and Technology courses (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Service shops of motorcycle dealers and retailers and by independent service establishments

PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Painting and Decorating [YT]

Learn basic skills required by the industry: home interiors and residential painting.

Finishing Trades Institute of British Columbia, June to July, Monday to Friday

Earn 4 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Good hand-eye coordination, able to work with numbers to perform calculations, disciplined and precise.

Recommended

Completion of Gr. 10

Career Opportunities

Residential or Commercial painting

PLUMBER

Plumbing Foundation [YT]

Learn basic skills in soldering, piping, safe work practices, reading drawings and schematic plans.

Requirements

Piping Industry College of BC, June to August, Monday to Friday

Earn 4 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Manual dexterity; good hand-eye coordination; math skills; visualize drawings and structures.

Requirements

English 11, Math 11, the ability to measure accurately to 1/16 of an inch.

Career Opportunities

Residential or commercial contractors, construction companies and maintenance departments

PROFESSIONAL COOK 1

Professional Cook Level 1 [YT]

Study how to prepare and cook a wide variety of meals.

David Thompson and Sir Charles Tupper Secondary schools, Semester 2, plus four weeks in the summer at Vancouver Community College
Earn 24 graduation credits and Level 1 Technical Training.

Characteristics

Creative, ability to stand for prolonged periods, withstand stressful environments, and good hand-eye coordination.

Recommended

English 10, Math 10, FOODSAFE Level 1, an ability to handle all types of food with no known allergies.

Foods Studies and Culinary Arts courses (recommended)

Career Opportunities

Restaurants, tourist lodges, mining and logging camps, cruise ships and catering companies



CONTACT INFORMATION

Rhonda Stangeland, Career Education Coordinator, rstangeland@vsb.bc.ca

Mark Reid, Career Education Teacher, mreid@vsb.bc.ca

Career Programs Office

Phone: 604-713-5060

Email: careerprograms@vsb.bc.ca

Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/site/career-programs>

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