



2009 Frequently Asked Questions

What is the ACT program?

The Academy of Construction Technologies sponsors the youth/pre-apprenticeship program in the public high schools of Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties. Our mission is to develop a well-trained work force in the fields of Carpentry, Automatic Fire Sprinkler, Electrical, HVAC (Heating, Ventilation Air-Conditioning), Masonry and Plumbing/Pipefitting.

How is this accomplished?

ACT works closely with the three school districts of Orange, Osceola and Seminole to utilize industry specific courses developed by industry professionals. Students are trained in their junior and senior year of high school within one of the six sponsored trades listed above. This industry specific class, along with summer on the job training, allows students the opportunity to receive lifelong rewarding skills.

Where is the ACT program taught?

Each school district offers different classes and facility locations. Some classes are taught at the student's high school, other classes are offered at the district's vocational tech center or local college campus.

Who do I, or my child, need to speak with to participate?

You may contact a guidance counselor at your high school, your district's career and educational department or the ACT office.

Are there student requirements needed to participate in the ACT program?

Yes. Students must be 16 years of age, be on track for graduation, maintain a 2.0 GPA and regular attendance at school.

What are the benefits of the ACT program?

Many courses are offered as dual enrollment classes. This allows high school students to earn college or adult apprenticeship credits while earning high school credits. First Aid, CPR and 10 hours of OSHA are part of the core curriculum. When available, the program offers paid summer on the job training employment as well as an additional high school elective credit once 160 hours are completed. The ACT program currently has several scholarship opportunities available to graduates of the ACT program.

May a student join the ACT program after their junior year?

Although the ACT program is designed as a 2 year program, an upcoming senior who missed the opportunity to participate in the ACT program their junior year may enroll in a class their senior year if an opening is available. The ACT program is not available to adults or students who are not currently enrolled in the public high school system of Orange, Osceola and Seminole county.

Is there a specific registration deadline for entry into the program?

Each year students are given a class registration form to sign up for the following year's classes. This is the ideal time to register for an ACT classes. If this time frame is missed, you would need to speak to your guidance counselor concerning late entry.

Is there a cost to participate in the ACT program?

No, this program is FREE to all active/current high school students.

Is the summer on the job training mandatory?

To be considered an ACT "graduate" a student must complete two years of core curriculum and 160 hours of on the job training. The ACT program encourages every student to participate in the summer employment to learn the skills and practices needed in a successful career. However; it is not mandatory for students to participate in the on the job training, each student has the choice to decide on summer employment.

Does a student have to own a car to be employed during the summer?

No. However, all students must provide their own way to and from their respective job site. Therefore; a means to reliable transportation will be necessary.

Does ACT have a website or phone number where I may locate more information?

Yes, the ACT website address is www.ACTCAREERS.com. You will find additional details on the program, scholarships, as well as a copy of our latest newsletter. The ACT office phone number is 407-851-7803.