



DID YOU KNOW THAT

The Spokane Skills Center first opened its doors in the Fall of 1982. It is operated by Spokane School District 81, and is governed by an Administrative Council consisting of the superintendents of the nine consortium school districts whose students we serve. There are also five non-consortium school districts that have an agreement with the Skills Center to send students.

The Skills Center runs two sessions per day. Students spend ½ of their school day at their home schools and attend either the a.m. or p.m. session at the Skills Center. The school districts having students attending the Skills Center are:

CONSORTIUM DISTRICTS

Central Valley
Cheney
Deer Park
East Valley
Mead
Medical Lake
Nine Mile Falls
Spokane District 81
West Valley

NON-CONSORTIUM DISTRICTS

Liberty
Oakesdale
Riverside

In addition to earning 1½ high school credits per semester, many programs at the Skills Center provide both paid and unpaid internships for students. Students have the opportunity to earn program certifications and can enter the community college system with advanced placement standing and/or college credits through articulation agreements with the colleges.

Listed below are the programs currently offered at the Skills Center and information about each:

- **Automotive Technology (Dennis Koentopp & David Fransk, Instructors):** This program offers training in engine performance, electrical, and brakes and suspension and is NATEF and AYES Certified. Students can earn their ASE Certification. We also have articulation agreements with UTI and SCC. Students in this program utilize more than \$200,000 in equipment.
- **Collision Repair (Don Belcher, Instructor):** Students in this program can earn an I-CAR Certification. The ability to earn a NATEF Certification is currently in progress. Students can enter SCC with one quarter worth of credits. Students in this program utilize more than \$200,000 in equipment.
- **Computer Aided Machining (John Flanigan, Instructor):** Students in the program can earn up to 17 credits at SCC, as well as other considerations. Students in this program utilize equipment with an original value of more than \$100,000.
- **Computer Graphics and Printing (Terri Haworth, Instructor):** Students in this program can earn PrintED Certification through the Graphic Education and Research Foundation. We have articulation agreements with SFCC and Lewis and Clark State College. Students in this program utilize more than \$150,000 in equipment.

- **Computer Information Technology (Matt Buchanan & Debbie Smith, Instructors):** This program offers both introductory and advanced computer training. Certifications students can earn in this program are MOUS, OCP, MCP, MCSE, and MCSD. We have an articulation agreement with CCS for up to 33 credits. Students in this program utilize more than \$150,000 in equipment.
- **Computer Networking Electronics (Tami Absalonson, Instructor):** Students in this program can earn A+ and CCNA Certifications. We are currently working on an articulation agreement with SCC. Students in this program utilize more than \$35,000 in equipment.
- **Construction Technology (Kirk Hopkins, Instructor):** Students in this program network with apprenticeship coordinators, industry reps. and business owners. Students in this program utilize more than \$5,000 in equipment.
- **Dental Careers (Lori Murray, Instructor):** Students in this program participate in internships in several dental offices in the Spokane area. They also earn up to 19 credits toward the Dental Assisting Program at SCC. Students in this program utilize more than \$90,000 in equipment.
- **Hospitality and Culinary Arts (Chef Bill Allen, Instructor):** Students in this program work toward a “Pro Start” Certificate. They can enter the community college with up to a quarter worth of credits. Tuition discounts in lieu of credits are also being discussed. Students in this program utilize more than \$250,000 in equipment.
- **Medical and Nursing Careers (JoAnne Bailey, Instructor):** Students in this program earn AIDS Certification, as well as NAR/NAC Certification upon passing a State test. They can receive points for acceptance scale in SCC’s nursing program equal to a bachelor degree in any area, as well as up to 33 clinical hours and 15 credits at SCC. Students in this program utilize more than \$5,000 in equipment.
- **Pre-Law Enforcement (Pfc. Jerry Mertens, Instructor):** This is a new program at the Skills Center this year. It is in partnership with area law enforcement, and is taught by Officer Jerry Mertens, who is a six year veteran with the Spokane Police Academy.
- **Broadcast Media Production (Scott Dethlefs, Instructor):** Students in this program will be given the opportunity to work with media businesses in internships. Students in this program utilize more than \$25,000 in equipment, and the program expects to acquire several new pieces of equipment this year.
- **Welding Technology (Andrew Syder, Instructor):** Students in this program can earn an AWS entry-level certificate. An articulation agreement with the community college permits a student to enter there with up to nine credits. Students in this program utilize more than \$50,000 in equipment.

In addition to the teaching staff listed above, there are many other individuals that work hard to provide your children with the best professional/technical education available. These individuals and their roles at the Skills Center are:

Don Howell, Director
 Mauri Paul, Assistant Director
 Sharon Wessman, Counselor
 Gail Gwynn, Office Manager
 Pat Giannandrea, Bookkeeper
 Janice Abramson, Student Services Secretary
 Susan Christenson-Fuhrman, Instruct. Design Specialist

Mary Naber, Special Ed. Teacher
 Tim Petty, Head Custodian
 Patty Fisher, Night Custodian
 Nancy Daly, Dining Room Supervisor
 Sherrer Avery, Instructional Ass’t.
 Diana Burdeau, Instructional Ass’t.
 Linda Maas, Instructional Ass’t.