Occupational Preparation I-IV
Course Descriptions

OCCUPATIONAL PREPARATION I

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental attitudes, behaviors, and habits needed to obtain and maintain employment in their career choice and make career advancements. Students will participate in school-based learning activities including work ethic development, job-seeking skills, decision-making skills, and self-management. Students will be involved in on-campus vocational training activities such as school factories, work-based enterprises, hands-on vocational training in Career-Technical Education courses and the operation of small businesses. Formal career planning and development of knowledge regarding transition planning begins in this course and continues throughout the strand of Occupational Preparation courses.

OCCUPATIONAL PREPARATION II

This course is designed to allow students to develop skills generic to all career majors; resource management, communication, interpersonal relationships, technology, stamina, endurance, safety, mobility skills, motor skills, teamwork, sensory skills, problem solving, cultural diversity, information acquisition/management, and self-management. This course content is focused on providing students with a repertoire of basic skills that will serve as a foundation for future career application. Students will expand their school-based learning activities to include on-campus jobs and work-based learning activities. Job seeking skills also will be refined.

OCCUPATIONAL PREPARATION III

This course is designed to allow students to continue the development and begin the application of skills learned in Occupational Preparation I and II. Work-based learning activities are provided including community-based training, job shadowing, job sampling, internships, situational assessment, cooperative education, and apprenticeships. These work-based activities allow students to apply employability skills to competitive employment settings and demonstrate the effectiveness of their work personality. Multiple opportunities for leadership development and self-determination are provided.

OCCUPATIONAL PREPARATION IV

This course gives students the opportunity to synthesize all the skills acquired in previous Occupational Preparation courses and apply them to their personal career choice. This course allows students to solve work-related problems experienced in competitive employment, practice self-advocacy skills and master the theoretical and practical aspects of their career choice. Students finish completing the 360 hours of integrated competitive employment in a community setting required for successful completion of the Occupational Course of Study. Students also will develop a job placement portfolio that provides an educational and vocational record of their high school experience.