



## NCTA Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is the Northwest Career & Technical Academy

- NCTA is a Skills Center dedicated to offering high quality tuition-free technical and professional training for high school aged students. One of the benefits of a skills center is that it is a cooperative that serves many school districts in a central location, thus reducing the cost of costly programs and providing greater access to advanced program opportunities. Mount Vernon School District is a consortium member as well as the "host" district.

### 2. Is there a quick overview of NCTA?

- Yes, check out a student-produced video at <http://bit.ly/2EnuuF1>



### 3. Who is eligible to attend NCTA?

- Juniors and Seniors from Skagit, Whatcom and Snohomish counties (some grade 10 students with exceptional status at their home high school)
- Anyone age 16 to 20 who has not received a high school diploma
- Anyone age 16 to 20 who has earned his/her GED
- Students who know what type of technical training they are ready to pursue and are ready to step up and stand out

### 4. What programs are offered at NCTA?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aerospace Manufacturing</li> <li>• Animal Care &amp; Handling</li> <li>• Applied Medical Science</li> <li>• Automotive Services</li> <li>• Construction – <i>Residential</i></li> <li>• Construction – <i>Skilled Trades</i></li> <li>• Criminal Justice</li> <li>• Culinary Arts</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental Assisting</li> <li>• Fire Science &amp; EMS</li> <li>• Marine Services</li> <li>• Mobile, Client-Sever Admin.</li> <li>• Veterinary Assisting</li> <li>• Video Game Development</li> <li>• Welding</li> </ul> |
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5. How does a student apply to NCTA?

- Complete an application (our website) and turn into your high school counselor
- Your counselor will attach your educational records to the application and send it to NCTA
- Contact your sending school counselor or NCTA for more details

6. What is the cost of attending NCTA?

- NCTA is part of the public education system. Tuition is free!
- There are industry certifications available which may require a student-paid fee.

7. How does Summer Session Work?

- NCTA, like most skills centers offers summer school programming for high school age students including incoming freshmen. Summer school classes are typically 6.5 hours per day for 14 days. Classes offered allow students to get a taste of a program area, dive deeper into the learning, and provide the chance for students that may not be able to fit a skills center class into their year-long schedule to work ahead and open space for the coming year(s).
- Students can earn 0.5 credit (one semester credit) per summer session
- Summer school enrollment begins in spring. Check with your local skills center to learn more about summer registration, dates/times, and expectations.
- There are two types of classes offered during summer:
  - Introductory Classes: Provides an introduction into a program area | get a taste of what the pathway area provides
  - Extension Programs: Deeper learning in a program area | Advanced placement experiences for current students

8. What does a student schedule look like when attending their high school and NCTA?

- Students attend NCTA half day and their local high school the other half.
- When a student pre-registers at their high school, it's important they know they'll be blocking out 3-4 classes
- The high school schedule in Skyward will reflect the courses at NCTA

9. Can students earn college credits too?

- Yes. Most programs allow students the opportunity to get college credit through CTE Dual credit for what they do in the program when they receive an "A" or "B" grade.

10. Where are NCTA programs located?

- There are 4 total campus locations
- Transportation provided by most districts
- Anacortes (1606 R Avenue): Aerospace Manufacturing, Marine Technology Services, Skilled Trades Construction
- Sedro-Woolley HS: Automotive Services
- Meridian HS: Welding, Construction
- Mount Vernon (2205 West Campus Place): Animal Care & Handling, Applied Medical Science, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Dental Assisting, Fire Science & EMS, Mobile, Client-Sever Administration, Veterinary Assisting, and Video Game Development

11. How can I find out more?

- Check out NCTA's Facebook page [facebook.com/NWCTA](https://www.facebook.com/NWCTA)
- Website: [nwtech.k12.wa.us](http://nwtech.k12.wa.us)
- Email: [info@nwtech.k12.wa.us](mailto:info@nwtech.k12.wa.us)
- Call 360 848-0706
- Talk to the sending high school counselor