

**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Office of the Governor  
Harrisburg**

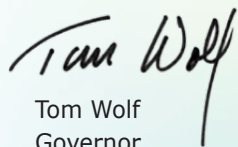
Dear Career and Technical  
Education Student:

Rebuilding the middle class and creating a better future for all Pennsylvanians depends on a skilled workforce and an industry-driven education and training strategy. As a businessman, I understand that supporting programs that offer these services to the commonwealth is crucial to our success. Technical education programs provide individuals with the skills to achieve this goal and create a bridge for students to more readily transition from high school to college or a career.

The Pennsylvania State Skills Certificate is earned by students who have gone above and beyond what is expected of them in their technical programs. In taking this test, students have the opportunity to display that they have attained the technical and academic skills that will help them to succeed in their field.

In Pennsylvania, we must provide all students with the necessary skills to find good jobs and compete in the global economy. I wish you the best of luck and success as you approach this benchmark exam that will begin your journey into a career or postsecondary education. Our collective future depends on the next generation.

Sincerely,



Tom Wolf  
Governor



**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**  
Tom Wolf, Governor

**Department of Education**  
Pedro A. Rivera, Secretary

**Office of Elementary and Secondary Education**  
Matthew Stem, Deputy Secretary

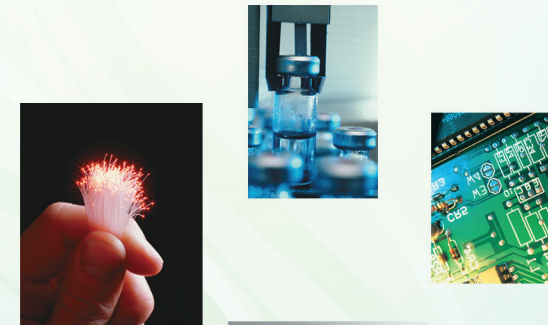
**Bureau of Career and Technical Education**  
Lee Burket, Director

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If you have any questions about the information in this publication or for additional copies, contact:

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# Pennsylvania Skills Certificate



# Pennsylvania Skills Certificate

Jobs in Pennsylvania and the world are becoming extremely competitive and highly technical. It is important that students excel in academic and technical skills that are required to be successful in their chosen career fields.

The Pennsylvania Skills Certificate was created by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to recognize career and technical education students who have shown advanced skill achievement in their technical programs.

To earn the Pennsylvania Skills Certificate, students must achieve at the advanced level on a NOCTI or other PDE-approved test. These tests consist of two parts: multiple-choice and performance. The multiple-choice test covers factual knowledge, technical information, and the understanding of academic principles and problem solving related to a technical field. The performance test allows students to demonstrate that they have the skills required to do the job. The tests are given at schools with individuals from local business and industry evaluating student performance. The tests provide students the opportunity to demonstrate that they have acquired the technical skills needed for entry-level employment and postsecondary education.

The Pennsylvania Skills Certificate is one of the qualifying documents used to offer students advanced college credits with partnering postsecondary institutions through Statewide Articulation Agreements. To learn more about this exciting opportunity, talk to your school counselor or visit – [www.education.pa.gov](http://www.education.pa.gov) (Search for SOAR Articulations)

## Career and Technical Education Areas Eligible for the Pennsylvania Skills Certificate . . .

- Accounting Technology
- Administrative Assistant
- Agricultural Mechanization
- Agricultural Productions Operations
- Apparel and Textile Management
- Applied Horticulture
- Architectural Drafting
- Autobody/Collision and Repair Technology
- Automotive Mechanics Technology
- Baking and Pastry Arts
- Biotechnology
- Building/Property Maintenance
- Cabinetmaking
- Carpentry
- Child Care and Support Services
- Cinematography and Film/Video Production
- Civil Drafting/Engineering
- Commercial and Advertising Art
- Computer Programming
- Computer Systems Networking
- Computer Technology
- Communications Technologies
- Construction Trades
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice/Police Science
- Dental Assisting
- Digital Communications
- Drafting and Design Technology
- Electrical/Electronics Maintenance
- Electrical and Power Transmission Installers
- Electronic Technology
- Electromechanical Technology
- Engineering Technologies
- Forestry Technology
- Graphic Communications
- Health/Medical Professions
- Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Technology
- Heavy Equipment Maintenance Technology
- Homeland Security and Related Protective Services
- Industrial Mechanics and Maintenance Technology
- Institutional Food Workers
- Job-Seeking/Changing Skills
- Lineworker
- Logistics and Materials Management
- Machine Tool Technology
- Management Information Systems
- Masonry
- Medical/Clinical Assistant
- Medium/Heavy Vehicle Technology
- Nursing Assistant/Aide
- Painting and Wall Covering
- Plumbing Technology
- Precision Metal Working
- Precision Production
- Sales, Distribution and Marketing Operations
- Tourism and Travel Services
- Vehicle Maintenance Technologies
- Web Page, Digital/Multimedia Design
- Welding Technology

