Bakersfield College Preparing Students for New Degree in Process Technology

Degree offers entry-level wages for Industrial Systems Technology and Maintenance
Scheduled to be added in 2019

Bakersfield College is now offering courses so students can work towards a degree in Process Technology. This new degree, scheduled to be added next year, will provide the skills and knowledge needed for jobs such as chemical system operators, water and gas system operators, and petroleum pump operators.

According to recent 2018 Labor Market Analysis, there were 1,359 job postings for the four industrial-systems-technology-and-maintenance occupations in the seven counties within the South Central Valley region over the past year. “Bakersfield College is committed to providing our students with an educational foundation for a successful career, one which will provide employment that directly aligns with their course of study” said Director of Career and Technical Education, Tony Cordova.

This degree offers entry-level wages for the industrial systems technology and maintenance occupations which exceed the average self-sufficiency wage for a single adult. To ensure BC’s degree is meeting the regional workforce demand, the College worked closely with industry partners on the Process Technology Advisory Council including representation from Aera Energy, Emerson, Holmes Western Oil Corporation, Westec, and more to develop the program structure.

“We designed courses to develop these skillsets,” said Chair of the Engineering and Industrial Technology Department, Jason Dixon. “This program is an opportunity to pursue a pathway career as an operator but the program is also stackable into other programs which are transferable to various industries including petroleum, food processing, distribution centers, water treatment, and more.”

Students interested in pursuing a degree or certificate in Process Technology are encouraged to visit FACE 16 on the Panorama Campus to make an appointment with a CTE Educational Advisor. Courses for the Associates degree in Process Technology are already being offered at various times including day and night to accommodate full time students and working students. Courses are also offered in a hybrid format.

Bakersfield College provides opportunities for students from diverse economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds to attain Associate and Baccalaureate degrees and certificates, workplace skills, and preparation for transfer. Our rigorous and supportive learning environment fosters students’ abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, and demonstrate competencies and skills in order to engage productively in their communities and the world.

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