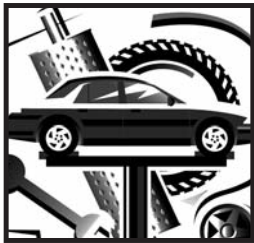




Strategies for Success Advising Guide: Automotive Technology Major



The **Automotive Technology Associate in Science degree** is intended for students who want to work in highly automated repair shops. The automotive technology curriculum prepares students for career advancement in the automotive industry.

This advising guide includes information that will help you to explore your academic and career interests and determine whether the **Automotive Technology major** will support your long-term goals.

Exploring Your Options

Before deciding upon a major, you should take some time to explore your interests and develop your long-term academic, career, and personal goals. Periodically throughout each semester, meet with your advisor so that he/she can guide you through a self exploration process. Below, is a list of activities created to help you with your self-exploration and identifying your interests. These activities are for your first year or during your first 30 credits at MCC.

- ___ During the first few weeks of your first semester at Middlesex, schedule an appointment to meet with your advisor to get acquainted, discuss your future plans and how the Automotive Technology degree can help you to achieve your goals.
- ___ Complete the Focus2 online career assessment tool which is located on our website at www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices/focus2.htm. After completing Focus2, schedule a meeting to discuss your results with a Career Counselor. Call 1-800-818-3434 or visit the Academic, Career and Transfer Centers in Lowell and Bedford to schedule your career counseling appointment.
- ___ Review the career biographies which are located on the Career Services website at www.middlesex.mass.edu/CareerServices/voc.biographies.htm
- ___ Mid-Semester; schedule an appointment with your advisor to review your academic progress. Also, use this time to discuss your progress toward meeting your academic and career goals.
- ___ Before the semester ends, schedule an appointment to meet with your advisor to discuss the classes you will take the following semester. (Early November to plan for Spring Classes, Early April to plan Fall and Summer classes.)

Automotive Technology Program Outcomes

Graduates of the program are prepared to:

- Work in an automotive repair shop
- Maintain automotive systems



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- Describe the basic elements of a business operation
- Explain business management functions
- Use basic computer applications common in the business world

AND

- Use knowledge acquired at MCC as a foundation for continued study and/or practical application
- Interpret and analyze information in order to engage in critical thinking and problem solving
- Communicate, use information, and employ technology effectively
- Communicate an understanding of the world from a global perspective
- Demonstrate social responsibility within the college community
- Demonstrate the capacity for on-going personal and professional development

Advising Notes

- The general education course requirements are offered at MCC.
- The major course requirements are offered at Minuteman Regional High School (<http://minuteman.org>) in Lexington, Mass.
- Students may take their major automotive and general education courses simultaneously or in separate semesters depending on their own needs.
- Minuteman requires that all prospective students go through an admissions interview.
- The full-time program takes 2-years of student and costs approximately \$6,500 for the automotive training program at Minuteman.
- Students pay separate tuition to Middlesex for the general education courses.
- Middlesex does NOT offer financial aid for this program.
- Students receive a post-graduate certificate from Minuteman and complete their general education courses at Middlesex in order to obtain their Associates degree.
- Career placement is offered through Minuteman.

The Career Path

An automotive technician applies technical knowledge and skills to repair, service, and maintain all types of automobiles. Automotive technicians are skilled in repairing brake systems, electrical systems, engine performance, engine repair, suspension and steering, automatic and manual transmissions and drive trains, and heating and air condition systems.

Typical on the job automotive technician duties include:

- Using computer-based instruments to diagnose the sources of problems in engines, mechanical or electrical components. They plan repair work using technical charts, manuals and experience.

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- Estimating the cost of repairs taking into consideration the parts needed, labor costs and knowledge of how engines and components are assembled and how they operate.
- Inspect, lubricate, adjust and fine tune the operating equipment and parts of a vehicle. They use theory of mechanics and electricity to perform repairs.
- Learning how to use new equipment and tools for diagnosing and repairing. Reading and comprehending specifications for new vehicles for diagnosis, replacement or rebuilding components.

Career Planning Activities:

- ___ Work with your advisor to create a Career Plan. As a student who is on the Career Path, your focus should be on building your skill-set and marketing yourself for a job.
- ___ Work with an MCC career counselor who can help you create a resume and cover letter. Consider looking for an internship to enhance your skills and establish some work experience. Call 1-800-818-3434 or visit the Academic, Career and Transfer Centers in Lowell and Bedford to schedule your career counseling appointment.
- ___ Career placement for the Automotive Technology program is offered through Minuteman Regional High School (<http://minuteman.org>) in Lexington, Mass. Schedule an appointment to meet with the automotive program director at Minuteman at 781-861-6500.
- ___ Continue to work with an MCC career counselor who can help you with interview skills and job search techniques. Schedule an appointment with your advisor to follow up on your career plan.
- ___ Take courses that would increase your skill level in communications, written skills, business management, and customer service.
- ___ Meet with your advisor before your last semester to make sure you have met all your intensive values and met your curriculum requirements so that you are ready for graduation.

MCC Advising Resources:

- Career Services: www.middlesex.mass.edu/CareerServices
- Vocational Biographies: www.middlesex.mass.edu/CareerServices/voc.biographies.htm
- Transfer Services: www.middlesex.mass.edu/Transfer
- MassTransfer: www.mass.edu/masstransfer
- College Board Match Maker: http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/search/adv_typeofschool.jsp
- Financial Aid: www.middlesex.mass.edu/FinancialAid
- Foundation Scholarships: www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships