



# MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ADVISING GUIDE: *Building Construction Technology*

The **Building Construction Technology Associate in Science, Liberal Studies** degree program prepares students for a variety of jobs in the local construction industry, specifically residential construction. Career experience and the general education and business courses will enable students to prepare for the Construction Supervisor's Licensing Examination and move into management positions.



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



## EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS WITH ACADEMIC ADVISING

Throughout each semester, meet with your advisor so that he/she can guide you through a self-exploration process that will help you identify your academic and career interests.

### Beginning of Semester:

- \_\_\_ Schedule an appointment to meet with your academic advisor during the first few weeks to discuss future plans and how a Business Administration Degree can help you achieve your goals.
- \_\_\_ Explore your personal interests by completing Focus2, an online career assessment tool:  
<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices/focus2.aspx>

### Mid-Semester:

- \_\_\_ Schedule an appointment with academic advisor review your academic progress, Focus2 results and create an academic plan in Degree Works.

### Before Semester Ends:

- \_\_\_ Schedule an appointment to discuss and register for the classes you will take the following semester. (Early November for spring, Early April for fall and summer)
- \_\_\_ Visit the Academic Career & Transfer Center or call 1-800-818-3434 to schedule an appointment.

## ► INSIDE THIS GUIDE

- Exploring Your Options
- Personality Inventory
- Career Path
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## BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates of the program are prepared to:

- Work in the house building, construction and remodeling field;
- Read and create construction blueprints;
- Understand installation methods and techniques in house framing, exterior finishes, exterior finished, stair installation, estimation, construction safety and house mechanical systems;
- Describe the basic elements of business function;
- Explain business management functions;
- Complete 10-hour OSHA certification;
- Understand energy-efficient ('green') building options;
- Interpret local building codes and work toward Construction Supervisor's License

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## STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ADVISING GUIDE: *Building Construction Technology Major*



**Answer true or false to the following statements:**

This inventory will allow you to assess whether the **Building Construction major** fits your personality traits.

# QUESTION	TRUE	FALSE
1. I am a very good listener.		
2. I am good at using math and/or statistics to solve problems.		
3. I am very organized.		
4. I am good at bringing people together to discuss and resolve issues.		
5. I do not like reading complex paragraphs or detailed instructional manuals.		
6. I have the ability to anticipate what a small-scale, 2-D drawing will look like in real life.		
7. I enjoy working with others to solve problems.		
8. I am not good at dealing with unexpected problems		
9. I enjoy teaching other people new skills and knowledge.		
10. I enjoy being around people with different backgrounds and beliefs other than my own.		
11. I prefer to work alone.		
12. I do not like working outside.		
13. I always follow through on my commitments.		
14. I do not work well when I have a set deadline.		
15. I like working in groups or on group projects.		
16. I enjoy working on mechanical processes – how things work.		
17. If people are rude to me, I think it's okay to be rude back to them.		
18. I do well in my science and math classes.		
19. I tend to get stressed when people around me are stressed.		
20. I am comfortable doing several things at the same time.		

### How to interpret your score:

- 10-20 points: You have the personality to work in this field; building construction could be a good choice for you.
- 0-11 points: Building construction may not be a good fit for you. You may want to explore other career options.

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## **IS THE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY MAJOR THE RIGHT FIT FOR ME?**

Is a Construction Management Degree Right for You?

Construction management degrees focus on learning how to design, create, implement, and manage construction projects. While pursuing a degree in construction management, you will need to practice and learn comprehensive project controls to manage issues that may be critical to projects, including safety, time, cost, scope, and the quality of the work that is done. If you have strong communication skills, get along and work well with others, are used to fast-paced environments, and can work under pressure, then a construction management job may be a great fit for you. Construction managers typically work with contracts and act as a consultant between business parties for construction projects, so they also need to be able to address the needs of people, have good oral and written communication skills, and be able to form working relationships with different types of people.

### ■ **Listening**

Paying attention to what other people are saying. For example, you should be able to communicate any day-to-day changes that take place onsite to others who are on site.

### ■ **Mathematics**

Using math and/or statistics to solve problems. For example, you should be able to measure and cut with the use of a level.

### ■ **Negotiating**

Bringing people together to discuss and resolves issues. For example, you should be able to participate in labor relations and union contract negotiations. You should also be able to resolve conflicts between employees and liaisons on the project.

### ■ **Reading Comprehension**

The ability to understand complex written paragraphs, instructions, or reports. For example, you should be able to read and understand legal contracts.

### ■ **Visualization**

The ability to anticipate what a small-scale 2-D drawing will look like in real life. For example, you should be able to interpret blueprints and drawings as well as installation techniques.

### ■ **Reasoning**

Using logic to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems. For example, you should be able to find alternatives to a plan when something unexpected happens.

### ■ **Teaching**

Teaching others how to do something. For example, you should be able to train an apprentice or new employee.



## STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ADVISING GUIDE: *Building Construction Technology Major*



### THE CAREER PATH

A Construction Supervisor, Foreman, or Superintendent typically can find work at construction sites, for residential and/or commercial properties. This work will provide a range of duties from day-to-day logistics and planning to personnel supervision and training. Most workers become supervisor or foreman after experience as a construction tradesman. Job opportunities exist locally and around the world. A degree in **Building Construction Technology** can lead to careers that would allow you to:

- Supervise the construction process from concept to development through project completion on a timely and economical basis.
- Specialize in materials management, labor relations and contract organization.
- Train employees under your supervision and ensure appropriate use of equipment by employees.
- Specialize in any given trade with an overall management of all trades. For example, specialized trade is Installations, including bathroom, kitchen, door, window installations.

#### Career Planning Activities:

- \_\_\_ Work with career advisor to create resume, cover letter and help improve your interview skills
- \_\_\_ Identify internship and volunteer opportunities in your desired field
- \_\_\_ Attend career workshops and job fairs



### THE TRANSFER PATH

**Bachelor of Science in Construction Management** students who continue on to obtain their bachelor's degree typically major in Construction Management, Construction Science, or Civil Engineering. Following are bachelor degree programs located in the Northeast region.

#### **Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass.**

Bachelor of Science: Construction Management

#### **University of Massachusetts, Lowell, Mass.**

Bachelor of Science: Civil Engineering

#### **Worcester Polytech Institute, Worcester, Mass.**

Bachelor of Science: Civil Engineering

#### **New England Institute of Technology, East Greenwich, R.I.**

Architectural Building Engineering Technology

#### **Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, N.Y.**

Civil Engineering: Minor Construction Management

#### **Drexel University Online**

Property Management

#### **Roger Williams University, Bryant, R.I.**

Bachelor of Science: Construction Management

#### Transfer Planning Activities:

- \_\_\_ Work with an advisor to discuss *MassTransfer*, articulations and transfer agreements
- \_\_\_ Visit your selected campuses in person. Every college looks good online or in a glossy photo, but you can get a better feel when you visit
- \_\_\_ Meet with transfer counselor to identify transfer scholarships
- \_\_\_ Research admissions requirements and deadlines at four-year colleges and universities

### MCC ADVISING RESOURCES

#### Career Services:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices>

#### Transfer Services:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer>

#### MassTransfer:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer/masstransfer.aspx>

#### Financial Aid:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid>

#### Foundation Scholarships:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships>

#### College Board Match Maker:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

You can find more information about careers and salaries at: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).