Bellingham Technical College is a leading educational institution and the only technical college in northwest Washington state. BTC offers high-quality education in a supportive, student-first environment.

At our vibrant campus, conveniently located in the heart of Bellingham, we educate a diverse population of over 8,000 students in more than 37 associate degrees and 51 certificate programs.

BTC students prepare for careers in many areas, including high-demand fields such as advanced manufacturing, accounting, process technology, precision machining, registered nursing, and radiologic technology.

Our approach is high-tech, hands-on, and student-centered. Smaller classes mean your instructors really know you, and most programs are structured so you’ll remain with your group throughout. At every step, you’ll know that BTC faculty and staff are here to support you in pursuit of your goals.

www.btc.edu

Nursing & other Health Sciences Programs at BTC

BTC’s programs in Nursing & other Health Sciences are geared for students with an interest in health, wellness, and the medical field.

You’ll learn the high-demand skills needed for a rewarding career in the challenging, highly technical world of health care, wellness, and family services. You can put your education to work in hospitals, physician’s offices, insurance companies, child care centers, schools, and government agencies.

The employment outlook for program graduates is very strong, and students can expect to earn good wages. Skilled workers in Nursing & other Health Sciences Programs are in high demand, with an average placement rate of 89% within nine months of graduation.*

TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES AT BTC

BTC’s programs usually have three options for degrees depending on your education goals.

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree: A two-year technical degree that allows you to go directly to work in your field.

Associate of Applied Science-Transfer (AAS-T) degree: A two-year technical degree that allows you to either go directly into your field or choose to transfer to a specific program at a four-year college or university.

Associate of Science for Transfer (AS-T) or Major Ready Program (DTA): Allows students to take both General Education courses and major-specific courses in preparation for transfer with junior standing to a four-year college or university.

Transitioning to BTC: BTC accepts both traditional and non-traditional credit for equivalency to BTC courses on a case-by-case basis. Contact Admissions at admissions@btc.edu or call 360.752.8345.

Learn more: www.btc.edu/Transfers

*For details regarding BTC career wages and placement, see back pages or visit www.btc.edu/CareerServices
DENTAL ASSISTING
• Associate of Applied Science—Transfer Degree
• Associate of Applied Science Degree
• Certificate of Completion

Program Length: 3 quarters, after completion of general education courses

Choose BTC’s Dental Assisting program to train for a position as a dental assistant. Learn how to provide patient care and perform office duties and lab work, while working alongside dentists as they examine and treat their patients.

Graduates will find employment opportunities with dental, orthodontic, and periodontal offices, as well as hospitals, public health departments, or clinics.

About 100% of BTC Dental Assisting students are employed within nine months of graduation. The average annual wage in this field is $38,624, with an earning potential of about $45,427 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu.

DENTAL HYGIENE
• Associate of Applied Science—Transfer Degree

Program Length: 7 quarters, after completion of general education courses

If you are interested in pursuing a career in the health care industry as a dental hygienist, then look into BTC’s Dental Hygiene program. You’ll learn the clinical skills and core professional values needed to launch a rewarding career in private and public settings, such as dental offices and public health clinics.

Dental hygiene students learn under the supervision of licensed dentists and dental hygienists on state-of-the-art equipment in BTC’s on-campus dental clinic. Program graduates are well-positioned for employment with the hands-on clinical experience employers need today.

The average annual wage in this field is $91,424, with an earning potential of about $103,085 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Programs page under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

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EXPANDED FUNCTIONS
DENTAL AUXILIARY
• Certificate of Completion

Program Length: 3 quarters
If you’re a Dental Assistant or Dental Hygienist who would like to expand your skills and enhance your career options, then you should check out BTC’s Expanded Functions Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) program. EFDA professionals function as integral members of the dental health care team, providing advanced care to patients.

BTC’s EFDA certificate program offers classroom, laboratory, and clinical instruction in areas such as placing and contouring restorations, taking final impressions, and performing more advanced procedures under general supervision, such as applying fluoride treatments and sealants.

Graduates gain practical knowledge and hands-on skills that can increase their employment opportunities with private dental practices, public health clinics, hospitals, managed care organizations, and other employers.

With an EFDA certificate, you’ll be prepared for the Washington Restorative Examination (WARE), offered by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB), plus the Restorative Section of the Western Regional National Board (WREB).

About 100% of BTC Dental Assisting students are employed within 9 months of graduating. The average annual wage in this field is $38,624 with an earning potential of about $45,427 per year.*

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN
• Certificate of Completion

Program Length: 3 quarters
If you’d like a career in a diverse, highly-specialized division of the medical field, then you should consider the EMT-Paramedic program at BTC. You’ll be prepared to work with emergency medical teams as an EMT-P.

As a vital member of the emergency health care team, you’ll learn to administer advanced life support protocols to patients in pre-hospital settings. Employers who hire graduates from the EMT-Paramedic program include municipal fire departments, ambulance services, hospitals, and certain industrial and manufacturing firms.

The average annual wage in this field is $39,253, with an earning potential of about $66,082 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

HYPNOTHERAPY
• Certificate of Completion

Program Length: 3 quarters
Here’s a program to consider if you enjoy helping people and like variety in your career. BTC’s Hypnotherapy program will train you for a rewarding career as a hypnotherapist, using hypnosis techniques to support clients with pain management, behavior modification, and other concerns.

You’ll learn valuable skills to use in your own private practice, or in a variety of healthcare settings, working with doctors, dentists, nurses, psychologists, and psychiatrists.

The average annual wage in this field is $54,392, with an earning potential of about $71,614 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

*For details regarding BTC career wages and placement, see back pages or visit www.btc.edu/CareerServices
NURSING

- Associate of Applied Science—Transfer Degree
  **Program Length:** 6 quarters, after completion of general education courses

NURSING (LPN TO ADN)
- Associate of Applied Science—Transfer Degree
  **Program Length:** 3 quarters

If you’re interested in building a rewarding career in the field of nursing, then BTC’s Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program is for you! Nursing is both an art and a science, and requires specialized knowledge and skills. BTC’s nursing program teaches both, while preparing students to meet the demands of today’s complex and technical healthcare industry. Graduates work in settings such as hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, surgery centers, physicians’ offices, long-term care facilities, public health offices, clinics, and schools.

With an associate’s degree in nursing, you’ll be prepared to take the NCLEX-RN (the state exam required for licensure as a nurse), which will qualify you to apply for Registered Nurse (RN) positions.

The LPN to ADN program offers advanced placement for current LPNs who wish to earn an associate’s degree, take the NCLEX-RN, and pursue a career as an RN.

BTC nursing program graduates interested in advancing their education and transferring into Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs can take advantage of our agreements with various universities (including University of Washington Bothell, Washington State University, Western Washington University, and Western Governors University). Applicants are encouraged to plan early to complete their BSNs by meeting with an admissions adviser at their college of choice.

Today’s healthcare employers are increasingly requiring BSN degrees for RN positions—and now, you can begin your BSN at BTC!

About 97% of BTC Nursing program students are employed within nine months of graduation. The average annual wage in this field is $73,965, with an earning potential of about $88,109 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

*For details regarding BTC career wages and placement, see back pages or visit www.btc.edu/CareerServices

NURSING ASSISTANT

- Certificate of Completion
  **Program Length:** 1 quarter

Choose BTC’s Nursing Assistant program and work in a wide variety of medical settings. The knowledge and skills you’ll gain are highly valued by health care industry employers such as hospitals, extended care facilities, nursing homes, clinics, and home health agencies.

About 83% of BTC Nursing Assistant students are employed within nine months of graduation. The average annual wage in this field is $27,082, with an earning potential of about $31,866 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

*For details regarding BTC career wages and placement, see back pages or visit www.btc.edu/CareerServices
ASSOCIATE IN PRE-NURSING

- Direct Transfer Agreement in a Major-Related Program (DTA/MRP)

**Program Length:** 6 quarters

Have you always wanted to be a nurse? Are you currently employed in healthcare and want to advance your education and expand your career opportunities? Then BTC’s Associate in Pre-Nursing DTA/MRP program is for you!

The Associate in Pre-Nursing DTA/MRP program includes instruction in English, psychology, mathematics, and science, and will position you to enter a Washington State four-year college as a junior, where you may complete your Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.

This 90-credit program is designed to help prepare the nurses of tomorrow for the changing demands of the healthcare field. As healthcare and employer needs become more complex, more medical facilities such as hospitals, surgical centers, physicians’ offices, nursing homes, and long-term care facilities across Northwest Washington and around the country are requiring nursing staff to have bachelor’s degrees.

With BTC’s new Associate in Pre-Nursing DTA/MRP, you can start your BSN at BTC and finish at a respected Washington State institution, such as University of Washington, Seattle; Washington State University; Northwest University; Seattle University; Seattle Pacific University; Pacific Lutheran University; Walla Walla College; and Washington State University Intercollegiate College of Nursing.

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

*For details regarding BTC career wages and placement, see back pages or visit www.btc.edu/CareerServices

PERSONAL FITNESS TRAINER

- Certificate of Completion

**Program Length:** 1-2 quarters

If you have an interest in the health and fitness industry—or if you are currently employed within it—and would like to train for a career as a Personal Fitness Trainer, this program is for you!

Job opportunities can be found in fitness centers, as a personal trainer or aerobics instructor, or in the private personal training business, working with people in their homes. Other options for program graduates are recreation worker, corporate staff trainer, or team trainer.

Graduates will be prepared to successfully pass the NFPT Personal Fitness Trainer Certification test. On a personal level, certification gives you the tools needed to develop healthy lifestyle habits.

The average annual wage in this field is $41,706, with an earning potential of about $50,440 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

PHLEBOTOMY

- Certificate of Completion

**Program Length:** 2 quarters

A certificate in Phlebotomy will provide you the background in basic anatomy/physiology, medical terminology, medical office procedures, and phlebotomy skills. This program also includes an externship experience at a clinical facility where students must perform successful venipuncture and blood draws on at least 100 patients. Once completed, students are eligible to apply for State licensure as a Health Care Assistant, Level A.

The average annual wage in this field is $33,259, with an earning potential of about $39,645 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

*For details regarding BTC career wages and placement, see back pages or visit www.btc.edu/CareerServices
RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

- Associate of Applied Science—Transfer Degree
- Associate of Applied Science

**Program Length:** 7 quarters, after completion of general education courses

Choose this program to prepare for a rewarding career as a radiologic technologist. You’ll learn the latest technology used in the field and gain skills that are in demand by hospitals, imaging centers, and clinics.

If you would enjoy working with people in a medical setting, you should check out the Radiologic Technology program at BTC!

About 93% of BTC Radiologic Technology students are employed within nine months of graduation. The average annual wage in this field is $65,000, with an earning potential of about $76,128 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

SURGERY TECHNOLOGY

- Associate of Applied Science—Transfer Degree
- Associate of Applied Science

**Program Length:** 3 quarters, after completion of general education courses

If you are interested in being a valuable part of surgery teams, working beside surgeons, nurses, and other medical professionals, you can train for an exciting career as a Surgery Technologist.

With BTC’s high quality education and hands-on training, you’ll gain the valuable skills needed now by hospitals, outpatient surgery centers, and dental surgery offices.

About 94% of BTC Surgery Technology students are employed within nine months of graduation. The average annual wage in this field is $48,647, with an earning potential of about $56,618 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN

- Associate of Applied Science—Transfer Degree

**Program Length:** 6 quarters, after completion of general education courses

Turn your love of animals into a satisfying career! BTC’s Veterinary Technology program is ideal if you have an aptitude for math and science and are interested in being a valuable part of the veterinary care team. You’ll work with animals and their people in a job that is different every day.

With BTC’s high quality education and hands-on training, you’ll gain the valuable skills needed now by veterinary hospitals, surgery centers, specialty care providers, zoos, and wildlife facilities.

About 88% of BTC Veterinary students are employed within nine months of graduation. The average annual wage in this field is $33,085, with an earning potential of about $37,814 per year.*

For program entry points please visit our Program pages under Degrees & Classes on our website: www.btc.edu

*For details regarding BTC career wages and placement, see back pages or visit www.btc.edu/CareerServices
Professional Technical Education

At BTC you can choose from more than 37 degree programs and 51 certificates in multiple program areas that will prepare you for a new career with a living-wage or for transfer to a four-year college or university.

Different Degrees and Certificate Types

**DTA/MRP**: Direct Transfer Agreements/Major Related Programs or

**AS-T**: Direct Transfer Agreements/Associate of Science for Transfer degrees are for students who want to pursue a bachelor’s degree at a four year institution. Completion of these degrees prepares students to transfer with junior status to a participating college or university.

**AAS-T**: Associate of Applied Sciences Transfer degree allows students the opportunity to build upon the technical courses required for job preparation and includes general education classes that transfer to four year institutions.

**AAS**: Associate of Applied Sciences degree prepares students to enter the workforce after graduation. Some of the credits may transfer to other educational institutions.

**C**: Certificates are shorter programs that can improve your skills in occupational fields and may qualify you for a higher salary.

Getting Started is Easy!

1. **Apply to BTC & Apply for Financial Aid**
   - Complete the free online application at [www.btc.edu/ApplyOnline](http://www.btc.edu/ApplyOnline)
   - You’ll be emailed a Student Identification Number (SID), a college-assigned number specific to you.
   - To apply for financial aid, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. Use BTC college code 016227. Learn more at [www.btc.edu/FinancialAid](http://www.btc.edu/FinancialAid)
   - See if you are eligible for support through Workforce Funding: [www.btc.edu/WorkforceFunding](http://www.btc.edu/WorkforceFunding)
   - Apply for the $500 New Student Admissions Scholarship!

2. **Assess your Starting Point**
   - Degree- or certificate-seeking students need to determine their math and English starting points. Placement may be determined using previous college transcripts, placement tests you have already taken, or by taking the Accuplacer test.
   - Need to test? We recommend you refresh and review your skills before you test. Go to [www.btc.edu/Assessment](http://www.btc.edu/Assessment) for helpful study guides and the drop-in testing schedule and payment options.
   - A $25 testing fee is required for the Accuplacer test.

3. **Advising & Registration**
   - It is required that new students attend an advising and registration session, where you will learn about important campus resources and register for courses.
   - You will schedule your session online (you will receive email instructions) OR contact Admissions at 360.752.8345

4. **Prepare to Attend**
   - Pay: Tuition and fees must be paid and funded by the published payment deadlines. Payment can be made at the cashier in College Services 110, or online at [www.btc.edu/Pay](http://www.btc.edu/Pay)
   - Attend New Student Orientation Kick-Off: New students are required to attend the New Student Orientation Kick-off the day before the quarter begins. The three-hour event is for students to make connections, learn about resources, meet faculty, take a tour of the program areas, and attend an optional Computer Boot Camp. Sign-up online at [www.btc.edu/Events](http://www.btc.edu/Events)

*Employment and Wage Data Sources

BTC graduate employment rates: Career Bridge (careerbridge.wa.gov), June 2012; reflects 2006–2009 program graduates


BTC Mission
Bellingham Technical College provides student-centered, high-quality professional technical education for today’s needs and tomorrow’s opportunities.

BTC Vision
Bellingham Technical College will be a recognized leader in providing innovative and effective technical education, maximizing student potential and supporting the regional economy through development of a competitive workforce.

Bellingham Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Executive Director for Human Resources, 3028 Lindbergh Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225, 360.752.8354. BTC publications are available in alternate formats upon request by contacting the Accessibility Resources office at 360.752.8345.

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