



Bellingham Technical College
Press Release

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For Immediate Release

BTC LAUNCHES NEW COSMETOLOGY DEGREE IN SALON SPACE ON RAILROAD AVE. STARTING FALL QUARTER 2018

Bellingham, Washington – July 12, 2018 – New degree at BTC: Future stylists hoping for a career in the salon industry will now have an accredited college to attend for training in town. Bellingham Technical College (BTC) is set to offer a new Cosmetology degree starting in Fall Quarter 2018.

Interested students can attend a free Information Session to learn more about the program on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at BTC's main campus. Join us for an afternoon session from 2-3 p.m. or an evening session from 6-7 p.m. in Haskell Center (HC) 108.

The program will be located at 1411 Railroad Ave. in downtown Bellingham, in the space previously occupied by a private cosmetology school that closed in 2017. BTC's new program has been approved by the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

"Bellingham Technical College is excited to announce our new Cosmetology program in downtown Bellingham. Our community and industry partners have shown incredible interest in us starting this program. We look forward to working with the City of Bellingham and becoming a partner of the downtown renewal, and we are looking forward to opening our doors for our first cohort of students in September," said Dr. Kimberly Perry, President of Bellingham Technical College.

BTC's Cosmetology program is designed to be completed full-time in five academic quarters, including summer instruction. Students who complete the program will be awarded an Associate of Applied Science degree and will be prepared to take Washington state licensing exams and begin work as cosmetologists. The program will also be open to high school Running Start students who want to get a head start on their cosmetology career training.

The demand for cosmetologists is high in the current job market, and BTC Cosmetology program graduates will be prepared for success, with hands-on training in cutting and styling, basic skin and nail care, tinting and bleaching, and cosmetic chemistry. They'll also gain experience in salon management, retail selling, safety, and customer service. Cosmetology students will be eligible for financial aid, and BTC's Foundation is making scholarships available for students starting in the 2018-19 school year.

Here's how interested Cosmetology students can get started:

1. Apply to BTC: www.btc.edu/applyonline
2. Apply now for financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students can apply for Financial Aid immediately upon admission to BTC for priority consideration.
3. Attend BTC's Cosmetology Info Session on Aug. 1. Sign up to attend at www.btc.edu/infosession
4. Apply for the Cosmetology program. BTC will begin accepting applications for the program in late summer. Check BTC's website for updates about when the application window will open for the 2018-19 school year.

Approximately 60 students will be accepted for the 2018-19 school year with 20 new students starting each quarter. To find out more about the program and how to get started, go online to www.btc.edu/cosmetology. For additional questions about the program, interested students can call 360.752.8789 or email cosmetology@btc.edu.

Final approval from the Department of Health is required before BTC can accept students into the Cosmetology program. The college expects to receive approval this summer and will then set a date for when applications can be accepted.

Media can contact BTC's Director of Marketing & Communications Marni Saling Mayer with questions: 360.752.8325 or msmayer@btc.edu

About Bellingham Technical College

Bellingham Technical College is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, and offers seven transfer degrees such as pre-engineering, pre-nursing, computer science and business. Completion of these degrees prepares BTC students to transfer with a junior status to participating colleges and universities in Washington State. BTC offers 38 associate degrees, 60 certificate options and two bachelor of applied science degrees providing professional technical education to support local and regional industry workforce needs. For more information, go to www.btc.edu.

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