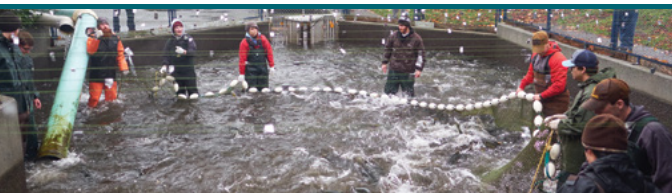


Bellingham Technical College

FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE SCIENCES



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AQUATIC SCIENCES**

**FISHERIES &
AQUACULTURE TECHNIQUES**

**TECHNICALLY
SPEAKING**
www.btc.edu



About Bellingham Technical College



Bellingham Technical College has been training students for in-demand, high-paying careers for more than 60 years. At BTC, the focus is always on our students and helping them succeed. We're proud to have one of the highest graduation rates of all public two-year colleges in Washington state, as well as high job-placement rates for our graduates.

On our vibrant campus in the heart of Bellingham, we educate a diverse population of over 5,000 students in 39 associate degrees, 55 certificate programs and two bachelor of applied science degrees.

BTC students prepare for careers in many areas, including high-demand fields such as advanced manufacturing, engineering, nursing, accounting and more.

Our approach is high-tech, hands-on, and student-centered. Smaller classes mean our dedicated instructors really know you, and our lectures are reinforced in the lab, whether it is in a fast-paced kitchen, on the welding floor, or in the nursing simulation lab.

At every step, you'll know that BTC faculty and staff are here to support you in pursuit of your goals.

Mission:

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

Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences at BTC

BTC's programs in Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences are ideal for students interested in the aquatic world and working in an ever changing outdoor environment.

The Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program gives students hands-on experience for careers in operating salmon, trout, and shellfish hatcheries, monitoring wild populations, working in fish and shellfish aquaculture, and much more. Students gain applied technical knowledge in real-world settings. The Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program operates two Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife hatcheries – the Whatcom Creek Hatchery at Maritime Heritage Park and the Bellingham Trout Hatchery at Whatcom Falls Park.

Partnerships with regional, tribal, and statewide industries, as well as nonprofit organizations, provide an enriching and diverse educational experience and introducing students to potential employers. You can put your education to work for employers such as the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as private salmon and trout production facilities, shellfish hatcheries and farms, private consulting firms, and conservation nonprofits.

BTC Degree Options

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree:

A two-year associate 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 with transferable general education courses 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.

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** to get started. Learn more: www.btc.edu/transfers

*Wage & Employment Data Sources

Earning potential: Washington State Employment Security Department 2018 Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates (esd.wa.gov) reflect 2014–17 employment; average annual wage reflects the 50th percentile, and earning potential reflects the 75th percentile of annual wages across Washington state.

Employment data come from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and reflect WA/OR employment for students enrolled in BTC between 2014-15 and 2016-17.

FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE SCIENCES

Associate of Applied Science —Transfer Degree
Associate of Applied Science Degree
Program Length: 6 quarters

Fisheries & Aquaculture Techniques

Certificate of Completion

Included in the Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences Degrees

If you have a love for the great outdoors and an interest in biology and wildlife, consider the Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program at BTC. You can prepare for a rewarding career as a shellfish farmer, fish hatchery specialist, fish culturist, shellfish hatchery worker, water quality technician, or work in fisheries population monitoring and habitat restoration. In our training hatcheries, students learn valuable skills such as how to spawn and raise aquatic animals, maintain freshwater and saltwater systems, culture algae for feed production, and monitor aquatic animal health. Get hands-on experience in sustainable seafood production, including designing aquaponics systems, managing broodstock for breeding programs, and promoting fisheries conservation through stock enhancement programs. Salmon and trout raised by BTC students support robust commercial and recreational fisheries in Whatcom, Skagit, and Island Counties.

Learning also takes place outdoors, including farming shellfish on tideflats, assessing stream habitat, monitoring aquatic invasive species by kayak, and surveying wild fish populations through techniques that include electrofishing, snorkel surveying, and seining. Students work with local, state, federal, tribal, and nonprofit partners to conserve and restore natural resources, including native Olympia oysters, forage fish, eelgrass, and wild salmon populations.

Upon completion of the AAS-T or AAS, students also receive a Fisheries & Aquaculture Techniques Certificate of Completion.

www.btc.edu/FisheriesAndAquacultureSciences

"I love how this program focuses on students' desire to preserve fisheries resources, and how we can improve the future of the industry. This program has prepared me for my career by giving me the hands-on skills it takes to be successful in this field."

— Tim Danner, Fisheries student



*The average annual wage in this field is \$46,956, with an earning potential of about \$59,155 per year.**

FISHERIES & AQUATIC SCIENCES

Associate of Applied Science — Transfer Degree
Transferable to Western Washington University/Huxley
& Northwest Indian College
Program Length: 6 quarters

Earn credit towards a bachelor's degree from Western Washington University (WWU) or Northwest Indian College (NWIC) as soon as you enroll in BTC. The Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences AAS-T degree program is designed to directly transfer to WWU or NWIC. Upon completion of the program, you can pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree from WWU's Huxley College of the Environment or a Bachelor of Science degree from NWIC's Native Environmental Science Program.

The Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences AAS-T degree program gives students a strong foundation in biology, chemistry, math, and aquatic biology in addition to technical skill development. Students will enter WWU or NWIC prepared to further their education and prepare for careers in hatchery management, aquatic restoration, research and technology development, and more.

Fisheries & Aquaculture Techniques

Certificate of Completion

Program Length: 3 quarters

Interested in learning the fundamentals of aquatic hatcheries? Want to explore career opportunities in fisheries and aquaculture or get more focused technical training to add to your resume or bachelor's education? This three-quarter certificate provides highly in-demand skill development for hatchery operations, finfish and shellfish culturing, and wild fish population monitoring. Each of the three quarters have unique and exciting modules, including hands-on training for salmon and trout production, shellfish farming, and conducting field surveys.

Certificate courses focus on applied, technical skill development to maximize learning in a minimal time commitment. Students interested in learning more advanced topics for higher career placement may continue their education through the Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences AAS or AAS-T degree programs.



Get started at BTC today!

Find more information: www.btc.edu/admissions

Print a checklist: www.btc.edu/admissionsteps

Apply to BTC & Apply for Financial Aid

Apply at www.btc.edu/applyonline and get your Student Identification Number (SID).

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.btc.edu/financialaid
Use BTC college code 016227.

Assess Your Starting Point

Degree- and certificate-seeking students need to determine their math and English starting points. Some programs require certain placement scores before starting program classes. BTC uses multiple measures to determine placement, including assessment testing. Visit: www.btc.edu/assessment

Advising & Registration

Students will meet with Advising and Career Services staff for a mandatory GET Started appointment: navigate Goals, create an Education Plan, become Tech Ready, and register for classes. Contact the Admissions & Student Resource Center to schedule your appointment: **360.752.8345**.

Prepare to Attend

Participate in New Student Orientation to learn about campus resources and what to expect before your first quarter.

Sign up: www.btc.edu/orientation

Pay tuition and fees: www.btc.edu/tuition

Buy textbooks: www.btc.edu/campusstore

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