

WELDING



WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM ALL ABOUT?

The Welding program is a three-year comprehensive, hands-on program that prepares students for full-time and apprenticeship employment as welders in industries including pipefitting, shipbuilding, industrial construction, energy fields, sheet metal, railroad, ornamental, and general fabrication. Areas of program concentration include shielded arc welding (stick), gas metal arc welding (MIG), flux cored arc welding (FCAW), and gas tungsten arc welding (TIG), along with welding symbols and pipe layout for welders and fitters. Students will be tested in all positions via break tests, acid etch tests, and guided bend tests. Students will have the opportunity to earn American Welding Society (AWS) certifications. All tests are held to the AWS standards of acceptability.

What will I learn?

- Gas Metal Arc Welding
- Flux Core Tungsten Arc Welding
- Shielded Metal Arc Welding
- Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

Career Name	Avg. Hourly Wage	Education Pathway
Assembly Line Welder	\$15	ATCTC welding program + Short-term welding certificates ► High School Diploma
Welder/Fabricator	\$25	ATCTC welding program + Short-term welding certificates ► High School Diploma ► AOT degree/certificates
Journeyman Welder	\$26-\$32	ATCTC welding program + Short-term welding certificates ► High School Diploma ► AOT degree/certificates ► Complete apprenticeship

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES:

Students acquire in-demand skills for a rewarding career in which employees are needed for both industrial & commercial businesses.

Students that qualify (2.5+ GPA) earn free dual credit through [Northwest-Shoals Community College](#) (NWSCC). Multiple short-term college certificates may be earned while in high school. Students are encouraged to complete an AOT degree at NWSCC. Students also have the opportunity to earn career certifications through the following entities:



American Welding Society



MANUFACTURING SKILL STANDARDS COUNCIL

Upon graduation, many of our students are accepted into local apprenticeship programs with unions such as:

[Boilermakers Local 455](#)

[Ironworkers Local 477](#)

[Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 760](#)

[SMART Union Local 48](#)

