

YOUR DOOR TO THE FUTURE



LA PORTE COUNTY **CAREER**
& **TECHNICAL EDUCATION**
A.K. SMITH CAREER CENTER

“

I originally joined welding at A.K. Smith just as a hobby. Then I really came to love it. Being in the class has caused me to change my career pathway to a welding career. The class is also a great way to learn leadership and communication.

- Michelle Kazmierczak



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Innovative Programs designed to help you open the door to your future



Each program offered through La Porte County Career & Technical Education provides students with hands-on experience in classrooms using state-of-the-art equipment. Our instructors give students the skills they need to succeed in the following disciplines:

- Automotive Technology
- Career Skills
- Construction Technology
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice and Law
- Culinary Academy
- Education Professions
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Energy Academy
- Fire Science
- Health Academy
- Modern Machine Technology
- Visual & Digital Communications (Located at La Porte HS)
- Welding Technology



Explore Career Options

Whether you plan to continue your education, pursue an apprenticeship, or enter the workforce, the A.K. Smith Career Center can help you reach your goals. We offer training, know-how, and hands-on experience that allow you to make informed decisions about your future!



Earn High School Credits

Students can earn up to six high school elective credits each year by taking Career and Technical Education classes. Ask your school counselor for details!



Earn College Credits

Many classes at the A.K. Smith Career Center also give students opportunities to earn college credit while still in high school. Post-secondary institutions currently offering credits to our students include Ivy Tech Community College, Lake Michigan College, and Vincennes University.



Earn Certification

Students in most classes earn business and industry certifications. See individual program brochures for details.



Open the Door to Your Future!

Automotive Technology

Students study several facets of the automobile service trade under an ASE certified instructor and receive training in troubleshooting and repairing automotive problems. Auto Tech students are trained on engine performance, heating/air, transmission/trans-axle, drive line services, and electrical, brake, and suspension systems. Training in this NATEF-certified program focuses on OBD I & OBD II computer systems used in today's vehicles.

Career Skills

This course is designed for special-needs students who would like to acquire skills in the general maintenance of large facilities. Topics addressed include basic cleaning, electrical and plumbing repair, framing, drywalling, painting and wallpapering, and landscaping. Students learn safety procedures related to tools and bio-hazardous materials, and gain experience in the proper use of hand and power tools. Students will have the opportunity to explore career and technical education classes and participate in work-based learning experiences.



Construction Technology

Hands-on projects are used to teach students the skills they need for success in the building and construction trades. Courses cover a variety of disciplines, including carpentry, plumbing, heating, masonry, drywall, roofing, insulation, electric, interior decorating, and finishing. Through a partnership with the Indiana-Kentucky-Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters, the program provides enhanced teaching materials and future career opportunities. Students completing the program could qualify for direct entry to the Carpenters' apprenticeship program following graduation.



Cosmetology

This two-year program is designed to build the skills and knowledge necessary to perform beauty treatments, including the care and beautification of the hair, complexion, and hands. Upon completion, students are prepared to test for state certification. Students will complete salon services in the AKScissors School.



Criminal Justice & Law

Our program is designed for students interested in pursuing careers in law, law enforcement, corrections, and the security industry. Students are exposed to the legal process, from a suspect being questioned to the convicted being incarcerated. Other topics addressed include criminal investigations, evidence collection, interview techniques, and legal documentation. The curriculum incorporates numerous guest speakers and field trips.



Culinary Academy

Our curriculum follows that of the National Restaurant Association's Pro Start Program, providing students with the general knowledge and skills required for entry-level positions in the food services industry. Student chefs cater events and run their own restaurant, the Career Café, providing hands-on experience that closely equates to work in the culinary industry.



Education Professions

This program focuses on caring for and teaching children pre-school through middle school. Students learn about child development, prepare lessons for young children, and take part in internships at community day care centers, pre-schools and elementary schools.





Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

This program can be taken as the second year of Fire Science or Health Academy. Students who have not enrolled in Health Academy 1 or Fire Science 1, but, have taken Anatomy and Physiology at their home school could also be eligible to take this class their senior year. Students will participate in EMS ride-alongs and Emergency room experiences. They will be eligible to test for the National EMT certification.



Energy Academy

In partnership with NIPSCO, the Energy Academy prepares students for high-demand jobs in the electronics, energy, and utility industries. The curriculum incorporates hands-on experiences in electromechanical installation and maintenance, energy and environmental technology, public utilities, and residential and commercial energy. Classroom and laboratory instruction is project-based, and course work involves field work and internship opportunities. The Energy Academy prepares students for continued training, post-secondary education, or entry to a career.



Fire Science

Today's firefighters respond to emergency situations requiring technical expertise in many areas; the "old" job of a firefighter only battling fires is long gone! Through this program, students learn about fire extinguishing methods and equipment, special extinguishing agents, hazard considerations, and principles of emergency response. Upon completion of this three-course program, students are trained in all facets of basic fire/rescue operations and earn Firefighter I and II certifications.



Health Academy

Our program offers students a head start in the high-demand health care industry. Coursework covers medical terminology and basic anatomy, along with patient care skills such as taking blood pressures, administering first aid, and performing CPR. Students may obtain a Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.) license while still in high school. Internships at area health care facilities are available for second-year students.



Modern Machine Technology

Our program, developed in consultation with regional business and industry, prepares students for entry-level employment in the metalworking and manufacturing fields. High-tech machine shop experiences give students hands-on opportunities to work with engine lathes, milling and drilling machines, and computer numerically controlled (CNC) machines, as well as with computerized lathes, mills, and robots. The curriculum includes welding, machining, pneumatics, hydraulics, CAD, CAM, and geometry.

Visual & Digital Communications

In this program, students will gain a broad range of skills and knowledge to prepare them for careers in the fast-paced, exciting world of radio, TV, and digital technology. They will learn digital publishing and printing techniques and will gain hands-on experience with sound, video, and editing equipment as they work on projects in a production studio at La Porte High School. Script writing, video and still photography, and graphic design software skills are also part of this hands-on course.

Welding Technology

This course prepares students for entry-level employment in the metalworking industry. Areas of instruction include: oxy-acetylene welding, shielded metal arc welding, gas metal arc welding, gas tungsten arc welding, and flux cored arc welding, along with oxy-acetylene and plasma cutting. The program also offers students practical experience in computer-assisted welding, burning, and programming. Students work toward entry-level skills and certifications.



Open your Door to the Future TODAY!

Visit the A.K. Smith Career Center during an open house or make an appointment for a personal tour. You'll meet students who have already made the choice to be better prepared for life after high school!

Online enrollment for the A.K. Smith Career Center is available at:

www.educateMC.net/careertech

Don't wait! Reserve your spot in a Career and Technical Education class today — and open your door to the future.

La Porte County Career & Technical Education
A.K. Smith Career Center

817 Lafayette Street | Michigan City, Indiana | 46360

Phone: 219-873-2120

www.educateMC.net/careertech



There's More!

In addition to courses offered at the A.K. Smith Career Center, many Career & Technical opportunities are offered at your La Porte County high school. Ask your guidance counselor for more information on the following courses:

LaCrosse High School

- Agricultural Science
- Natural Resource Management

La Porte High School

- Agricultural Sciences
- BioMedical Engineering
- Business Technology
- Construction Technology
- Engineering
- Marketing
- Interdisciplinary Cooperative Education (ICE)

Michigan City High School

- Agricultural Science
- Air Compressor Academy
- BioMedical Engineering
- Natural Resource Management
- Business Technology
- Engineering
- Marketing

New Prairie High School

- Business Technology
- Construction Technology
- Engineering
- Health Careers
- Marketing

South Central High School

- Agricultural Science
- Engineering
- Natural Resource Management
- Business/Marketing

Westville High School

- Agricultural Science
- BioMedical Engineering
- Natural Resource Management
- Marketing/Entrepreneurship

Also serving New Buffalo High School

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