In just two semesters at Trident Technical College, you can earn a certificate in aircraft assembly technology.

The Aircraft Assembly Technology program, the only one of its kind in South Carolina, prepares students for a career in aircraft manufacturing in just two semesters while earning college credit.

Students begin by learning the basics of aircraft assembly and the proper use of tools. As they progress through the program, students learn more specialized processes for manufacturing aircraft structures and systems, including working with composite materials.

No previous training or experience is required to begin this program. Five classes are taught sequentially each semester, allowing students to finish one class before beginning the next. Small classes allow for personal instruction and hands-on practice with the tools and equipment in an environment where safety concerns are given a high priority.

Programs of Study

Certificate (two semesters):

- Aircraft Assembly Technology

Career and Employment

The aircraft products and parts industry is projected to gain jobs over the decade as demand for new commercial planes grows significantly. The need for assemblers for aircraft structures, surfaces, rigging and systems is expected to grow 6 percent between 2012 and 2022. (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections program)

In May 2012, the median annual wage for aircraft structure, surfaces, rigging and systems assemblers was $49,950. (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics)
**Career opportunities:**

Aviation manufacturing is a field with many local, regional, national and international employment opportunities. Aircraft assembly technicians are qualified to work for internationally known aircraft manufacturers. Graduating students qualify for employment in the aircraft, boat and composite industry.

**Curriculum and Skills Covered**
- Aircraft drawings
- Basic blueprint reading
- Materials and hand tools
- Fluid lines and fittings
- Auxiliary systems
- Aircraft sheet metal
- Basic electricity
- Aviation history
- Aircraft structures
- Basics of hydraulics
- Corrosion control and sealing applications
- Drilling techniques
- Fastener installation
- Basic aviation physics principles
- Flight control systems
- Aerodynamics

**Tools and Equipment Taught**
- Pneumatic tools used for drilling, countersinking and installing aircraft fasteners
- Precision measuring tools
- Torque wrenches
- Hot bonders
- Autoclave
- Axial swage equipment
- Tube benders
- Advanced composite repair/manufacture tools and tooling
- Aircraft sheet metal tools
- Safety wire tools
- Landing gear trainer
- Fuel system trainer

**Admission Requirements**
- Be high school graduate or possess GED
- Meet TTC Placement Test, SAT or ACT requirements

**AIRCRAFT ASSEMBLY TECHNOLOGY CERTIFICATE**

**Program Level** - Undergraduate certificate
**Program Length** - 8 months

**COST**

1. **How much will this program cost me?**
   - Tuition and fees: $3,967
   - Books and supplies: $140
   - On-campus room & board: not offered
   - **What other costs are there for this program?**
     For further program cost information, visit http://www.tridenttech.edu/academics/fg/addlcostinfo.htm
     *The amounts shown above include costs for the entire program, assuming normal time to completion.
     *Note that this information is subject to change.

**FINANCING**

1. **What financing options are available to help me pay for this program?**
   - Financing for this program may be available through grants, scholarships, loans (federal and private) and institutional financing plans. The median amount of debt for program graduates is shown below:
     - Federal loans: $0
     - Private education loans: $0
     - Institutional financing plan: $0

**SUCCESS**

1. **How long will it take me to complete this program?**
   - The program is designed to take 8 months to complete. Of those that completed the program in 2013-2014, 59% finished in 8 months.

2. **What are my chances of getting a job when I graduate?**
   - The job placement rate for students who completed this program is 75%.
   - For further information about this job placement rate.

**3  Additional information related to this program and/or the information provided above**

This program prepares students for employment in the aviation manufacturing field by providing instruction in the basic theory of aircraft design and construction, aircraft materials, and tools utilized in aircraft assembly.

**4  More information on jobs related to this program**

Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, and Systems Assemblers
http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/51-2011.00

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For more information:

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