Why Tech Prep Matters

'imes have changed. For today's youth to be ıccessful, it is every bit as important that ıey make good career decisions as it is that ıey make good grades in school. More and ıore of today's jobs require technical skills nd training. In the near future 85% of jobs 'ill require the advanced training and nowledge supplied by an Associate or achelor's degree. In Tech Prep, students ave the opportunity to explore career ptions early, in a hands-on, challenging nvironment. In this high school setting :udents discover their own interests and kills while experiencing practical, real-'orld ways to pursue their goals in a variety f high-skill, high-wage technical careers.

STATEMENT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

o person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the :nefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or tivity sponsored by Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, teran status, or disability.

STATEMENT OF FUNDING

:h Prep RGV's programs are funded in part by grants from the :xas Higher Education Coordinating Board from the Carl D. :rkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 06, and from other sources.

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Parents' Guide to Tech Prep

How you and Your Child Can Benefit from College Tech Prep Programs

COLLEGE TECHPREP OF TEXAS

Tech Prep Students have:

- ✔ Lower dropout rates
- ✔ Higher graduation rates
- ✔ Higher college rates

Tech Prep is an important national education program, providing exciting opportunities for all students to receive valuable education, technical skills, and specialized training that can lead to rewarding, high-demand, high-paying careers. It's available in high school and it's free!

As an alternative to traditional college prep, Tech Prep guides students to selected course work that prepares them for careers in technical fields ranging from information technology and healthcare to engineering, law enforcement, and many other areas. Because Tech Prep students have a clear vision of how their high school and college courses are tied to their future success, they stay motivated and on-track for graduation.

Students Save Time and Money

In Tech Prep, students start taking college courses in high school and pay no tuition or fees. College credits earned in high school reduce the number of courses to be paid for when students enroll in college. Besides saving money on tuition and fees, Tech Prep students are typically able to earn an Associates or Bachelor's Degree in less time because of those credits from high school. This helps students to reach their education and career goals in a much shorter time. Students can save hundreds of dollars--sometimes even more--on the cost of college through Tech Prep. Students who complete their Tech Prep programs also become eligible to graduate as Tech Prep Texas Scholars and to compete for one of the Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Tech Prep Scholarships.

How Tech Prep Works

A student signs up for a Tech Prep career pathway plan that covers four years of high school classes and at least two years of college. It's best to enter Tech Prep in 9th grade, but still possible to enroll up through the senior year. Tech Prep also gives students real-world exposure to their chosen fields through job shadowing, mentoring, and internships.