



Innovation Academy

300 Go Pioneers Dr.  
Boone, NC 28607

- Automotive Systems Technology
- Mechanical Engineering Technology: Drafting
- Mechanical Engineering Technology: Welding
- Medical Assisting/Nursing

January 21, 2019

WIA Parents, Guardians, and Students,

This letter is to inform you of a few changes in the Watauga Innovation Academy (WIA).

As you know, we are partnered with Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI) to allow for students of any grade level to earn dual-enrollment credits in a career and technical pathway. One major job for a community college is to keep up-to-date with current economic trends and career needs. This priority makes the update of pathways a necessity. Further, community colleges are governed by large boards of education that develop laws and policies to keep quality learning and equitable access in the community college system while maintaining certain enrollment standards.

For these reasons, CCC&TI has had to make several changes in pathways and procedures, resulting in necessary adjustments in WIA to keep in line with CCC&TI. We have had to remove Computer Technology and Cosmetology as dual-enrollment pathways in the WIA. We have also had to make changes to our Drafting pathway. No current or historical dual-enrollment credits are being taken away. Current courses and historical credits are safe for all students. We have made a tiered schedule for updates to the Drafting pathway to allow for the earning of a certificate to continue for all students. Cosmetology was already phased out (for dual-enrollment) this year but CCC&TI has agreed to work with us on a case-by-case basis for those on the Computer Technology and Cosmetology pathways.

Please know that we are making every effort to create seamless transitions for every WIA student. CCC&TI is a wonderful partner, and they are also making scheduled transitions that will allow our students to earn their original certificates or the new certificate, depending on the needs of the student. Please also know that the knowledge of a needed change can come on very quickly, and we may not have time to alert everyone before an update is put into action.

Questions or Comments? Contact:

Tierra Stark  
Assistant Principal  
WIA & CTE Director  
(828) 264-2407 ext. 10222

All students, regardless of original certificate intent, benefit from being a member of the WIA. We are proud of each of our students and will continue to support them in their endeavors.

Sincerely,  
Tierra Stark

*The Watauga County School System's Career & Technical Education Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or disability in its program or activities.*

