

Frequently Asked Questions about The Wilson Talent Center

Q. What is Career & Technical Education?

A. Career & Technical Education, also known as CTE, is the practice of teaching specific career skills to students in high school and post-secondary institutions. CTE programs align with careers, college and other opportunities.

Q. What is the Wilson Talent Center?

A. The Wilson Talent Center (WTC) is the CTE program offered by Ingham Intermediate School District. The program is located in Mason, Michigan and offers 19 programming options.

Q. Who attends the Wilson Talent Center (WTC)?

A. The WTC offers programs to high school juniors and seniors from the districts of Dansville, East Lansing, Haslett, Holt, Leslie, Mason, Okemos, Stockbridge, Waverly, Webberville and Williamston. Students from Lansing, Fowlerville, private/public academies, Eaton County and Clinton County may also be able to attend.

Q. How will I learn about the programs available at the WTC?

A. Students that attend school in the Ingham ISD service area will first learn about WTC programs during 8th grade. Most schools have a visit day for all 8th grade students. When students are in 10th grade, WTC representatives will visit their high school and students can sign up for a more in-depth program visit to see what they might like to apply to for their junior year.

Q. What are some of the programs that are offered?

A. We offer programs in the areas of arts/communications, business, healthcare, information technology, human services (Cosmetology, Criminal Justice), manufacturing and hospitality.

Q. How and when do I apply to the WTC?

A. Students typically apply to the WTC between November and February of their sophomore year of high school for their junior year. The online application is available on our website at www.inghamisd.org/wtc. Once you apply, a notification is sent to the counselor at your high school, they will complete a portion of your application, send us your transcript and attendance record. Acceptance letters are typically mailed towards the end of March.

Q. How long am I at the WTC for each day?

A. Students attend the WTC for ½ of their school day, Monday through Friday. We offer both an AM and a PM session. Students attend their local district high school the other half of the day to take any required classes they may need for graduation requirements.

Q. Is busing provided?

A. Yes, most of our local districts do provide busing to and from the WTC each day. Students from private schools or out-of-county schools are usually required to provide their own transportation.

Q. Is there a cost to attend?

A. Generally, no. Families that live in the communities of Dansville, East Lansing, Haslett, Holt, Leslie, Mason, Okemos, Stockbridge, Waverly, Webberville and Williamston pay into a property tax millage that allows their student to attend at no cost. Students from Lansing, Fowlerville, private schools and other out-of-county districts would pay a tuition to attend (although often paid for by their local district or school).

Q. What are the advantages of attending a WTC program?

A. Students are not only earning high school academic credit for their time at the WTC, but have the opportunity to earn free college credit as well as state and national industry certifications. These certifications are very valuable when you go to apply for a job, often starting you at a higher wage

rate than someone without those skills. Other added benefits include studying something of interest to you, learning important job/interview skills and having access to state-of-art technology and equipment.

Q. Do you have to have a certain GPA to attend the WTC?

A. We don't necessarily look at GPA when enrolling students. What we are looking at is if the student is on track for graduation, meaning that they are securing credit in their classes at their high school. It is also important to have good attendance. When you miss one day at the WTC, it is similar to missing three class periods of a traditional high school class because students are with us for 2.5 hours each day.

Q. What if I change my mind about attending?

A. If you change your mind about attending before classes have started, you can simply call us or email us to let us know. Very rarely do students change their mind about attending after spending time in class, but if this does occur, you will want to speak with either our Enrollment Specialist or the counselor at your local district.

Q. What if I have additional questions not answered in this document?

A. We welcome any and all questions about our programs. You can email us at any time at wtcoutreach@inghamisd.org.