



APPLICATION FORM

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. **Deadline: June 3, 2019.** Please include this application form with electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact Gage Harter.

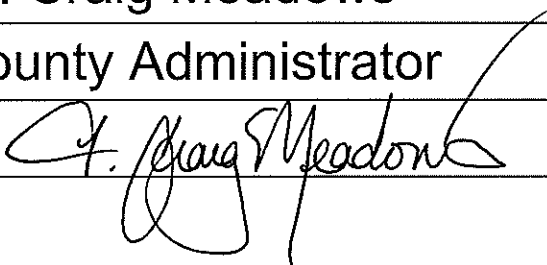
PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: Montgomery County
Program Title: ICC - High School Technical Training Program
Program Category: Regional Collaboration

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: F. Craig Meadows
Title: County Administrator
Signature: 

2018 VACo Regional Collaboration Award Submission – IIC

Executive Summary:

High School students in the Montgomery County Public School system now have increased opportunities and paths to success in the form of the International Code Council (ICC) High School Technical Training Program (HSTTP). The program was implemented at Blacksburg High School in the spring of 2018. However, planning began in October 2017 with regional collaboration between representatives from Montgomery County, Montgomery County Public Schools, and Virginia Building and Code Official Association. Since the inception of the program, 12 students have successfully completed the HSTTP International Residential Code (IRC) Building Code Certificate. In addition, two students passed a rigorous exam that is usually taken by seasoned professionals. Initially, the Virginia Building and Code Official Association agreed to fund the program. Since then, the Montgomery County Public School system has fully adopted the program and associated funding, with the goal of offering the program at all four area high schools.

Overview:

In 2014, the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association partnered with other industry organizations to include the Virginia Plumbing and Mechanical Inspectors Association, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and Internal Code Council to bring a High School Technical Training Program (HSTTP) that had been successful in other states to Virginia. Since then, the program has grown throughout the state; however, it had not yet



reached Montgomery County. That all changed when a Montgomery County employee and Chair of the VBCOA-Region II gathered a group of influencers in October 2017. Included in that group was Rick Weaver (Administrator of Career and Technical Education and Business Partnerships) and Carl Pauli (Director of

Secondary Education, not pictured); along with VBCOA representatives Jimmy Moss (Grayson County Building Official, back left), John Broughton (Montgomery County Building Inspector and VBCOA Region II Chair), Cathy Cook (Town of Blacksburg Building Official, front left), Bill Yeager (Montgomery County Building Official); Kyle Kratzer (VBCOA-ICC Representative, Fairfax); and Scott Woodrum (Montgomery County Director of Environmental Services and County Engineer, not pictured).

Since the spring of 2018, students at Blacksburg High School have had access to a new program, the International Code Council (ICC) High School Technical Training Program (HSTTP). The goal of the ICC HSTTP is to teach students building codes and construction through practice. Why does such program add value to the Montgomery County Public School

System? The answer is threefold: not every high school graduate is on a trajectory of secondary education; careers in the area of building construction are on the rise; and providing this opportunity for knowledge, skillset, and access to the necessary certification tests allows students to graduate with an advantage of having both hands-on experience and certifications in the field.

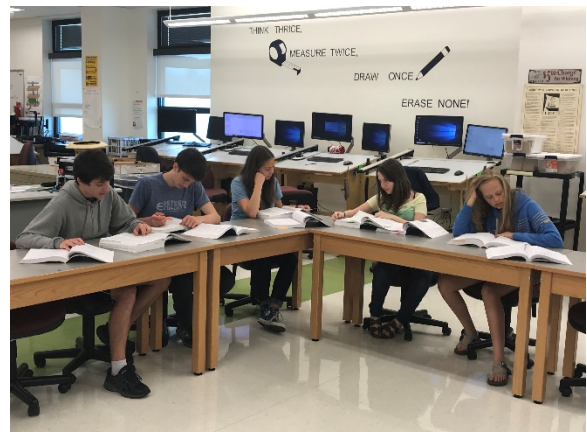


The first opportunity to overcome an obstacle came in the form of finances. While at face value, those who learned about the program saw its value, the funding for it was initially uncertain. As a result, representatives from the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association

agreed to fund the price tag for the program. That price tag was a small amount to pay for such a rich experience for the high school students and will have a great return on the investment.

(Pictured here from left to right are: John Broughton, VBCOA Region II Chair and Montgomery County employee; Veronica Spradlin, Teacher at Blacksburg High School; Caleb Manuel, Blacksburg High School Student; Kaleb Edwards, Blacksburg High School Student; Jackson Bulls, Blacksburg High School Student; and Pete Mensinger, VBCOA President.)

After the funding problem was addressed, the next hurdle was teacher buy-in. It's no secret that teachers are required to pack a lot of information in their current curriculum. *(Pictured here from left to right are Blacksburg High School Students in the program: Zachary Hosig, Jethro Rust, Madeline Deck, Morgan*



Hendrickson, and Claire Branscome). The ICC HSTTP would require additional requirements in a full curriculum. However, once Blacksburg High School drafting teacher, Veronica Spradlin, learned of this program, she immediately agreed to add it to her curriculum for her students in the 3-4-year program for students who want to pursue careers in Architecture/Design. The third year has a required component of taking the HSTTP International Residential Code (IRC) Building Code Certificate test as their end of course exam. The students were also required to use the code book throughout the course as they designed a custom house plan. The fourth-year class was an optional, or capstone, course where students can choose projects that they would like to pursue, with the suggestion of completing the three other (Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing) HSTTP certificates. If the students complete all four certifications successfully, Montgomery County Public Schools will pay for the students to take the B1 Industry Exam.



(Pictured here from left to right are the Blacksburg High School students who passed the B1 exam: Caleb Manuel and Jackson Bulls.) Three of the original six students who passed the Building Code Student Certificate in the spring of 2018 returned in the fall of 2018 and pursued the other

three HSTTP Certifications: Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing. The students were successful in passing the certifications. Then, the three students decided to take the B1 Industry Exam and two of the three were successful in passing that industry exam, which is a rigorous exam that is usually taken by seasoned trade professionals. Not only did these students increase their

knowledge, they increased their opportunity. The program is continuing to grow at Blacksburg High School thanks to Mrs. Spradlin's guidance and dedication, with even more students enrolling in the course in 2019.

A dedicated, collaborative team that consists of representatives from local government, the school system and the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association identified a need in our community and found a creative and collaborate way to meet it. The result? High School students now have access to a new program that will not only help them in their future careers but will also help an industry that is currently experiencing growth with a depleted pool of successors for those who are retiring from the trade.