

# What Is It Like at WITC?

## What Are the Benefits of a WITC Degree?

### Graduate Survey

Each fall, the college surveys recent graduates to find out how well their degree or diploma prepared them for a career in their chosen field. Using their input, WITC is able to continuously improve and adjust programs. The skills students learn at WITC are the skills employers want.

### The Graduate Follow-up Study

The six-month study of 2005-2006 graduates included 1,553 associate degree and technical diploma graduates from all four WITC campuses and outreach locations. Out of that total, 1,353 graduates either responded to the mailed questionnaire or the follow-up telephone contact. The response rate was 87 percent.

#### What We Found

- **WITC graduates get hired quickly** – 93 percent of graduates were hired within just six months of graduating. Seventy-five percent of WITC graduates were able to start a career in an occupation related to their training.
- **Alumni make great starting salaries** – annual starting salaries of WITC graduates right after graduation average \$28,851 annually.
- **Ninety-seven percent of graduates are satisfied** with the training they received at WITC.
- **Students come to WITC because they are career-minded.** Sixty-five percent of our graduates said they chose WITC to prepare them for their future career, help them make a career change, or to improve their existing job skills.

### Employer Satisfaction Survey

The Employer Satisfaction Survey gives the college feedback on the success of our graduates and the effectiveness of the concepts and skills we provide in technical education. Conducted biennially by WITC, the study asks employers to rate WITC graduates as entry-level employees in three broad areas:

- Technical work skills
- People skills
- Attitude

The information is used as a valuable tool for continuously improving and evaluating the college's educational programs and services to enhance learning.

#### What We Found:

- Employers are very satisfied with graduates' technical education
- Employers would recommend graduates to other employers
- WITC provides top service to employers

#### Find Out More

Visit our Web site at [witic.edu/witc/reports.htm](http://witic.edu/witc/reports.htm) to view the Graduate Follow-Up Study or the Employer Satisfaction Report. If you would like a copy of the report or more information about how the survey was conducted, call Jennifer Kunselman in the Office of Research and Planning, at the WITC Administrative Office in Shell Lake at 800.243.9482, Extension 2257.

## Student Services

A variety of student services are offered on campus – including career planning assistance – to help you make realistic decisions about your educational future. WITC's student services include counseling, advising, career exploration, and employability skills training. Students are also encouraged to meet with a Student Success Center instructor to create a personalized success plan and enroll in free reading, writing, math, spelling, and study skill courses. You may enter Success Center courses at any time and leave when you attain educational objectives. Day and evening classes are available at the four campuses and at other outreach centers in Northwest Wisconsin. Services include:

- General Education Development (GED) Certificate and High School Equivalency Diploma (HED) preparation and testing
- Career assessment
- Computer literacy
- Counseling services
- Employment assistance
- English Language Learning (ELL) classes
- Foundational Academic Skills
- Pre-Technical courses
- Tutoring (Peer)
- Student success workshops: individual development, employability skills, and student success skills

Student services are partially funded through the federal Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act, the Adult Education and Family Literacy Title II of the Workforce Investment Act, and state General Purpose Revenue grants of approximately one million dollars on a collegewide basis. This represents 50 percent of the district budget for these services.