

September 6, 2024 Advisory

Certificate and Degree Discussion

On September 6th a special meeting was held to gather input for certificates and degrees that are offered in the Bakersfield College Automotive Technology program. An advisory sub committee was formed consisting of Tom Moser, Danny Araujo, Seth Long, Miguel Lepe, Ulises Camarena, and Jose Rivera review, discuss and recommend changes, if any, to the Degrees and Certificates offer by the program. The List of certificates under review included the following:

Degree

Automotive Technology Associate of Science Degree

Certificates

Automatic Transmissions Certificate of Achievement
Automotive Heating and Air Conditioning Certificate of Achievement
Brake Systems Certificate of Achievement
Electrical and Electronic Systems Certificate of Achievement
Engine Performance Certificate of Achievement
Engine Overhaul and Repair Certificate of Achievement
Light Duty Diesel Performance Certificate of Achievement
Manual Drive Train and Axles Certificate of Achievement
Suspension and Steering Certificate of Achievement
Automotive Management Certificate of Achievement
Automotive Management Job Skills Certificate
Automotive Detailing Certificate of Completion

The advisory committee was asked to review this list and consider the relevance of certificates in each of these areas of our industry. A group discussion was started to gather input about the certificates and degree.

- Tom Moser stated that he felt that the entire list of certificates are absolutely relevant and commented that the Technicians that he has hired from our program are very qualified entry level candidates. He also mentioned that it he would like to see expansion into other areas such as Electric Vehicles, Vehicle Networks.
- Seth Long agreed with Toms statements about keeping the programs that we currently have and echoed the need to expand into training in areas of networking and vehicle computer software updates. He also expressed is gratitude as a partner with Bakersfield College and applauded the work that is currently being done to prepare students for the real world as a Technician.
- Danny Araujo commended that the current courses and the certificates that they support are necessary. He is in favor of the program model that is being followed where the BC certificates are patterned after Industry Certifications for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). He said that his business is in need of technicians that at minimum have the

competencies in the core areas of ASE certification. He would not be in favor of any radical changes to the current program certificates but would be in favor of ensuring that the course content that the certificates represent is being adapted and updated to reflect the changes in the industry.

- Vic Posey acknowledged the challenge of trying to provide relevant information to students in as short a time as possible. He also shared with the advisory our plans to expend into spot training in specific technical areas for technicians that are currently working in the industry. These short term classes are typically offered at night and on the weekends.
- Ulises Camarena stated that the current certificates and degree meet the industry needs.
- Vic asked if there was any further comments that anyone wished to make and there were none. He asked for one of the members to make a motion to recommend that Bakersfield College Automotive Program continue with the current certificates and degree offering for the courses below?
 - Degree
 - Automotive Technology Associate of Science Degree
 - Certificates
 - Automatic Transmissions Certificate of Achievement
 - Automotive Heating and Air Conditioning Certificate of Achievement
 - Brake Systems Certificate of Achievement
 - Electrical and Electronic Systems Certificate of Achievement
 - Engine Performance Certificate of Achievement
 - Engine Overhaul and Repair Certificate of Achievement
 - Light Duty Diesel Performance Certificate of Achievement
 - Manual Drive Train and Axles Certificate of Achievement
 - Suspension and Steering Certificate of Achievement
 - Automotive Management Certificate of Achievement
 - Automotive Management Job Skills Certificate
 - Automotive Detailing Certificate of Completion
- Danny Araujo made a motion to recommend that the Bakersfield College Automotive Program continue with the current certificates and degree offering.
- Tom Moser seconded the motion
- The final vote from the subcommittee is as follows;
 - Five voted in favor that the Bakersfield College Automotive Program continue with the current certificates and degree offering.
 - No one was opposed.
 - One abstained
- Vic thanked everyone on the committee for their encouragement as well as their participation and feedback which helps us keep heading in the right direction. The meeting was adjourned.