



Program Description

Welding Technology is a comprehensive program leading to a certificate. The program is designed to prepare graduates for employment or advancement as technicians or operators in industrial manufacturing organizations that utilize welding procedures. Students will learn the processes and techniques in industrial welding. Appropriate materials, tools, equipment, weld design, code application, and weld inspection are discussed.

General Education Requirements

COMM 101 Introduction to Oral Communication	3
TMAT 103 Technical Mathematics I	4
Social Science Elective	<u>3</u>
	10

Welding Core Requirements

TECH 114 Introduction to Technical Graphics	3
MFTG 110 Manufacturing Processes	3
WELD 110 Maintenance Welding	3
WELD 116 Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) I	3
WELD 217 Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) II	3
WELD 218 Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)	3
WELD 219 Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW)	<u>3</u>
	21

Total Credit Hours: 31

Career Opportunities & Earning Power

In Illinois, the median wage for welders and solderers is \$12.86 per hour (\$2,230 per month).

Nationally, the median wage for welders and solderers is \$2,370 per month. Half of all welders and solderers earn between \$1,930 and \$2,940 per month.

In Illinois, average growth is expected in the employment of welders and solderers through 2010. About 890 job openings are expected each year.

Nationally, the number of jobs for welders and solderers is expected to grow more slowly than average through the year 2008.

Skilled welders may specialize in a particular type of gas or arc welding. Others may become combination welders. Some may advance to become supervisors, welding inspectors or welding instructors. Those who complete additional training may qualify to become welding technicians. A few experienced welders open their own welding and repair shops. Welding skills are extremely useful in manufacturing and maintenance.

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to seek entry-level employment in the areas of metal products, transportation equipment, construction, maintenance, machinery and the mining industry or in machine/welding shops. Students may elect to further their education at Heartland Community College by continuing in the Maintenance Technology or Manufacturing Technology AAS degree programs.

