

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

STRENGTHS:

- The program is accredited by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Education Foundation.
- Students can be prepared for entry-level employment as an automotive technician in less than one year with an earning potential of \$52,000 annually within three years after graduation.
- Program is staffed with well qualified regular full-time and adjunct faculty that maintain current industry training and hold 23 nationally accredited ASE certifications, including Master Level and Advanced Level Certifications.
- The program has a strong and active 20-member advisory committee with representation from both dealer and independent service and repair facilities as well as Fairbanks area's NAPA AutoCare Center business owners' group.

WEAKNESSES:

- The program is currently operating at lower than maximum capacity. Local employers are reporting a similar challenge in recruiting individuals with interest in working in either lower-level positions that require little or no training or higher-level technical positions requiring a computer-savvy diagnostician.
- Students often do not complete the program because they find employment.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Alaska DOL occupational forecast for 2016-2026 projects an annual average of 170 openings per year for Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics.
- There is currently a HUGE shortage of Automotive Technicians not only locally, but throughout the entire United States.
- Development of articulation agreements with high school automotive technology programs could result in more high school graduates transition from high school to UAF program.

THREATS:

- The program is 2X national average tuition cost and additional student fees that result in a cost of ~\$10,000 for certificates and ~\$20,000 for AAS programs.
- Interest to work in the automotive field of trade seems to be declining- Reports from both Dealerships & Independent repair facilities find the same.
- Vehicles used during lab activities are aging each year, and are technologically becoming out of date shop equipment and tools are beginning to wear out, and will be in need of replacement in the near future.

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

- The program meets the mission by providing a career, technical and professional workforce credentialing with strong support from industry partners.
- Students within the program are sought after for employment in high paying jobs.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- Since Fall of 2012, 98% of all program graduates are employed in the automotive industry.
- The exit exam that each second semester student takes before graduation is direct evidence of learning the necessary math computation skills needed as an automotive service technician.
- Employers have reported that students are showing strong improvement on problem solving and troubleshooting skills.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

- The tuition and fees generated through the Automotive program cover 32% of the instructional cost (labor, travel, contractual services and commodities). Lease/facilities costs associated with the program are paid by CTC central.
- Lead faculty is currently keeping equipment serviced and repaired on a case by case basis as this is currently the most cost effective method of doing so.

	MAJORS	DEGREES
Automotive Technology Certificate	FY15: 31/ FY19: 13	FY15: 13/ FY19: 7

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY**Automotive Technology Certificate:**

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation w/ improvement plan (6 votes, 1 abstention)	Revise schedule to meet student needs; strengthen student partnerships; find tuition assistance to incentivize enrollment	Two years