



Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School
147 Pond Street Franklin, MA 02038
(508) 528-5400

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

DEFINITION*

Cooperative Education is a program of vocational technical education for students who, through a cooperative arrangement between the school and employers, receive instruction, including required academic courses and related vocational instruction, by the alternating of study in school with a job in the occupation field. Such instruction shall be planned and supervised by the school and the employer so that each contributes to the student's education and employability. Work periods will be on alternate weeks during the school year.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION GOALS

- Orient and familiarize the student with an actual work situation
- Provide the student an opportunity to observe, experience, and analyze work which is directly related to his or her training
- Provide the student exposure to personnel, equipment, and procedures different from those experienced in the school setting
- Help the student bridge a gap between school and employment
- Provide employers the opportunity to enhance the training curriculum
- Offer suggestions to the instructor regarding ways to improve the program
- Bring industry, business, and education closer together in sharing the responsibilities for preparing Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School students to enter the world of work

***Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

General Laws-Chapter 74 (M.G.L.c.74, Section 1)
and the Vocational Technical Regulation (603 CMR 4.07; 4.10)

BENEFITS

Student

- Gaining technical knowledge and vocational skills from craftspersons working in the field on equipment reflecting current technology
- Increasing a more confident, mature, and career oriented student
- Promoting awareness of an adult life in the real workplace
- Creating a portfolio of on the job experience for resume reference and gaining an edge when applying for “experienced only” positions

School

- Receiving feedback regarding any technical changes within a given field, in order to keep courses of study current
- Providing a variety of equipment and skills to the students
- Opening and bridging the gap between the business community and Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School
- Benefiting the community through employment commitments

Employer

- Recruiting an employee in the most cost effective way
- Receiving a worker already versed in the language, procedures and technology of the trade
- Establishing a method in the training of students
- Observing cooperative education students in action for potential employment after graduation
- Participating in the training of vocational and technical students in order to locate and hire the best qualified worker for their particular purposes
- Building a positive relationship with Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School

Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School offers students opportunities for training and skill development that lead to rewarding employment, and provide a well-rounded education that inspires life-long learning. By developing students’ abilities through diverse curricula, including a wide range of instructional settings, Tri-County strives to bring students to their highest potential in the attainment of academic and vocational-technical excellence.

The Cooperative Education Program is a real world, real time extension of these opportunities.

For more information on the Tri-County Cooperative Education Program please contact:
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