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PROCESS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM



Los Medanos College

"My PTEC degree helped me to get a great job
at the Tesoro Golden Eagle Refinery."

- Patrick Cruz, PTEC Graduate



PROCESS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

PROCESS TECHNICIANS

are skilled plant operators who run refineries,
chemical plants, and related manufacturing units.

Starting salaries are \$45,000 - \$65,000 per year.
With experience and overtime, an operator can make
\$100,000 per year.

Local industry hires 100-150 new process technicians
every year in Contra Costa County alone.

OUR GRADS
GET
GREAT
JOBS



PROCESS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

at Los Medanos College

The Process Technology (PTEC) Program was developed at Los Medanos College in response to requests from local chemical and refining industries and provides students with training for high-skill, high-wage, high-demand careers as plant operators. LMC is the only college in Northern California to offer this program.

Our local industry partners are looking forward to interviewing and hiring our PTEC graduates. Introductory classes leading to a Certificate of Achievement or two year Associate in Science (AS) degree are held each semester.



Process technicians are skilled plant operators who work for chemical, refining, oil and gas production/refining, power generation, water, waste management, food manufacturing and related manufacturing companies. The process technicians who run these plants work with state-of-the-art computer control systems, “work outside taking process samples and monitoring the equipment”, and solve problems in a team environment. No two days are alike.

Process technicians monitor and control equipment used to produce gasoline, medical oxygen, pharmaceuticals, plastics, power, clean water and many other products that make people’s lives better. Products made by Process Technicians are found everywhere. Almost all of the components of a computer are made by Process Technicians. Most of the parts make up our cars from ingredients made by Process Technicians.

Not sure if Process Technology is for you?
Check out the online career exploration class.

“Wow, that’s exciting!

was my first response when I learned that Los Medanos College was putting together a Process Technology (PTEC) program. I knew right away that I wanted to be a part of it.”

– Scott Sechler, PTEC Instructor

“Making things to sell is what industry is about. Teaching you how those things are made is what PTEC is about.”

– William Cruz, PTEC Program Director

Program Entry Skills:

To qualify for the Process Technology program, students need to possess excellent math and communication skills, have good interpersonal skills, and be willing to learn the technical skills needed to succeed in process technology.

Contact Information:

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This project is an equal opportunity program and was funded in part by a grant awarded under the President’s Community Based Job Training Grants, as implemented by the U.S. Dept. of Labor’s Employment & Training Administration. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW about the Process Technology Program at Los Medanos College

1. The Process Technology (PTEC) Program at LMC prepares women and men for high-pay, high-demand careers in the refining, chemical and related industries.
2. There are more jobs in the Process Technology field than there are graduates, giving students excellent employment choices.
3. The LMC PTEC program is the only program of its kind in Northern California.
4. Process Technology is an excellent career for both women and men.
5. PTEC graduates may start at a higher wage compared to those people without a PTEC credential.
6. PTEC classes are also offered in the evening to accommodate working students.
7. The PTEC program is a combination of classroom lecture, hands-on laboratory and industrial site visits.
8. LMC has a petrochemical computer simulation laboratory so PTEC students can practice what they are learning in a realistic setting while also building confidence in their skills.
9. All the PTEC instructors have relevant industrial experience.
10. A full-time student can earn the PTEC Certificate of Achievement in as little as 3 semesters.

