BRAHMA TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Brahma Tech?

Brahma Tech is a curriculum-driven academic diploma program with an emphasis on the relevance and application of STEM - science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in today's workplace. In addition to the many curriculum and hands on experience, students who successfully complete the program will receive a STEM certificate and have the honor of wearing the academy stole at graduation. This comprehensive four year program will enhance the current education program by offering students advanced study in a specific field or exploratory options in a variety of STEM fields. Participation in the Brahma Tech Academy provides a comprehensive learning opportunity for students to meet industry standards in the 21st century.

Brahma Tech is designed for highly motivated and talented students who have a special interest and an aptitude in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics and value an opportunity to begin preparing for a rewarding career in the fields of Information & Communication Technology, Engineering, Digital Media and Design, and Computer Science. This program supports Common Core State Standards challenging students to identify and solve problems through innovative and critical thinking as they apply basic concepts learned in their core courses.

What are the Brahma Tech curriculum strands?

- Information & Communication Technology
- Digital Media and Design
- Engineering & Architecture
- Computer Science

Why should students enter the Brahma Tech Program?

- To obtain a high school diploma with an emphasis in STEM
- To complete the Project Lead The Way Engineering Program
- To acquire high-level technology skills
- To prepare for college and university courses
- To prepare for technology certification
- To satisfy their interest in and to further develop their aptitude for technology, engineering, and the sciences
- To meet students with similar interests and network

What are the Brahma Tech entrance requirements?

- Must maintain an overall 3.0 or higher GPA
- Must have completed Algebra I (Algebra A does not qualify) or higher math with a grade of B or better
- Must have demonstrated intellectual curiosity, the ability to communicate effectively, and a willingness to pursue and attain set goals and objectives.
- Innovative, critical thinkers with a desire to explore and meet the challenges of STEM careers.

What must students do to successfully complete the Brahma Tech Program?

- ◆ Complete all graduation requirements with an overall un-weighted GPA of 3.0 or better in academic courses
- ◆ Complete 50 credits in STEM program designated courses with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better in those courses.
- ◆ Complete <u>all</u> requirements of the internship course. Workshop attendance is mandatory. (The Brahma Tech Coordinator must approve the planned internship.)

The <u>first 10-credit course, Computer Systems</u> is designed to insure all students achieve digital literacy at a highly proficient level. It will include an introduction to hardware, software, networks, skillful use of industry standard applications, and beginning programming. Computer Systems is an articulated course with the local college. Students will have an opportunity to challenge the same course by examination for college credits. Credits will be posted to the college transcript following testing. After completing the Computer Systems course, students will select 3 additional courses (30 credits), from any of the career strands and complete a 150 hour internship (Online course - 10 credits).

What does the internship entail?

The internship begins as an online course (10 credits) during the junior year in preparation for the summer internship application process. All internships <u>must</u> be approved by the Brahma Tech Coordinator prior to initiating the internship. Most internships are unpaid, although some programs offer a stipend as compensation or to help students with commuting expenses. Students will schedule the 150-hour internship during the summer between their junior and senior years. The internship is part of an online course that prepares students to be successful in the workplace. The online course will include after school workshops designed to prepare students for a successful internship experience.

What other requirements must Brahma Tech students meet?

Brahma Tech students must meet all district graduation requirements and are strongly encouraged to fulfill both UC and CSU entrance requirements.