

## **WCCCD AUTOMOTIVE PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL ACCREDITATION**

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### **Wayne County Community College District Automotive Program Receives National Accreditation**

Detroit, MI – April 1, 2016 - The automotive training program at the Wayne County Community College District's (WCCCD) Downriver Campus in Taylor has received reaccreditation by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF). WCCCD's automotive program has been accredited in the area of Master Automobile Service Technology.

To achieve this coveted recognition, the school's automotive training program underwent rigorous evaluation by NATEF. Nationally accepted standards of excellence in areas such as instruction, facilities, and equipment were used.

“During the past few months, we have worked closely with NATEF to make certain that our program would meet strict industry standards, and now we are delighted to join the ranks of the NATEF accredited training programs. Students will be assured of a quality education, and shop owners will be assured of getting quality job applicants,” stated Diane Gonzalez who serves as District Dean of Educational Affairs at WCCCD.

WCCCD's Automotive Service Technology Associate of Applied Science degree and college certificate programs are designed to develop qualified technicians to diagnose, repair and service modern automobiles. The programs provide opportunities for the student to develop their skills and competencies for entry-level positions such as an

automotive technician, service manager, parts manager, product test technician and self-employment.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of automotive service technicians and mechanics is projected to grow 9 percent from 2012 to 2022, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

“This is great news for automotive-minded young people and their parents,” said Donald Seyfer, former NATEF Chair. “Because this program increases cooperation between local education and industry leaders, it gives added assurance that WCCCD’s graduates will be employable entry-level technicians. As a result of the quality education provided by WCCCD, the motoring public will benefit since better repair technicians will join the work force.” Upon completion of the evaluation, WCCCD became accredited by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF). NATEF is a non-profit, independent organization that evaluates and accredits entry-level technician training programs against standards developed by the automotive industry.

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**About WCCCD:** WCCCD, the largest urban community college in Michigan, is a multi-campus district with five campus locations, the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center and the Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE), serving nearly 72,000 students annually across 32 cities and townships, and more than 500 square miles. WCCCD is committed to the continued development of new programs, workforce transformation, hosting community-based training sessions, and improving student facilities and services. [www.wcccd.edu](http://www.wcccd.edu) .

*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15 Edition, Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/installationmaintenance-and-repair/automotive-servicetechnicians-and-mechanics.htm>*