

**Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, Lehigh Carbon Community College,
and Commonwealth University**

Credits for Credentials

A partnership with Lehigh Career and Technical Institute (LCTI), Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC), and Commonwealth University (Bloomsburg, Lock Haven, and Mansfield campuses - CU), provides opportunities for a seamless pathway for students to obtain a bachelor's degree with **cost savings of approximately \$22,300 per student** (based on 30 articulated credits from LCTI and an average of 81 credits articulated from LCCC to CU). Students who attend Lehigh Career and Technical Institute and receive credentials may not otherwise have a seamless pathway to an associate degree and a bachelor's degree.

Through the generosity of the CEO of a local private manufacturing business, a scholarship endowment was established to assist graduates of LCTI to continue the Associate of Applied Science pathway.

Students from nine (9) Lehigh County School Districts enroll at LCTI in one of sixteen (16) programs (listing attached) earning industry credentials. The successful student is able to apply those **credentialed skills as 30 program-based credits of a 61-credit associate degree** while completing the remaining 31 general education requirements of the **Applied Technical Studies A.A.S.** degree at LCCC (face to face or online). In addition, upon completion of the A.A.S. degree, the students can transfer 60 credits (81 credits was the average transferred) to the **Bachelor of Applied Science in Technical Leadership (B.A.S.T.L.)** at CU (online).

The A.A.S. degree is designed for **Career and Technical Education students** who have successfully completed their high school program and received an **accreditation, license, certification or passed a national skills credential in a designated technical field (i.e., SkillsUSA, NOCTI)**. Graduates of LCTI receiving 30 college credits for the industry credentials can **save \$5,190 on their A.A.S. degree**.

Students who choose to continue for a bachelor's degree can take advantage of this seamless pathway with CU to earn the **B.A.S.T.L.** degree for an additional sixty (60) credits. Average credits transferable from LCCC were 81, therefore, requiring 39 credits taken at CU. The B.A.S.T.L. degree builds on the expertise gained from the A.A.S. degree and allows students to enter CU as a junior. **Cost savings for the B.A.S.T.L. degree is \$22,310** for students entering the pathway at LCTI, continuing through LCCC and then to CU. This pathway provides student cost savings and provides a pathway for certifications that don't have natural pathways to a bachelor's degree.

LCTI recruits students to a wide range of secondary education programs through outreach such as open house events where **3,000 prospective students** and family members are in attendance. LCTI and LCCC will promote this pathway through marketing materials as well as outreach through school districts. In addition, marketing materials and outreach to graduates of LCTI for the prior five (5) years will take place as they can also take advantage of this career pathway.

Employers who provide internship opportunities, advisory committee membership and employment opportunities after graduation are listed on the attached chart.