State-Approved (Chapter 74)
Program Overview

Sheet Metalworking

Sheet metal is used in the construction of homes, businesses and industrial facilities—making Sheet Metalworking a career field that is always in demand.

What Students Learn & Do

Sheet Metalworking students learn the skills and techniques required for building and installing metal components such the ductwork found in heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. Sheet metal is also used for metal roofs and the stainless steel fixtures found in restaurants, hospitals and kitchens, among other applications.

While learning to follow safety standards, students are trained in a variety of metalworking tools and equipment for cutting, bending, forming and welding sheet metal. Students also learn how to prepare field drawings manually or using a computer program. Other skills taught include reading blueprints, following construction drawings, and foundational principles of construction.

Students in Sheet Metalworking programs are required to meet the same high academic standards as their peers in other high school programs. These standards are set by the State of Massachusetts. In addition, math and science concepts are reinforced through student projects.

Licenses & Certifications

Programs will prepare students to earn industry-recognized credentials, and typically students will be able to complete one or more before they graduate from high school. Examples:

- OSHA 10-hour - Construction
- Credit towards Massachusetts Sheet Metal License

Options After High School

State-Approved (Chapter 74) programs provide precise training needed for entry-level employment in this in-demand career field. Here are some possible Sheet Metalworking career opportunities.

High School Diploma

- Apprentice Sheet Metal Worker
- Maintenance Technician
- Welder

Advanced Experience, Training or License

- Journeyman or Master Sheet Metal Worker
- HVAC Technician
- HVAC Installer

Bachelor's Degree (4 Years of College)

- Sheet Metal Design Engineer
- Mechanical Engineer
- Metallurgist

Questions to Ask a Program You Are Considering

1. **What workplace experiences do you offer to students - at school, or with an employer?**
2. **What are some common next steps for graduates of this program and how do you support them to get there?**

Learn about the differences between State-Approved (Chapter 74) and Local programs:
http://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/cvte/cte-families/state-vs-local.html

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS