



COLLEGE PROFILE

Hamilton Fulton Montgomery Pathways in Technology Early College High School

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Johnstown, NY 12095

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Community and School Information

HFM PTECH is a program of the Hamilton Fulton Montgomery BOCES, which serves 15 school districts in the tri-county area known as the Mohawk Valley in New York.

The area encompasses small cities and a large rural area where agriculture and manufacturing companies are the largest employers.

Based on New York's State's Community Eligibility Provision threshold of at least 40 percent of students qualifying for free or reduced lunch, all students in the PTECH program receive free breakfast and lunch.

The ethnic makeup of the student body is reflective of the regional population and is 76 percent white, 14 percent Hispanic, 5 percent African American, 3 percent Asian, 1 percent Pacific Islander, and 1 percent Native American.

PTECH, or Pathways in Technology Early College High School, is a 6-year program that incorporates project based learning and professional skills training as students work toward their 2-year degree from Fulton Montgomery Community College or SUNY Cobleskill (depending on the degree pathway) at no cost to their families. Students enter the program as ninth-graders and simultaneously work toward Regents high school diplomas and associate degrees.

HFM PTECH is part of a statewide initiative aimed at preparing students for middle-skills jobs in the areas of technology, manufacturing, healthcare and finance. Originally announced as part of the Governor's 2013-14 Executive Budget, HFM PTECH receives additional funding and support from the New York State Education Department.

The NYS PTECH public-private partnership builds on the nationally recognized success of IBM's Pathways in Technology Early College High School (PTECH) in New York City. NYS PTECH was launched in partnership with IBM, which helped create the PTECH program and provides tools, training and support to each NYS PTECH school.

Admission

Students must apply to PTECH during their eighth-grade year and are chosen based on an evaluation by members of the Selection Committee, who use a rubric that examines academic performance, attendance records, the contents of an interview, relevance of the student's career interests, interest level in the program and demographic information.



Curriculum

HFM PTECH emphasizes individualized pathways to completion, in-depth project-based learning and real-world experiences.

HFM PTECH partners with the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce and dozens of regional employers to provide students with mentorship, professional skills training and workplace experiences, including job shadows, internships and tours.

All content areas are taught through interdisciplinary projects that are directly tied to the professional skills mapped by the program's business partners.

- Students work collaboratively in groups with each member contributing to the end product.
- Some projects are based on a business partner's needs, and students are tasked with generating solutions that meet those needs.
- All projects end with a public display of knowledge that is evaluated by teachers and members of the business community.

Students take college credit-bearing courses from their freshman year. At the end of their sophomore year, PTECH students choose a degree to pursue that matches their career interests. By their senior year, they are full-time college students. Through the PTECH program, students earn an associate degree in one of the following:

From SUNY Cobleskill

- Agricultural Business
- Agricultural Science
- Agricultural Engineering Technology: Power Machinery
- Animal Industry
- Biological Technology
- Environmental Studies
- Fisheries and Wildlife Technologies
- Sustainable Crop Production
- Culinary Arts

From FMCC

- Electrical Technology
- Business Accounting
- Business Management
- Business Marketing
- Media Arts and Digital Technology
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Networking and Cybersecurity
- Health Information Records Management
- Health Studies
- Chemical Abuse Counseling
- Radiologic Technology

Graduation

HFM PTECH students are expected to complete all New York State requirements for Regents diplomas by the end of year four. However, students remain enrolled in high school until they have completed the requirements for an associate's degree. Students can take up to six years to complete the program.

PTECH students will be awarded a Regents high school diploma when they have met one of the following conditions: (1) completed both their high school diploma requirements and their associate's degree requirements; (2) completed their high school diploma requirements and some college credits by the end of year six; or (3) left the PTECH program upon completing their high school diploma requirements.

Extracurriculars

PTECH students can participate in sports or other after-school activities in their home school districts. HFM PTECH also offers its own after-school clubs and activities.