

Delta College Fast Start Information
Updated June 10, 2010

Thank you for your interest in Delta College's Fast Start program. We have had some very good success-86% of the students completing the training have re-careered and received job offers. We work very closely with regional employers to assure that their hiring needs are met and to determine when they need qualified workers and how many. We then review the upcoming graduating class of academic students, and if there are not enough graduates to fill the hiring needs, we schedule a Fast Start (we want to be sure that we're not training people for jobs that do not exist). We are currently working with **Dow Chemical, Dow Corning, Hemlock Semiconductor, and Evergreen Solar** (and we hope to add others soon). These companies have indicated that hiring will remain strong with 100-150 job vacancies per year for the next several years.

Delta College has two options available to become a chemical process operator:

Option #1: An Associate degree in Chemical Process Technology (minimum 64.6 credits; previous college credits or military education can be considered toward degree requirements). The Chemical Process Technology and pre-requisite classes will fill quickly-so please register early.

Fall 2010 classes begin on August 30, 2010 and registration is currently open. The payment deadline is July 27th. For individuals registering after July 29th, payment is due at registration. If you are unable to register for a class immediately, please consider placing your name on the waitlist.

Academic Program Questions please contact:

Delta College Counseling & Advising Center
Room D-102
989-686-9330

Walk-in Appointment Schedule:

Monday-Thursday 8 am-6 pm
Friday 10 am-4 pm (Note: Delta College is closed on Fridays from May 21-July 30, 2010)

Option #2: Pre-Chemical Process Operator Fast Start The other option is our 480 hour accelerated Pre-Chemical Process Operator "Fast Start" program. Fast Start is a 16 week, 480 hour training program (30 hours per week in class plus assignments outside of class). This program is designed for individuals who have minimum WorkKeys scores, manufacturing experience, and previous college/training. Successful completers (based on instructional assessment standards and attendance) can earn up to 25 academic credits (CPI 110-260) toward the Chemical Process Technology Associate degree and be qualified to apply for employment as a Chemical Process Operator.

Program Selection-there will be 12-24 seats available for a class starting in September 2010 and ending in January 2011. Positions will be offered to the applicants who best meet the preferred candidate qualifications. Students who are enrolled in the Chemical Process Technology Associate Degree program are not encouraged to apply for Fast Start.

Cost: \$5,400

Financial Support: may be available to those who qualify through Michigan Works! or the Veteran's Administration. Pell grants and student loans are not available for this program.

Schedule: The class will begin in September 2010 and end in January 2011. We are working to identify the specific days/times of the week that the class will be held (30 hours per week schedule).

Preferred Candidate Qualifications: 12-24 seats are available and will be offered to applicants who best meet the preferred candidate qualifications. The preferred candidate qualifications are:

- **WorkKeys** (technical skills assessment)-minimum scores of a Level 5 (Gold Standard) on the Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information assessments. Candidates are also required to take Applied Technology, Observation, and Teamwork.
_____ Provide a copy of your WorkKeys scores.
_____ WorkKeys can be taken at Michigan Works! (at no cost if you are a client/eligible for services) or at Delta College for a fee of \$120. Please call 989-686-9444 or lifelonglearning@delta.edu to schedule WorkKeys at Delta College.
- **Work Experience**-a minimum of 1-2 years of work or military experience in a manufacturing, technical, or chemical occupation/field.
_____ Provide a copy of your resume showing how you meet this criteria.
_____ Provide a copy of your DD214 (if veteran).
- **Educational Experience**-an associate or bachelor's degree in a technical field from an accredited college or military training in a technical area.
_____ Have you attended classes at Delta College? If so, please provide either your Student Number or the last four digits of your Social Security number.
_____ Provide a copy of your transcripts from other colleges (student copy is acceptable).
_____ Provide information on military training (if not on DD214).

Fast Start #6 Application Deadline is July 22, 2010 at 5pm. Submit applications to:

Pat Graves
Delta College Room B-144
1961 Delta Rd.
University Center, MI 48710
pagraves@delta.edu
FAX: 989-667-0620

Regional Process Operator Employment Opportunities

Chemical employers (Dow Chemical, Dow Corning, Hemlock Semiconductor, and Evergreen Solar) have openings for Chemical Process Operators. The projected employment demand is for over 100-150 new hires each year for the next five years. Starting salaries are \$13-20/per hour.

Chemical Process Operators: work with the handling, transporting, transferring, storage and disposal of chemicals and other materials in compliance with all state and federal regulations; they operate, troubleshoot, monitor, and control both continuous and batch processes; assemble, disassemble and stage reactor systems; line up and management of valving stations and headers; understand and use pneumatic tools and equipment; connect, disconnect, load, unload and manage tanker transfer stations; are knowledgeable and uphold the standards regarding health, safety, and the environment; interface with chemical engineers and tradesmen, technicians, and co-workers involved with these processes; hands on and management of normal equipment maintenance; calibrate instrumentation; and handling of medium to heavy tools, products and equipment.

Working Conditions: Chemical Process Operators work in teams and shifts to maintain and operate large manufacturing facilities 24 hours a day. The level of direct supervision varies by plant and company, but is typically minimal. Process Operators monitor the computers that run the plant working often in a control room environment and also in the field performing field work such as maintenance. Shift teams rotate day, afternoon, or night shifts because the manufacture of chemical products is a continuous process. Work weeks cover the weekends and operators often work overtime and occasionally they are required to cover shifts on holidays. All employees in a chemical plant have to wear safety helmets, goggles, safety shoes, gloves, and respirators. Chemical Process Operators may work in enclosed spaces or high places; may be required to climb ladders to storage tanks; and lift process equipment and product.

Chemical Process Operator Skills: Employers are looking for trained Chemical Process Operators who have the following skills and abilities (you must meet all of these criteria for employment):

- Technical skills and can resolve technical problems
- Initiative, personal integrity, and a commitment to life-long learning
- Leadership skills
- Teamwork and interpersonal skills
- A willingness to work rotating shifts, weekends, holidays, and overtime
- Basic computer skills
- Have personal awareness of and commitment to safe work habits and behaviors
- Ability to lift 50 pounds, operate valves and similar equipment, able to climb ladders/stairs, work at heights, and work in tight or closed-in spaces
- A current, valid United States drivers license with no restrictions
- Be able to pass a drug screen, background check, and medical exam prior to employment