

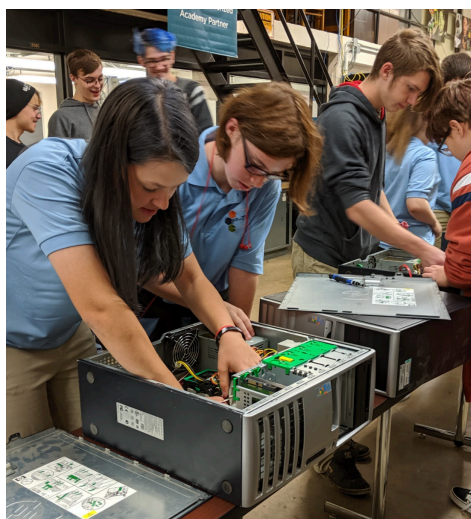


Pathways in Technology Early College High School

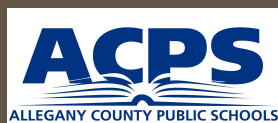


Core Benefits

- Rigorous and relevant program focused on the knowledge and skills students need for a career in Cybersecurity.
- Workplace learning that includes ongoing mentoring by professionals in the IT sector, worksite visits, speakers, and a paid internship.
- Intensive, individualized academic support
- A cost-free two-year degree in Cybersecurity from Allegany College of Maryland
- A commitment from the business partners for P-Tech graduates to be first in line for job consideration



Partners in Education



What is the P-Tech Program?

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, ACPS began to offer incoming 9th graders the opportunity to participate in an early college program through the Allegany County P-Tech Program at essentially no cost. The P-Tech program is a high school and beyond model, which combines high school, college, and the world of work. The program's mission is to provide students with a free education that starts in grade nine, continues through high school completion with a high school

diploma, and culminates in the attainment of an Associate Degree in Computer Technology. Students who move through the coursework at an accelerated pace will have other options available and can potentially earn a second Associate of Applied Science Degree within the Computer Technology program within six years or transfer to Frostburg State University to complete a baccalaureate degree in a computer science field.

*Cody Blankenship**Cameron Robertson*

Cybersecurity Facts...

- There are 10 million cyber attacks per day costing \$100 billion
- 400,000 cyber positions are available in the U.S.
- Maryland is the epicenter for innovation in cybersecurity. There are close to 20,000 open cybersecurity jobs available in more than 1,800 cybersecurity companies in Maryland.

Meet Our P-Tech Program SENIORS.....

There are currently two seniors in the P-Tech program. Cody Blankenship and Cameron Robertson are on track for graduation from Allegany College of Maryland with their AA degree in Computer Science with a concentration in Cyber Security.

Seven additional students are currently on track for college graduation within one year of high school graduation. These students will take 12 credits at ACM in the fall and 14 credits in the spring. There is also one other student graduating from ACM within two years of high school graduation.

FBLA Success

Eight of the current ten seniors have placed high enough at the regional

virtual FBLA competition to earn a spot to compete at the state level competition in March. The students dominated the areas of Cyber Security and Help Desk by earning four of the five top spots for the region.

Virtual Fieldtrips

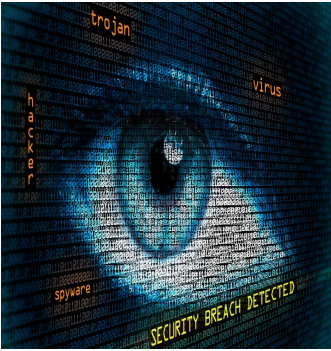
Senior students also had the opportunity to participate in a virtual fieldtrip with IBM and learned about the apprenticeship program at the local IBM at Rocket Center, WV, and QRadar. QRadar is one of the cyber security tools that IBM uses and markets to other companies.

In preparation for the fieldtrip, the seniors created IBM accounts so that they could watch some of the same

videos that are shown to employees.

These seniors are currently beginning the process of applying for internships. Corporate IBM has set aside 1,000 virtual internships for P-Tech students this summer. Students are also currently preparing their resumes and earning industry standard badges through IBM Open P-Tech.

*Virtual fieldtrip to IBM*



Vision...

Increasing student opportunities and career success through innovative collaboration among business, community, and education.

Mission...

The P-Tech mission is to provide students with an education that starts in grade nine, continues through high school completion with a high school diploma, and culminates in the attainment of an Associate Degree.

P-Tech Program Juniors

Currently 16 Students Enrolled

There are currently 16 junior students enrolled in the P-Tech program. Two of these students are on track for the four-year program to graduate from ACM next year. Eight students are in the five-year program, and the remainder of them are on the six-year track.

FBLA Success

The juniors equally excelled at the virtual regional FBLA competition. ACPS secured the top four places in the Computer Problem Solving category; the top three spots in Network Design; and ACPS placed three students in the top five in Networking Infrastructures. In all, fifteen students earned a spot at the state competition.

Virtual Fieldtrips on the Horizon

A virtual fieldtrip to IBM is currently in the works for these juniors, and they also have an account on IBM Open P-Tech in order to begin the process of earning badges towards an internship and industry-related topics such as cyber security, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and more.

Students are progressing with online chapters in the IT Networking program at the Career Center. Everyone is looking forward to a return to in-person learning, but these students are still on pace to complete the IT Networking program.

Underclassmen: P-Tech Sophomores and Freshmen

Sophomores

There are currently 18 sophomores and 25 freshmen enrolled in the P-Tech program. The majority of the sophomores will begin their college classes this spring. However, some students will need to receive extra support at their home schools to first succeed in their high school courses before adding a college level course. Many students are receiving tutoring and additional supports to assist them with virtual learning as well. The good news is that these students will still be on track for the five or six-year pathway towards college graduation. The sophomores have three virtual fieldtrips on the horizon with a variety of local IT companies.

Freshman

All freshmen students received a P-Tech laptop that they will have the opportunity to use for the remainder of their time in the program. Just like the sophomores, they too have three virtual fieldtrips arranged this year with local IT companies. Eighteen of our 25 freshman earned a B average or higher for the first marking period – way to go! All of these students are currently taking their first P-Tech class, Exploring Computer Science. This class is also open to any high school student, and provides an introduction to various parts of computer science.



The P-Tech program offers one-on-one mentorship, a paid internship experience, skills training, and a variety of workplace visits and presentations provided by P-Tech business partners. Graduates of the program have the potential to secure an entry-level position with median earnings averaging \$25.43/hour in Maryland.



Business Partners:

- WMHS IT Department
- Exclamation Labs
- First United Bank & Trust IT Department
- Willetts Systems
- Allegany Co. Government IT Division

For more information, contact:

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Check out this informational video about the P-Tech Program:

<https://vimeo.com/215188807>