



## Winter 2024 Newsletter

### In This Edition

1. Latest News
2. Magnet Course Updates and Opportunities
3. Adult Program Updates
4. CAC and Sueños
5. BACCC

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# Latest News

## The New Wildland Fire Academy



The Santa Cruz County Office of Education is proud to offer the opportunity to participate in our Wildland Fire Academy. Working in partnership with CAL FIRE and California Conservation Corps, students can complete training sessions needed for an entry-level firefighter position. Upon successful completion of the Wildland Fire Academy the student will receive fire service certifications, a SCCOE/CTE Certificate of

Achievement and eligibility to apply for California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). Students participating in this program will have the opportunity to earn certificates in the following:

- Firefighter 1C: Wildland
- NWCG – L180 Human Factors in the wildland fire service
- NWCG S-130 Basic Wildland Fire Orientation
- S-110 Basic Wildland Fire Orientation
- NWCG S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior

### National Incident Management System (NIMS) Certificates

- FEMA IS-100B Introduction to Incident Command System
- FEMA IS-200 Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
- FEMA IS-700B NIMS, An Introduction National Incident Management System
- FEMA IS-800B NIMS, National Response Plan

[LEARN MORE](#)

# Magnet Courses



The CTE Magnet courses are an important option for high school students looking to discover potential careers within a wide range of career sectors. The COE's high-quality CTE courses provide students the opportunity to gain high school and college credit while meeting the UC A-G requirements.

With the 2024-2025 school year schedule process for classes beginning now, please share the following resources with your students about the wide range of opportunities the Santa Cruz COE has to offer within CTE. All courses are UC A-G approved and provide students the opportunity to earn college credit through our partnership with Cabrillo College.

Please visit the following websites for more information::

- [Culinary Arts Career Pathway](#)
- [ICT Career Pathways](#)
- [Fire Technology](#)

**Registration in all courses is limited, so encourage students to sign up right away using the registration link below. Our CALS team works with all counselors throughout the county to ensure courses will be added to student schedules.**

**[STUDENT REGISTRATION](#)**

# YOUR FUTURE IS OUR BUSINESS

Your Future is Our Business is a non-profit organization that works to provide Santa Cruz County students exposure to local industry leaders. Please share the following scholarship opportunity with you students.

## CAREER EXPLORATION SCHOLARSHIP



Enter to win a \$1,000 CTE exploration scholarship you can use to explore careers. Scholarships will be awarded at the 23rd Annual Your Future Is Our Business Luncheon!  
Open to any 10th, 11th, and 12th-grade students in Santa Cruz County.

**March 22, 2024 | Twin Lakes Church,  
11:30-1:30pm | Aptos**

The Luncheon celebrates our community partners and showcases students and teachers from Santa Cruz County high school career and technical education classes.

### HOW TO ENTER: USE THE QR CODE OR [LINK HERE](#)

**Please submit an essay response (1,000 words or less) and a video (1 minute), and a letter of recommendation  
by FEBRUARY 9th, 2024**

Write an essay that explains how you would use this scholarship to explore career opportunities?

**Tell us about yourself!**

(Name, age/grade, the school you attend, CTE teacher name, your background)

Submit a video testimonial explaining how you would utilize the scholarship money.

Other talking points:  
- your background (where you grew up, interests, family, etc.)  
- anybody in your life that inspires/encourages you



Supply a letter of recommendation from a teacher, mentor, coach, counselor, or school administrator.

Students must be able to attend March 22, 2023, Your Future Is Our Business Luncheon.

Awardees must attend a financial literacy course.

Questions? Contact [seniorcoordinator@yfiob.org](mailto:seniorcoordinator@yfiob.org)

YFIOB.ORG



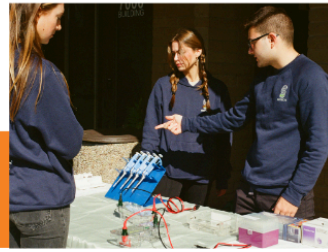
YOURFUTUREISOURBUSINESS



[SENIORCOORDINATOR@YFIOB.ORG](mailto:SENIORCOORDINATOR@YFIOB.ORG)

YOUR FUTURE  
IS OUR BUSINESS

## CTE SHOWCASE COMPETITION



CTE students are invited to share with the community what they have accomplished in their Career and Technical education classes! Awards will be given in each of three categories, video, photo, and in-person presentation at the 22nd Annual Your Future Is Our Business Luncheon.

**March 31, 2022 | 11:30-1:00 pm**  
Twin Lakes Church, Aptos, CA

## HOW TO ENTER



### VIDEO SUBMISSION

Create a video that shows what your CTE class/program is about or what you have been able to achieve. First place will be shown at the luncheon. You may submit 1 video per student.  
(90 seconds max)

Submit the video in advance.



### PHOTOGRAPH CONTEST

Submit up to 6 photos that capture what you created in your CTE course.

Highlight a product, project, service, or experience that you created in our CTE class.

Submit the video in advance.



### PRESENTATION

Attend the YFIOB Luncheon and talk about your product, project, service, or experience that you created in our CTE class. Bring your project and/or provide a demonstration. Tables will be provided.

Sign up in advance. Must attend the luncheon

**SIGN UP BY GOING TO:**

**[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/YFIOBSHOWCASE](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YFIOBSHOWCASE)**

**DEADLINE TO APPLY: FEBRUARY 10, 2023**

YFIOB.ORG



YOURFUTUREISOURBUSINESS



YOURFUTUREISOURBUSINESS@GMAIL.COM

**Feb 9th Deadline CTE Scholarships from [Your Future is our Business](#):**

- [CTE Scholarships](#)
- [Career Exploration Scholarship](#)
- [CTE Showcase Competition](#)

# Adult Learning Programs

Our Medical, Dental, and BTPA programs are progressing with an amazing group of motivated students ready to take on the challenge of their new career endeavor.



At the end of December, 21 students took their written state board exam for Radiation Safety. Instructor Debbie Martiniez is proud to share that not only did every student pass, but they excelled! With the first semester complete, students will now be transitioning into the clinical component of the class that will include how to take x-rays.

In addition, students have successfully completed several certifications up to this point that include Dental Practice Act and Infection Control and BLS CPR. All 21 students are progressing well and look forward to earning their certificate of completion for Radiation Safety X-Ray during the 2nd semester.



Our Dental Assisting program is also proud to announce that the program has recently been approved by the CA Dental Board to be able to offer another certificate in Coronal Polishing. This certification will provide students the opportunity to further their steps toward applying for their Registered Dental Assisting License in the future. This class will also be offered to our local Dental Community as well.

Last, the CALS team successfully submitted our [California Apprenticeship Initiative](#) grant application for our Dental Assisting program. If we are selected, this 3 year grant will total \$1.02M and will support us in offering paid on-the-job training to a total of 68 students over the course of the project.

**Applications for the 2024-2025 school year open in February!**

[LEARN MORE](#)



The BPTA Program is very excited to kick off our 6th cohort for the Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship program on January 22nd 2024! To date, we have held three sessions at our 399 facility and two at the Rountree facility for the Department of Corrections. We are proud to announce that many of our graduates have found gainful employment as a result of participating in our training program.

Some examples of this include but are not limited to:

- Local 62 Plumbers union
- Local 234 IBEW (electrical union)
- Local 377 Ironworkers union
- Local 505 Carpenters union
- The City of Santa Cruz
- Sandbar Solar
- A variety of local merit contractors

The CALS team continues to work closely with the City of Santa Cruz Workforce Development Initiative and participate in monthly meetings centered around expanding our program's outreach to applicants as well as local companies in need of qualified candidates for employment. This fall, the CALS team solidified an agreement with the Local 62 Plumbers union to grant our graduates direct entry into the union upon completion of our program.

In our goal to provide Santa Cruz County a rigorous and relevant building trades program, while maintaining our commitment to the local unions and California's Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS), our team is happy to announce our new articulation agreement with [Cabrillo College](#). Students will now have the opportunity to earn Cabrillo College credit and continue their education in the [Cabrillo College Construction and Energy Management \(CEM\) program](#).

Although the spring BTPA cohort registration has closed, the program will be looking to recruit applicants for the fall 2024 cohort starting in March.

[LEARN MORE](#)





The Medical Assisting class is excited to be starting the clinical skills component of the program. During the next couple of months, students will apply principles learned from the fall semester, such as pharmacology, pharmacology math, administering medication, and the principles of infection control into real life scenarios. The clinical skills include working

on calculations and conversions for administering injections, practicing intradermal injections using saline solution on one another, and actively using medical terminology. As skills progress, students will participate in a mock clinic in February that will provide a variety of scenarios to troubleshoot.



**Applications for the 2024-2025 school year open in February!**

[LEARN MORE](#)





## Sueños Updates

The [Sueños Program](#) supports teenagers and young adults (ages 16 to 24) develop workplace skills that will prepare them to enter and thrive in an increasingly competitive labor market. Sueños is a Santa Cruz County Office of Education (SCCOE) program in partnership with the Workforce Development Board of Santa Cruz County.

### Welcome Josh!

The Sueños program welcomed a new Work Experience Specialist, Josh Lewis, to the team. Josh brings to the program valuable experience working with youth and young adults in the Watsonville community. While he enjoys helping others and giving back to his community, when not working, Josh loves to spend his time traveling, shopping, and going on nature walks. Josh is looking forward to continuing to support youth with their academic, career, and employment goals.



## Health Science Career Cluster Academy

Prior to winter break, Sueños participants completed the 3-week Health Science Career Cluster Academy. Participants were introduced to careers in Health Science while also experiencing opportunities to explore those careers further through various activities. Youth participated in job shadows, a career panel and developed a Roadmap to their dream job. Not only do participants get exposure to career opportunities they might have not considered before, but they also earn a \$150 incentive for completing the academy.



Sueños offers Career Cluster Academies in the following in-demand industry sectors:

- Architecture & Construction
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

If you or someone you know is interested, applications can be completed in person or using the link below.

[Sueños Pre-Screening Application](#)

Sueños Office Hours:

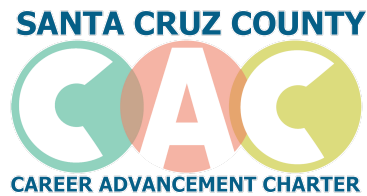
9:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m

Monday through Friday

229 Green Valley Rd. Freedom, CA 95019

(831) 466-5672

## CAC Updates



[The Career Advancement Charter \(CAC\)](#) is an Independent Study program for adult learners to earn their high school diploma while gaining academic and technical skills that will lead to college and career readiness.



### Winter Graduation:

The CAC is happy to announce that in January 36 students graduated with their high school diploma. Family and friends gathered in the Sequoia Schools gym to celebrate the graduates. Dr. Manuel Bersamin, former mayor of Watsonville and current director of the [TRiO program at Hartnell College](#), was the keynote speaker. It was a joy to see the graduates walk and their families celebrate this milestone.





In an effort to better serve our students, the CAC is now implementing a new registration process. New students attend an in person orientation designed to inform new students of all the services and community partnerships that the CAC offers. Orientation is intended to help students be successful from day 1 and beyond.

### **Welcome CAC New Teacher:**

As our CAC program continues to expand, Jennifer Proffitt is helping to serve Independent Study students in our Santa Cruz location. Jennifer is a wonderful addition to our team. She emphasizes human development, prioritizing the developmental needs of her adult students in addition to their academic competency. Jennifer is also hoping to start ESL courses in the Santa Cruz office. She also hopes to contribute to diversity, equity, and inclusion work happening at COE.

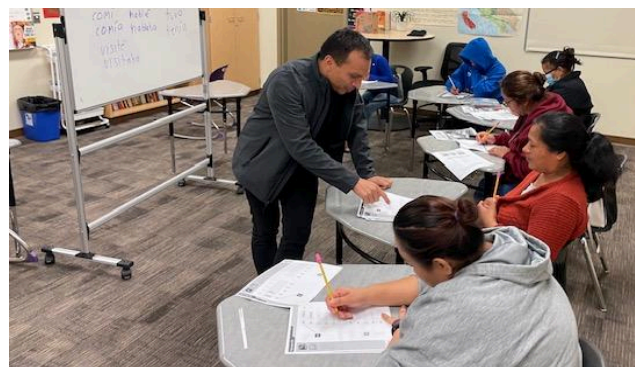
### **ESL Evening Classes:**

We continue to offer English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to CAC students and community members. ESL classes are offered every Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at Sequoia Schools. The advanced level ESL class takes place every Wednesday, and the beginning level ESL class every Thursday. Upon enrollment, students will take an evaluation for placement into a level.



### **Plazas Comunitarias:**

The CAC is proud to continue to partner with Watsonville Public Library (WPL), INEA (Instituto Nacional para la Educación de los Adultos), and the Mexican consulate to offer free basic skills education classes in Spanish. This Spanish literacy program is known as Plaza Comunitaria. Plaza Comunitaria classes help adult learners who have immigrated from a Spanish-speaking country finish or begin their elementary or secondary education in Spanish. In addition, interested students develop the skills necessary to pass high school equivalency exams (GED) in Spanish or to enroll in the CAC as a high school student to earn a high school diploma. Classes are offered at Sequoia Schools in Freedom every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Classes are also offered at the Watsonville Public Library (main branch) every Monday and Wednesday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information or to enroll call 831-750-5053 or 831-768-3410.



The CAC program partners with the Probation and Corrections Department of Santa Cruz County to support those taking steps to fulfill their high school education. The Probation Success Center or PSC are places where high school teachers offer math, computer literacy, and English classes along with 1-1 tutoring for students to prepare for high school equivalency exams. Students can choose either path for achievement and receive credits towards their high school diploma as they study. The Independent Study program is an integral part since most clients are also using the PSC for other resources such as job searching, counseling, parenting courses, and more.

### **Evening Child Care:**

In an effort to support our adult learner parents, we offer childcare services two days a week. Our childcare operates from 4pm-7pm and accommodates newborn children and children up to five years of age. Our caregivers engage with the children in a variety of learning and enrichment activities.



### Adult Learning Enrichment Opportunities:

All students enrolled in the CAC have the opportunity to participate in a variety of evening courses, ranging from Culinary Arts, hands-on math tutoring, ESL support classes, and film analysis and discussion activities. CAC students also have the option to pursue Dual Enrollment or non-credit career education classes at Cabrillo College. Additionally, we are pleased to share that we continue to offer work-readiness and job skills certification opportunities to our students through Certiport.



[LEARN MORE](#)



The [BACCC](#) comprises 28 colleges and their framework is to facilitate, collaborate, plan, manage, communicate, and inform their local education agencies (LEA's) about career education programs. It creates career pathways through collaborations with the K12 and Adult Education Consortia partners to prepare students for high-demand, livable wages.

### Feb 2-4 [Startup Factory Monterey Bay](#): Connect with other creators!

A great place to connect with passionate people driven to build something new. There is no better place to meet new friends, colleagues, mentors, cofounders, and investors. CSU-Monterey Bay.

### [Receive a Scholarship to Earn a Certificate!](#)

*Regional Equity Recovery Program with Workforce Santa Cruz County*  
Scholarships for the following Certificates at Cabrillo:

- IT Institute
- Phlebotomy
- Culinary Arts
- Entry Level Construction
- Basic Construction
- Community Health Worker





## Vision 2030

Collaborative effort between CA Community Colleges, the Governor's Office, and K12 Educators. Strong emphasis on Career Education / CTE. [Learn more here](#)



## February is CTE Month!

This is a public awareness campaign, hosted by ACTE and sponsored by National Association of Home Builders, that takes place each February to celebrate CTE, the accomplishments of CTE programs and the importance of CTE for all students of all ages. You can use [these resources](#) to help generate positive awareness of CTE!



## Educating for Careers Conference

3-5 March 2024

For Middle School, Secondary, and Post-Secondary & Adult Ed Teachers, Counselors, Administrators, & Industry Partners in Sacramento



## Dual Enrollment Opportunities Grant

Link opens:  
1 February  
2024

- \$100,000 across four years
- Stipends for teachers/counselors to do pathway development & curriculum
- Money for marketing
- Really is something that you want to start a project and then be able to sustain it on your own later



For more information about CALS, please visit our [website](#).