

Spotlight

**Building Careers with Internships,
Job Shadowing and more**

**Students meet with
New York Legislators**

**Register now for Summer
Career Exploration Programs**



Para leer esto en español, vaya a www.esboces.org/spotlight

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Enroll Now for Summer Career Exploration Programs



Students ages 13 to 15 can register now to attend the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Summer Career Exploration Program. Students will explore potential careers by participating in three weeks of project-based introductory courses at one of the three ESBOCES Career and Technical Centers.

Dates: July 10 - July 27, Monday - Thursday

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Locations: Bellport, Oakdale, and Riverhead

Course Offerings: Culinary Arts, Automotive Technology, Cosmetology, Dog Care and Training, Welding, Introduction to Computer Science and Coding, and Carpentry.

To register, call 631-369-7567 or for additional information, call 631-286-6535.

Also Enrolling... Summer Pre-Employment Transition Services Program

Special needs students ages 14 to 21 can explore careers and gain workplace readiness skills in the Summer Pre-ETS Program.

Dates: July 10 - July 20

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

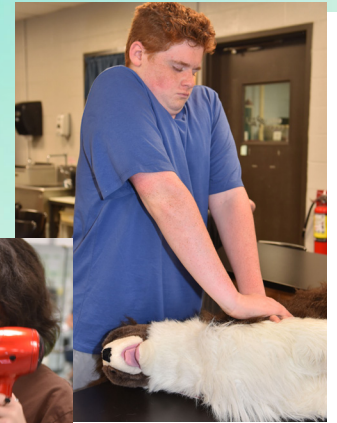
Locations: Bellport and Riverhead

Program Description: The Pre-ETS Summer Program is funded by a five-year grant from the NYS Education Department's ACCES-VR Program. ACCES-VR's goal is to assist individuals with disabilities in achieving and maintaining employment and to support independent living. Students will participate in job exploration counseling, instruction in self-advocacy, counseling on post-secondary options, workplace readiness training, and work-based learning. Students will sample career options including Culinary Arts, Animal Science, Health Careers, and Automotive.

Criteria for students:

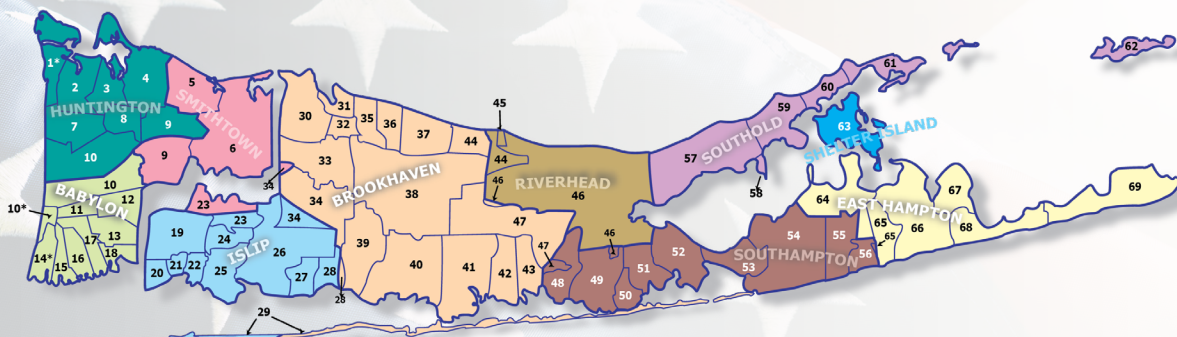
- Be between the ages of 14-21
- Have a documented disability
- Enrolled in an educational program
- Not currently receiving services from ACCES-VR
- Current ESBOCES student or Eastern Suffolk resident

Contact 631-286-6520 for more information or to register.



Who Represents YOUR District?

The School District Delegate Facemap is a comprehensive and easy-to-view list of lawmakers for every school district, town, and county on Long Island. You can download or print the map from the ESBOCES website at www.esboces.org/DelegateFacemap.



FEOP Expands Services and Partnerships

ESBOCES Family Education Outreach Programs (FEOP) assists students ages two to 22 who are children of migratory agricultural workers, homeless, unaccompanied youth, or live below the poverty line. Headquartered at Roanoke House in Riverhead, FEOP provides supplementary educational and advocacy services to qualifying students at no cost to school districts.

Since September 2022, FEOP has enrolled 75 new students, bringing total current enrollment to 350 from across Long Island and into New York City. Several programs have been enhanced and created to serve these students.



- Preschoolers enrolled in FEOP can attend a Bilingual Early Childhood Program at Roanoke House or participate virtually in a “Story Time” Program for students in **Greenport UFSD**, **Mattituck-Cutchogue UFSD**, and **Southold UFSD**. Books, art supplies, and snacks are dropped off weekly at each virtual participant’s home.
- An after-school homework club has been established at Riverhead Middle School for 7th and 8th graders. The club meets every Monday and a bilingual special education teacher and teacher assistants help students with homework, as well as with vocabulary, social skills, and more.
- An Out-Of-School Youth Program is offered on Friday evenings at Roanoke House. Tutor advocates help 17 to 22-year-old students learn English and gain life skills.
- Full-time bilingual FEOP staff and tutors are working within **Mattituck Cutchogue UFSD**, **Riverhead CSD**, and **Southold UFSD**. FEOP works with school staff to schedule individual students and groups for their sessions throughout the school day.
- More than 100 families were supported throughout the 2022 holiday season with food, clothing, and toy donations to FEOP.
- In a new partnership between FEOP, Riverhead High School, and Suffolk County Community College, ENL (English as a New Language) students spent the day at the SCCC Eastern Campus in Riverhead. Students received a bilingual overview of programs available to them while in high school and when they graduate.

To find out more, visit www.esboces.org/feop.

Work Experience Coordinators Help Build Careers



Providing hands-on Career and Technical Education in classrooms taught by industry professionals is only part of the Academy's formula for career-building success. Another key component involves work-based learning opportunities in students' many fields of interest.

Each of the three Academy technical centers, and the ESBOCES facility that provides Special Career Education training, all have a work experience coordinator on staff. These professionals serve as the bridges between our teachers and our business partners out in the field. They arrange everything from internships, to work site tours, to job shadowing experiences, to guest speakers who visit classrooms.

Approximately 2,100 students attend Academy CTE programs each year, and more than 500 attend the ESBOCES Special Career Education (SCE) Program, which provides skills training to students with special education needs. Both programs work with our extensive network of approximately 500 business and industry partners to secure internship and job shadowing experiences. More than 1,200 students participated during the 22-23 school year.

Job shadowing, which is strictly observational, is ideal for students in the first year of a two-year CTE program when they don't yet have the skills to participate in hands-on capacities. Job shadowing introduces them to a deeper understanding of the workplace and the industry, while allowing for professional development.

Depending upon their level of need, Special Career Education students can attend internships with aides, and the goal of the entire experience could be to become job ready after high school, though many SCE students do graduate with credentialed skills in industries such as Automotive Repair, Auto Body, Welding, Computer Graphic Arts, and more.

"Some of our students participate in class internships where the entire class works at a local business, but the majority are engaged in individual internships," says Laurie Jessen, a coordinator who works in the SCE Program. "Many of my students get hired each year."



Work experience coordinators also provide an array of additional supports for students before they even begin an internship, such as teaching them how to conduct themselves during interviews and how to answer interview questions correctly. They also discuss interview attire, how to develop a resume, and even ask them how they are getting to scheduled interviews.

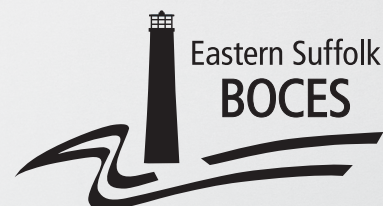
Says Carol Donohue, Academy work experience coordinator, "I ask them about transportation and if they haven't thought about it, I tell them, 'Maybe you should ask your mom before the interview and not the morning of.' Teenagers just don't think that way."

Having someone who works in this capacity is unique to the Academy and ESBOCES. Providing high school students with the opportunity to intern at local businesses in fields they are exploring allows them to see if this is truly the right fit for them, as well as experience the professional workplace for the first time.

"I think many times students have misconceptions about what it is to work and what it means to be in the field. When doing an internship, they often realize, 'Oh man, this is hard,'" explains Rob Van Brunt, program administrator for Career and Technical Education.

Coordinators vet all businesses that we partner with, and all internships meet NYS Education Department and NYS Department of Labor guidelines. Internship experience can also be applied to the New York State Regents diploma if the student successfully meets all requirements.

To learn more, contact Rob Van Brunt at Rvanbrun@esboces.org or 631-419-1628.



Building a Village

Making inroads into the community and opening up dialogue among parents, school staff, and administration takes work. The Parent-Family Advisory Council (PFAC) is actively engaged in achieving that goal.

The council was launched three years ago to empower families of students by providing them with a platform to be seen and heard, as well as share their ideas with agency leaders and staff. Membership is open to families of current students and to former students who have attended any ESBOCES or Academy program.

Membership has tripled since its inception in 2020. To date, PFAC accomplishments include ensuring that the agency engaged a translation service during its meetings, which are virtual due to the great distance that the agency covers (from West Islip to Montauk, including Fire Island and Fishers Island), and reviewing the ESBOCES student code of conduct to simplify language. Agency leadership is currently reviewing recommended suggestions.

Moving forward, council members would like to develop more family engagement with their communities through the launch of interactive events that benefit the schools and students, while collaborating with students and staff from other agency programs.

For example, Patty Rojas, a founding council member who has a teenage daughter who attends Brookhaven Learning Center on the Bellport campus, envisions an event that involves her daughter's school, as well as Bixhorn Technical Center, the Career and Technical Education high school on the same campus. "I feel that the special education community is marginalized and that a community event that is collaborative would open up dialogue, which is necessary. It would create a common ground, be fun, and be a model of inclusivity."

"Everyone should be accepted and involved"

Starr Fuentes, a former student of Bixhorn Technical Center and current council member, feels that being a recent ESBOCES graduate gives her fresh ideas that can benefit today's students. Her short-term goal for the council includes bringing more inclusion into ESBOCES school buildings. "Everyone should be accepted and involved," she said. "I like seeing growth in all the different schools, the diversity, and the many positive changes being made."

For more information or to join the council, go to <https://tinyurl.com/PFAC-English> or <https://tinyurl.com/PFAC-Spanish>.

English



Spanish



Classroom

Here's a quick look inside our many educational programs, which consist of Career and

Art for Cancer Patients

Each year, Art, Design, and Visual Communications Teacher Talia Cliffe at Bixhorn Tech has her students decorate foam wig stands and then donate them to the Carol M. Baldwin Cancer Center at Stony Brook University Medical Center so they can be given to patients who will wear wigs due to treatment. Cliffe and her counterparts in a few other programs at Bixhorn Tech held a building-wide fundraiser to finance the purchase of the stands. Like many people, she has lost loved ones to cancer and is close to people who are currently battling it. "Doing just a little something that can help patients smile each day is a way of providing support and, hopefully, make these challenging times slightly more manageable," she said.



Pediatric Patients

At Milliken Tech, students in the Early Childhood Education Program and their preschool students merged with students in the Clinical Medical Assisting (CMA) Program. This event allowed CMA students to receive hands-on training with pediatric patients while allowing the preschoolers to get comfortable with a visit to the "doctor's office." Milliken Tech's Early Childhood Education Program features a preschool on the Oakdale campus, where students in the program are able to work with actual preschoolers.

Frog Dissection

The eighth grade Living Environment students in Kathryn Nicols' class at Jefferson Academic Center recently dissected a frog. Prior to the lab, students reviewed safety procedures and how to correctly use the different tools involved in the exercise. This lab provided students with a firsthand look at the different body systems of the frog and allowed them to observe its various organs. Students also compared the frog's anatomy to that of a human's to discern differences and similarities.



Happenings

Technical Education, Adult Education, Special Education, and Special Career Education.

Community Citizenship

Classroom teachers and staff at Westhampton Beach Learning Center create activities to accompany monthly, school-wide diversity, equity, and inclusivity themes. Leanne Raynor's class had a special guest for the community citizenship theme – their own Teaching Assistant Ana-Carolina Schaffauer. Schaffauer has been a volunteer firefighter for 18 years. The following month's theme was gratitude, and classes wrote letters to community members expressing their appreciation for what they do to help their communities.

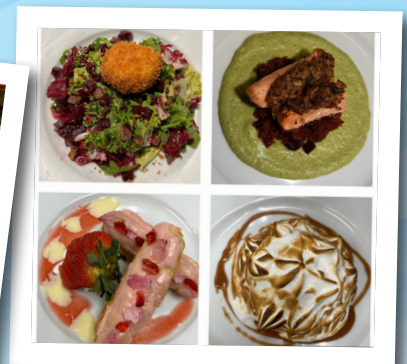


Hobo Style

Some things never go out of style, such as professional sewing skills. That said, take a look at the patchwork hobo bags made by the Fashion, Merchandising, and Design students in Amelia Berry's class at Bixhorn Tech. Students learned to create their own mishmash patterns (FYI, these bags are reversible and include fresh designs on the inside), and to use an industrial sewing machine. Pretty impressive for a first try!

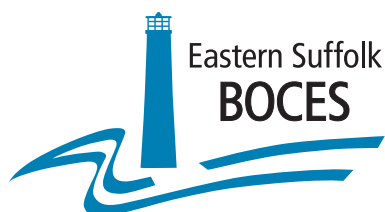
Collaborative Event

Fine dining was provided by Ward Tech Culinary and Food Prep classes at the 19th Annual Executive Briefing held on February 15, 2023. An extensive menu was available at the event for school board members and superintendents of schools from ESBOCES component school districts. Students prepared, plated, and served all of the food. Islip Career Center's Horticulture classes provided the centerpieces for each table.



Student Advocacy

SkillsUSA members from the Bixhorn Technical Center attended the 19th Annual Longwood Legislative Breakfast on Saturday, February 4, at Longwood Middle School in Middle Island. SkillsUSA is a national CTE student leadership organization, and Bixhorn students came to represent ESBOCES and show their support for Career and Technical Education. Student Mason Euceda addressed a panel of LI-based legislative officials by asking, before a crowd of public education administrators, if they supported increasing the aid for districts when their students attend a BOCES CTE program.



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BOCES**

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