

## Auto Collision & Refinishing 2009—2010

*In today's world, automotive technicians are self motivated problem solvers, committed to a life time of continuing education including I-CAR training and ASE certification. Top technicians in the Baltimore-Washington area can earn between \$90K to \$120K a year; well above the national average. These top salaries require a person who can direct the efforts of others, complete complex alignments, and ensure quality of product throughout the repair process. There has never been a better time to be considering a career in Collision Repair/Refinishing. There is a shortage of qualified technicians and as the average age of technicians continues to rise, these skills will become even more valuable in the future.*



One of four recessed Car-O-Liners with mechanical measuring systems



# SkillsUSA®

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## Collision Repair & Automotive Refinishing



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## Opportunities for Training in Anne Arundel Co. Public Schools

## Collision Repair/Refinishing

Collision Repair and Refinishing are ASE/Natef certified, training programs offering students opportunities to earn I-CAR Gold Class Points and a welding qualification while attending CATN. Both are full year programs utilizing the I-CAR live curriculum, which requires two years to complete. At the end of the second year, students typically choose to enter a work-study program where they receive credit towards graduation while continuing to develop their hands-on skills.

First-year students take nine weeks (1 quarter) of collision and nine weeks of refinishing before selecting one as a career path. Students are expected to maintain a "B" average and those students with the highest average have priority if one program becomes full. In their first quarter of collision, students will learn basic safety, principles of metal straightening, and the application and finishing of body fillers. In their first quarter of refinishing, students will learn basic safety, the operation of downdraft spray booths, and spray gun operation and maintenance.

### Collision Repair

Students who choose to specialize in collision repair complete their first year of training becoming proficient with bolted-on panel replacement and composite body panel repair. In year two,



students learn MIG welding, estimating, welded panel replacement, stationary glass replacement, frame measurement and structural repair. At the end of the program, students typically enter the workforce or continue their education in college or a trade school.

### Refinishing

Students specializing in refinishing complete their first year learning correct spray gun techniques and the application of primers and sealers. Level two students will develop skills in application and preparation procedures for base-coat, clears, and three stage finishes. They will also learn about the science of color theory and apply the information to tinting and matching the color of a vehicle. By the end of the program a student should be able to enter the workforce or continue their education through a college or trade school.

### Shop Operation and Management

Level 2 students are involved in all facets of shop operation and management through hands-on experience with customer work. Students will serve in various capacities as shop managers, estimators, technicians and office staff in scheduling, ordering parts, invoicing, and contacting customers. Customer work entering CATN is for the benefit of student learning and work will be accepted to meet the needs of the learning environment and pace of the individual students.



### I-CAR Gold Class Points

The I-car live curriculum incorporated in our program allows students to earn I-Car Gold Class points by demonstrating their knowledge at the end of each unit. Students who pass these unit tests with a score of 70% and purchase the unit disc from I-Car (\$10.50 per disc) will receive recognition through I-Car for this training. An additional \$20.00 for each unit is required to register these points, however our business partners have agreed to pay the cost of registration and reimburse students for

the cost of the discs after 6 months of employment. Collision repair students can earn up to 11 points including 4 for passing the I-Car Welding Qualification. Refinishing students are eligible to earn a total of seven points.

### Skills USA

All students in both collision and refinishing participate in our local skills competitions. Winners of this competitions compete at the regional, state, and the national level. In the past 10 years, CATN collision/refinishing students have won at the regional level 10 times, at the state level 8 times and placed within the top ten at the national level 6 times.

### Job Shadowing

Collision and refinishing students participate in two week long shadowing experiences at local business partner locations. During each of these week long experiences, students have an opportunity to gain first-hand experience in working as an entry level technicians helper. This affords students an opportunity to work at two different organizations before beginning work-study and often students are offered positions with these organizations as a result. Parents are expected to make arrangements for these shadowing experiences, one in March and one in April of the level 2 year.

### Company Affiliations

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many business partners who participate in our program in 2008. We would like to offer special thanks to the following companies: Academy Ford, ACI Inc., ACT Inc., Anderson's Body Shop, Apple Ford, Arbutis Body Shop, Brown's Honda, Brown's Toyota, JBA Chevrolet, Koons Toyota, Mile One Collision Centers, Middleton and Meade Truck Centers, Mussleman's Auto and Truck Center, O'Donnell Honda, Pie's Collision Centers, Superior Auto Paints, True-2-Form Collision Centers, and Wilkens Buick.