

Heavy Equipment Mechanics program moves from West Tech to Palm Beach State's Belle Glade campus

It is among five certificate programs offered at the campus that do not require a high school diploma or GED.

(Belle Glade, Fla. – May 21, 2013) Students in the Glades studying to become diesel and heavy equipment mechanics are now getting their training on Palm Beach State College's Belle Glade campus.

The College has moved its [Heavy Equipment Mechanics](#) program from West Tech Educational Center, a Palm Beach County school district facility, to the Technical Education Center on campus. The move, made in time for the summer classes, brings together all of the campus' postsecondary adult vocational (PSAV) certificate programs.



"It's a real plus to have everyone in one place. With the PSAV programs on campus, (students) have easier access to the resources if they're taking some other classes. They can use some of the labs as well," said Dr. Barry Moore, dean of educational services. "Sometimes students may be a little apprehensive about going to an off-site facility. People tend to be attracted to a crowd. They know where the campus is. The (TEC) building is the forefront of the campus."

Before the 33,982-square-foot Technical Education Center opened in 2010, several of the College's other PSAV programs also were housed at West Tech. The Heavy Equipment Mechanics program, which prepares students for employment in areas such as bus, truck and diesel engine mechanics, mobile heavy equipment mechanics and construction equipment mechanics, is among five PSAV programs offered at the Belle Glade campus that do not require students to have a high school diploma or GED to enroll. The others are: **Cosmetology, Welding, Nails Technician and Facials Specialty**. The programs are designed to prepare students to go directly to work in areas where job opportunities exist.

For more information about these PSAV programs or to explore other educational programs offered at Palm Beach State, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu.

Serving 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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Media contact:

Tabatha B. McDonald
College Relations and Marketing Specialist
561-868-3127

Editor's note: Contact College Relations and Marketing for high-resolution photos of the Technical Education Center.