

Computer-Based Accounting

Program Profile

Computer based accounting leads to well-paid, responsible positions in a field where good accounting personnel are always in demand. Graduates can begin their careers in an accounting office doing bookkeeping, accounting, accounts receivable, accounts payable or payroll. With experience, many professionals in accounting are then able to transition into self-employment using their skills as independent bookkeepers, QuickBook experts, or tax specialists. Some even start their own companies.

The Computer Based Accounting Certificate of Completion Program prepares students for financial careers as bookkeeping, accounting, payroll, accounts payable, and accounts receivable clerks.

In addition to developing a solid understanding of business operations and accounting fundamentals, students will learn the most popular computerized accounting software, currently, QuickBooks and MS Dynamics GP (Great Plains). Hands-on computer training will include the most commonly used business software including word processing (MS Word), spreadsheet (MS Excel), time management and email (MS Outlook), web browser (Internet Explorer), and operating system (Windows). Students will learn how to integrate these applications.

Accounting projects and scenarios are incorporated into the program. Knowledge and skills essential to employment including professional skills, business communication, keyboarding, ten-key, business math and employment skills will be taught. All skills acquired are applied in the financial office simulation course, and finally used on the job in a real office during your internship.



What is the Bright Future Program?

The Bright Future program was established in 1999. Through the Bright Future Program, high school seniors and juniors may enter one of eleven different advanced professional and technical programs at Seattle Vocational Institute and Seattle Central Community College. Students are dually enrolled and credits earned in their program count towards their high school diploma as well. In addition, students receive comprehensive academic and career counseling, paid internship opportunities, and financial support from Bright Future Dollars for Scholars. For more information please call us at 206-587-6304.



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2120 South Jackson Street, Seattle, WA 98144
206-587-4950
<http://sviweb.sccd.ctc.edu>

Bright Future Update

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Director's Corner:

By Reza Khastou

WHAT STUDENTS WANT



A large group of our high school students are screaming, kicking, and trying to communicate a message to us. Every day their actions tell us that they don't like what we are selling to them as education. When we ask them about it in our annual surveys they tell us in plain English, but we either ignore them or do the exact opposite of what they are asking for. For example, according to the March 2006 report "the Silent Epidemic Perspective of High School Dropouts" 47 percent of students said a major reason for dropping out of school was that classes were not interesting. And, 69 percent said that they were not motivated or inspired to work hard. These findings and data are not new.

Seattle Public Schools contracted the National Drop Out Prevention Center at Clemson University to conduct a review of selected alternative education programs in Seattle Public Schools. The authors submitted a 15 point recommendation list upon completion of the study. Among their recommendations to the District were the following:

- individualized instruction
- career/apprenticeship activities and small school models
- personalized/individualized attention to student needs
- career counseling
- active learning programs

In the last nine years approximately one third of the Bright Future students came from alternative high schools. With our integration of cohesive, community-college based vocational education we make education meaningful and challenging. We have already been doing what this study says to do plus a lot more. With our comprehensive case management, paid internship opportunities, and financial help from Bright Future Dollars for Scholars foundation we have created a village around those students who need it. The results have been consistently fantastic. For example 91% of our students either graduated from high school or are still enrolled.

We don't need to go to the East Coast and hire a company to come here and solve our problems (as suggested by the consultants). One thing Seattle Public Schools can do is embrace the Bright Future Program and fully support us in reaching out to more students who can benefit from the services we provide. We care about our District and the students we serve.

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WHAT IS BRIGHT FUTURE?

Health Careers for Youth (HCY) Grant

Last Spring Seattle Vocational Institute, Seattle Central C.C., and the Bright Future Program in partnership with the Seattle Youth Employment Program (SYEP) received a grant from Workforce Development Council of Seattle King County and Washington State Hospital Association. Health Careers for Youth grant's mission is "to make education and employment in health care careers more accessible to underrepresented youth, including bilingual youth of color".

Last summer, eighteen high school junior and senior students from ten high schools entered the program. These students took two classes, Orientation to College and Fundamentals of Health Care, at Seattle Central C.C. In addition, Seattle Vocational Institute provided the Nursing Assistant Basic Core, which included 86 hours of didactics and pre clinical learning and 56 hours in-clinic training. We are proud and happy to report that all eighteen students completed all their classes successfully and are waiting to take their certification test.

To provide further college education and training in preparation for Health Care professions, during the 07-08 school year, these students will take coursework such as college English and math, medical terminology, psychology, biology, and anatomy and physiology. For students who did not place in English 101, this grant will provide the cost of tuition, fees, and books for courses below 100 level. This fall (2007), 15 students are taking courses at four campuses of Seattle Community Colleges and Highline C.C.



Graduate Profile

Eric Butler

Eric Butler graduated from Nathan Hale High School in June of 2004, one full year ahead of schedule. When we first met Eric, he was a very discouraged learner. Despite being bright and highly skilled in computers, Eric had lost interest in school and was planning on dropping out as soon as he turned 16 and then working toward getting a GED instead of a diploma.

When he applied to the Bright Future program for entrance into the Network Technician (NT) program Eric wrote: "...I am applying because I am interested in furthering my current skills in the computer technology field. I am looking forward to the independence of the program, mainly the ability to be able to go at my own pace, and being encouraged to excel at work I enjoy. I also believe...(that) this will prepare me for jobs in the real world after I graduate."

Eric came to class every day and excelled in the NT program. He was offered a job immediately upon completion of the program. The credits he earned helped him graduate from high school early and he was able to put his skills to work in a satisfying job.

Today Eric is working as a software developer at a local dot com company and earns enough money to live in his own apartment on Capital Hill. Eric's future plans include owning his own software business one day. But for now, he is enjoying his independence and continuing to grow and learn in the technology field.



Performance Report

Fall 1999- Summer 2007 - 183 Students Served

Demographics

Female students	123	67%
Students of color	158	86%
Special Education	20	11%
At risk students	100	55%
ESL students	23	13%
Teen mothers	18	10%
Total	183	

HS Completion Rate

H.S. Grad.	141	77%
Still active	26	14%
Incomplete	6	3%
Unknown	10	5%
Total	183	

Performance at SVI

Completed Program	107	58%
Still active	21	11%
Incomplete	55	30%
Total	183	

SVI Program Graduates

Medical Assistant	23
Dental Assistant	23
Medical Office Administration	1
Acute Care Hospital Nursing Assistant	2
Certified Nursing Assistant	18
Health Unit Coordinator	3
Network Technician	5
Computer Information Processing	6
Computer Based Accounting	1
Administrative Office Professional	5
Cosmetology	12
Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship	6
Carpentry	2
Total Students	107

Students/School

Roosevelt	69
Marshall	32
South Lake	18
Cleveland	14
Interagency	8
Garfield	6
Ballard	6
Middle College	3
Nathan Hale	3
Summit	3
YEP	1
Rainier Beach	4
NOVA	1
Franklin	4
West Seattle	2
Ingraham	4
ETC	1
Vashon Island	1
Black River	1
Mt. Rainier	1
Seattle Academy	1
Total	183

Bright Future Program Graduation Rate By High School 1999-2007

High School Served	Number of Bright Future Participants to Date	Number of Coursework Hours Completed at SVI and SCCC	SVI Graduation Rates for Bright Future Students 1999-2007	High School Graduation Rates For Bright Future Students	School District High School Graduation Rates by High School	% of Overall High School Graduation Rates for Seattle Public Schools
Marshall 1999-2007	32	30,553	59% 7% still enrolled at SVI	88%	04: 25.6% 05: 14.7% 06: 7.7%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 60.6%
Roosevelt 2000-2007	58	50,577	69% 3% still enrolled at SVI	97%	04: 92.5% 05: 89.6% 06: 84.1%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 60.6%
South Lake 2001-2007	15	12,618	53% 7% still enrolled at SVI	93%	04: 32.7% 05: 54.0% 06: 28.6%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 60.6%
Cleveland 2003-2007	12	11,949	58% 9% still enrolled at SVI	67%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 65.4%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 60.6%
Garfield 2001-2007	4	1,980	60% 20% still enrolled at SVI	100%	04: 92.6% 05: 89.4% 06: 89.3%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 60.6%
Interagency 2005-2007	7	6,340	43% 43% still enrolled at SVI	100%	04: 23.3% 05: 19.3% 06: 15.5%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 60.6%
Ballard 2004-2007	6	6,590	50% 17% still enrolled at SVI	100%	04: 90.8% 05: 88.6% 06: 83.5%	04: 63.8% 05: 64.4% 06: 60.6%
Others 2 or less students each	13	6,590	23% 23% still enrolled at SVI	69%, 8% still enrolled at SVI		