



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

Advanced-Engineering—Project Lead The Way (PLTW) has developed a four-year sequence of courses which, when combined with college preparatory mathematics and science courses in high school, introduces students to the scope, rigor and discipline of engineering and engineering technology prior to entering college.

Students in accredited high schools may receive recognition as exemplary students if they have an 85 percent or higher in each PLTW course, have achieved a 70 percent or higher on the college credit examination, and have completed a portfolio for each PLTW course. Students then may use these credentials to obtain a total of 15 college transcribed credits at a variety of colleges nationwide, including UMBC and the Rochester Institute of Technology.

To complete the Montgomery County Public Schools PLTW Career Pathway Program (CPP), students must earn five credits from the following list:

Courses	Course Codes	Status
Introduction to Engineering Design A/B (IED) <i>MSDE-approved Technology Education Credit</i>	5152/5153	Required
Principles of Engineering A/B (POE) Advanced Level—Algebra I prerequisite (available in PLTW high schools FY 2009; all high schools FY 2010) <i>MSDE-approved Technology Education Credit</i>	5150/5151	Required
Digital Electronics A/B (DE)	5156/5157	Required
Computer Integrated Manufacturing A/B (CIM)	5154/5155	Optional
Civil Engineering and Architecture A/B (CEA)	4255/4256	Optional
Aerospace Engineering A/B (ASE)	5721/5722	Optional
Engineering Design and Development A/B (EDD)	5158/5159	Required

Providing an engineering CPP at the high school level allows students, while still in high school, to determine if this field is something they want to pursue in college. Students participating in PLTW courses are five times more likely to earn a college engineering degree than students who did not complete a PLTW CPP (*PLTW 2008*).

MCPS PLTW High Schools	PLTW FY09 Course Offerings
Col. Zadok Magruder HS	POE, IED, CIM, ASE, DE, EDD
Paint Branch HS	POE, IED, DE, CEA
Poolesville HS	POE, IED, DE, CEA
Rockville HS	POE, IED, DE,
Watkins Mill HS	POE, IED, CIM, DE, EDD
Walt Whitman HS	POE, IED, CIM, CEA, DE
Wheaton HS	POE, IED, CIM, CEA, DE, EDD
Thomas Edison High School of Technology (Pending Approval)	DE, CIM

Understanding that another key to success is awareness, PLTW makes a concerted effort to inform school counselors through counselor conferences, brochures, and videotapes about the benefits of the program, including the wide array of technology careers available to students who enter the field upon graduation from high school and college.