



MAT² IT Program Overview

1. Program Overview

- Graduates receive:
 - Advanced Computer Information Systems (CIS) Associates Degree from Oakland Community College.
 - A DOL Apprentice Certificate (dependent upon company involvement).
- This competency-based program is delivered over **3 years** with alternating 8-week school periods and 8-week work periods.
 - School and work periods alternate, with a **focus on school in Year 1, a balance between the periods in Year 2, and a focus on work periods in Year 3.**
 - Students will progress beyond entry level positions while in the program, and will select an area of specialization in year 3
- Practica will require students to *demonstrate* skill mastery after each school period.
- Students are placed in cohorts of approximately 15.

Students in this program are able to attain a wide variety of skills in the vast IT profession, while specializing in a particular field by the time they graduate into full time employment. MAT² IT technicians will utilize cutting-edge skills across software development, infrastructure, and IT security. Graduates will be competent in the technical, business, and customer areas of the IT industry, and will be able to successfully navigate and adapt to the dynamic technology landscape.

The MAT² IT Program is also partnering with Grand Circus in Detroit. Students will be able to take free seminars and workshops throughout the duration of their participation. Grand Circus will also host a MAT² IT cohort celebration with career development programming every 6 months. In addition to this Grand Circus will match students with professional tech mentors in the industry including Google, companies on the Madison Block, and prominent organizations in the Detroit Area.

2. Curriculum Overview

The MAT² IT Program offers a standard curriculum and is developed, evaluated, and updated in conjunction with the participating industry partners including Secure 24 and ZF Associates. The curriculum represents a new type of IT education, going beyond the usual, highly specialized associates' degree or certificate programs, to encompass a wide range of skills evolving technology landscape. The MAT² IT program provides a unique approach, allowing students to develop beyond entry-level positions as they move through the program, while eventually choosing an area of specialization in one of three tracks: **Software, IT Security, or Business/Management**. All MAT² IT technicians will be able to install, troubleshoot, maintain and update technologies, and communicate to both internal and external customers. The progression of skills will allow students to move through and grow beyond entry-level positions. Then, by the end of the program become dynamic employees who are not only specialized in the field most needed to their employers, but also have a background knowledge to understand various aspects of their employer's business.