

Southeast Tech
Approval of Technical Studies Program
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose:

To provide the School Board with an overview of the AAS in Technical Studies program requesting to be offered.

In 2016, the State Board of Technical Education approved each of the four Technical Institutes to offer an AAS in Technical Studies program. Southeast Tech has not previously offered the program and would like to start to offer the AAS degree to students who have completed a diploma or approved certificate program. The AAS degree program will require additional general education course and a customized mix of general and technical coursework and the degree will lead to increased marketability, career advancement and potential of increased earnings for graduates. Many individuals in South Dakota are underemployed due to a lack of formal credentials. The Technical Studies AAS degree program will provide the upskilling opportunity these workers need by offering a core of general education courses, a core of general technical courses, and credit for a diploma or certificate that have been completed.

Administrative Recommendation to School Board:

Approval to add the Technical Studies AAS degree as a new academic program.