The Anoka Technical College Welding Technology diploma is a 34-credit program (the 34 total credits include 17 credits from the Basic Welding certificate) specifically designed to develop exceptional welding skills utilizing the major welding processes that are vital to industry.

The Welding Technology diploma integrates theory with technical skills. Through the rigorous curriculum, students will develop fundamental knowledge of GMAW, GTAW, SMAW and Oxy fuel welding processes. Blueprint and math ability are incorporated in the coursework. Students will also learn metal comprehension, industry safety practices and related equipment applications.

This program requires students to go full-time each semester students are required to take all courses.

### Program Learning Outcomes
- Students will weld to visual acceptance criteria per applicable American Welding Society standards in Gas Tungsten Arc Welding, Gas Metal Arc Welding and the Shielded Metal Arc Welding process.
- Students will prepare weld joints and perform welding operations using welding symbol information.
- Students will follow established procedures and policies regarding personal protective gear, shop safety and welding equipment.
- Students will visually examine all work for discontinuities and defects with the knowledge of industry specification.
- Students will work in a team environment and accept constructive criticism.
- Students will operate safely and proficiently using Oxy-fuel, Plasma and Carbon Air Arc equipment.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to weld to entry level standard per American Welding Society on carbon steel, stainless steel and aluminum.

### Industry and Career Outlook
The diversification of the welding industry impacts virtually every industry around the globe. From the depth of the world’s oceans to the far-reaching corners of outer space, there is a welding position for every hardworking, ambitious, smart individual who is ready and willing to constantly improve and strive for excellence. A career choice in welding offers a vast array of options for employment and continuing personal development. Welding is the most common way to permanently join metal parts. Heat is applied to the pieces that are being joined, melting and fusing them together which forms a permanent bond. Therefore, welding plays a key role in industry production lines, laboratories, research and development, national defense, sales and service, NASCAR and drag racing, custom motorcycle building, artwork, sculptures, pipelines, power plants, refineries, construction, maintenance, repair and much more.

Wage information is available from the Minnesota Department of Education and Economic Development.