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**FOREST TECHNICIAN PROGRAM  
PANOLA COLLEGE CARTHAGE TEXAS**

The Forest Technician Program is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to enable them to function as forestry aid or forest technicians; performing a variety of activities in the natural resource fields. Students that successfully complete the program will be awarded a Certificate of Completion. These individuals will find a variety of jobs awaiting them with pulp and paper companies, lumber companies, state forestry commissions, federal forest agencies, federal and state parks, surveyors, forestry consultants, private timber buyers and loggers, utility maintenance companies, and numerous other private, state and federal agencies.

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Students 18 and older who did not finish high school will be admitted only by G.E.D. Students having graduated from high school will be admitted as regular students. There is no upper age limit on enrollment. The forestry program **DOES NOT REQUIRE SAT, ACT or TASP**. Students with reading or math limitations are recommended to take remedial work before or during this course of study. Each student **MUST HAVE AN OFFICIAL COPY** of his/her high school or GED transcript on file at Panola College before the 4th day of the Trimester for the enrollment to be official.

**REGISTRATION**

There are three beginning dates per year. A new and complete class begins in early January, early May, and late August. Each class is three Trimesters in duration. Pre-registration for 24 students per class is accepted at any time prior to the first day of class. Registration is not complete until all forms have been filed in the Records Office and all monies paid in full to the Business Office. This is strictly on a first-come basis.

The tuition and fees for the full 12 month course are:

Panola county Texas residents.....	\$450.00
Other Texas counties and Louisiana residents.....	\$590.00
Other states and International.....	\$930.00

Residency is based on the individuals driver's license residency. Required books, supplies, and equipment for the 12 month program normally runs between \$500 and \$600. College Room and Board costs around \$2,600 per year (there is no school food services for the last part of May, all of June and July, and the first half of August). Forest Technician students are eligible for the same types of financial aid as academic students. Application of grants such as Pell Grants should be made at least two months in advance of enrollment.

**CURRICULUM**

Forest Technician Classes run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Approximately 47 weeks are used in the education program, leaving 5 weeks during the year for holidays. The educational process is highly compacted with approximately one-third of the training in the classroom (lecture) and the other two-thirds

in the field or laboratory in a hands-on situation. Several days of the field work is done under the actual direction of Timber Companies or Governmental Agencies to allow the student to get the feel of the job ahead. While time is allowed in the school day to finish most assignments; an estimated ten hours of outside study time is normally required weekly by the average student. For those students that are weak in various subject areas, the College does provide a tutorial lab; as well as remedial courses. The 1,878 training hours are divided into Trimesters and Courses as shown next. For completion of a Certificate, all courses must be passed with a 69.6 percent average or better.

**TRIMESTER I**

**INTRODUCTION TO FORESTRY** [96 hours; 65% field/lab work]. Survey of natural resources; historical development of conservation; key past and current legislation; terminology; agencies; jobs done by aides and technicians; current environmental issues; private and industrial forestry; governmental forestry.

**SILVICULTURE I - SILVICS** [174 hours; 65% field/lab work]. Basic forest science with those parts of botany, chemistry, zoology, ecology, soils, meteorology, physics, geology, and other sciences covered that technicians need to know to do their job.

**DENDROLOGY** [150 hours; 65% in field/lab work]. Identification of trees, shrubs, and vines of the local four state region. Knowledge of major timber species of North America; plant geography; and of the products and uses of these plants. Ability to use plant identification keys. Knowledge of the scientific names of plants.

**FOREST MATH** [60 hours] General math and the basic parts of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and statistics as needed by forest technicians to conduct their work. Parts are taught in an applied manner. Pocket calculator applications (A Casio scientific model is required). Percentage and Ratio and Proportion problems stressed.

**FOREST COMMUNICATIONS** [48 hours] Combines basic elements of reading, writing, and speech to enable the technician to communicate with work crews and bosses in daily work situations. Preparations of memos, resumes, reports, and business letters is stressed. Basic key board functions (Word Perfect) is introduced.

**FOREST BUSINESS MACHINES** [48 hours] Review and use of business machines used in forest operations is covered. Includes desk-top computers, pocket calculators, and various other machines and computer software.

**FOREST DRAFTING** [48 hours] The elements of neat and legible lettering along with the use of drafting tools for the preparation of figures, maps, and charts is stressed. Free-hand sketching and the elements of CAD (computer assisted drafting) are covered.

**TRIMESTER II**

**SILVICULTURE II** [181 hours; 65% field/lab work]. Applications of Silviculture through the study of reforestation, hardwood control, timber marking, prescribed burning, silvicultural prescriptions,