

Delta County Joint School District No. 50

JOINT WITH DELTA, GUNNISON, MONTROSE AND MESA COUNTIES

7655 2075 Road, Delta, Colorado 81416

Phone: 970-874-4438

Fax: 970-874-5744

H.B. 17-1258: Name Change

Delta Montrose Technical College to Technical College of the Rockies

Sponsored by Representatives Hamner and Willett, Senators Coram and Donovan

Delta Montrose Technical College is a public institution of higher education whose role and mission is to provide career and technical education. The college serves a vast region of West-Central Colorado including Delta, Montrose, Gunnison, Ouray, San Miguel, and Hinsdale counties. The college is governed by the Delta County School District.

The college was founded in 1977 and has delivered quality career programs from its main campus located 4 miles south of Delta for 40 years. The Council on Occupational Education nationally accredits Delta Montrose Technical College. In FY 2015-16 DMTC had a completion rate of 93%, a licensure rate of 97%, and a placement rate of 87% for its graduates. It is a high quality, high performing institution.

Traditionally, career programs have been difficult and expensive to deliver off-site because of classroom, laboratory, and equipment considerations. While some programs have been delivered throughout the region, the opportunities have been limited due to significant costs to the student and the college. However, the advancement of technology for distance delivery along with the K-12 system emphasis on industry certificates have driven the college to look into the broader service area for the delivery of its programs.

These outreach activities include:

1. An extended campus in Gunnison in partnership with Gunnison School District. The offerings include concurrent high school programs in Computer Aided Drafting and Cosmetology. Adult classes will begin in the Fall of 2017 with Nursing Assistant and EMT classes.
2. New technology in our EMT program that allows course delivery into rural fire stations and other first responder sites throughout the service area. Hybrid, on line-classes are currently being offered in Early Childhood and Nurse Assistant.
3. A partnership with the Partners in Integrated Care (PIC) project in Montrose that allows delivery of health care classes in Montrose, in addition to a public-private partnership for welding classes in Montrose.
4. Partnership with "ENGAGE Delta County" that allows for the college to purchase, remodel, and equip new classrooms using a vacant building in the City of Delta. This project includes an innovation center/makers space for support of entrepreneurship and economic development. This space will also allow for new programs and apprenticeship offerings through the Technical College.

Considering these types of outreach and future expansion, the name Delta Montrose no longer represents the area that the college serves. Therefore, we would ask the General Assembly to consider a name change to **Technical College of Rockies**, to better reflect our broad service area and our commitment to provide educational opportunities throughout our region.

Caryn Gibson, Superintendent

For further information, please contact Ed Bowditch, Lobbyist, Area Technical Colleges
303-489-8680 edbowditch@aol.com