

Where's IT at?



A TECH Guide for Students in Whatcom County

ABOUT THE GUIDE

This guide provides information and resources that will help you gain free or low cost access to computers and the Internet. It will also help you to further develop your computer skills and make some basic decisions about career pathways.

CAREER PLANNING

- Do you
- ...enjoy using facts and judgment to solve problems?
 - ...like to tinker with objects and figure out how they work?
 - ...like to work with your hands, building, or repairing things?
 - ...feel comfortable working with machines or equipment?
- Do you have
- ...an aptitude in math and science?
 - ...good hand-eye coordination?
 - ...the ability to communicate and work well with others?
 - ...the ability to work accurately and precisely?
 - ...the curiosity and ability to solve a problem creatively?
 - ...the ability to use logic to solve problems?

If you answered yes to many of the above questions, then a career in Technology may be right for you. Here are some websites with career assessments, job descriptions, pay scale, and other information that will be helpful in planning your future.

www.nwct.org/programs/cybercareers Cyber Careers is the Net Generation! Middle and high school students will find loads of great information about IT careers: salary, education requirements, interesting opportunities, job links, a video and a great girls only site. Take the IT Inventory Quiz: a fun way to explore what IT jobs you might like.

www.funeducation.com This site includes free career assessment tests.

www.bls.gov/k12/computers.htm This site profiles jobs. It gives a good description of education pathways, pay scale, job availability, etc.

www.mapping-your-future.org This site will assist you in deciding which careers may be right for your personality. It also will aid you in devising a career plan. It profiles education, knowledge, and gives a list of related jobs. The site features a program called CareerShip, which is a direct career-planning guide.

www.ppwfc.org/youth_assessment.asp Resources at this site cover career and salary information. The career guides link to information on occupations and career paths. Reports, guides, and surveys can be used to see how an occupation or industry is doing.

People who have chosen a career pathway that best suits their skills, abilities, and interests are usually happiest in their careers. Deciding what you want to do with your life can be overwhelming, but exciting and challenging at the same time. If you pair your interests and abilities with determination and a lot of hard work, you will be on your way to your DREAM JOB!

CLUBS / PROGRAMS / ORGANIZATIONS

Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County **360-738-3808**
www.whatcomclubs.org
 1715 Kentucky St, Bellingham

Clubs:

Bellingham: 527-9777 Blaine: 332-3008
 Birchwood: 201-5495 Ferndale: 384-0753
 Lummi Island: 758-2828 Lynden: 318-1342

Programs and Resources of Boys & Girls Clubs:

NetSmartz: Internet safety program for kids of all ages
Microsoft Club Tech: Digital Arts Programs teach multimedia skills in digital photography, music creation, movie making, website building and graphic design
Skill Tech: Programs teach basic computer hardware skills and Office software skills
Other programs: YouthNet, T3 [Teen Tech Teams], newsletter club, digital scrap booking club (may vary from Club to Club)

City of Bellingham Parks & Recreation **360-676-6985**
www.cob.org/parks/index.htm
 3424 Meridian, Bellingham

Sponsors a variety of youth and teen computer camps each summer. Register beginning in mid-May

Whatcom County 4H Computer Wizard Lab **360-676-6707 ext. 50287**
 New Hope Center 205 South B.C. Ave, Lynden

This is a collaborative program of WSU Whatcom County Extension, Whatcom Hispanic Organization and the New Hope Center. Sponsors a variety of technology related programming for youth and English Language Learner families.

Tech Prep

High school students can earn college credit while still in high school for a variety of technology related courses. Availability of classes depends on the school. For more information about specific courses available at your school, contact your Career Specialist or Counselor or visit your local Tech Prep website for program details.

Whatcom Tech Prep Consortium
www.whatcomtechprep.org

360-752-8409



CLUBS/PROGRAMS/ORGS Cont.

WorkSource www.WorkSourceNorthwest.com
 Offers free public access to computers for the purpose of career exploration and job seeking

www.youthworksnow.org : Northwest WA community youth portal website focusing on helping youth complete high school and plan their careers

WorkSource Whatcom 101 Prospect St, Bellingham **360-671-1660**

Goodwill Job Training & Education Centers

This free, public computer lab/training center serves anyone 16 or older. Programs include computer classes, GED/EDP training, ESL classes, and assistance with job seeking using technology. (Scholarship search, writing essays, cover letters, etc.)

115 E Sunset Drive, Bellingham **360-738-0483**

EDUCATION

COLLEGES

Western Washington University **360-650-3000**
www.wvu.edu
 516 High St, Bellingham

Technology programs offered: Computer Science, Internet Resource Creation & Management, Web Content Development, Web Programming, Web Site Management

Whatcom Community College **360-676-2170**
www.whatcom.ctc.edu
 237 W Kellogg Rd, Bellingham

Technology programs offered: Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, Business Information Systems, Information Management, Office Technologies

Bellingham Technical College **360-752-7000**
www.btc.ctc.edu
 3028 Lindbergh Ave, Bellingham

Technology programs offered: Computer Network Technology, Computer Software Support, Business & Office Technologies Data Entry Specialist

COLLEGES Cont.

Northwest Indian College

www.nwic.edu

Technology programs offered: Courses offered in computer basics, operating systems, software applications, Internet, databases, networking, hardware, programming, website design and maintenance, multimedia

360-676-2772

2522 Kwina Rd, Bellingham

Skagit Valley College

www.skagit.edu

Mount Vernon Campus
2405 East College Way, Mount Vernon

360-416-7600

360-416-7600

Business Resource Center
204 W. Montgomery St, Mount Vernon

360 416-7873

Whidbey Island Campus
1900 SE Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor

360-675-6656

South Whidbey Center
11042 SR 525, #138, Clinton

360-341-2324

San Juan Center
221 Weber Way, Friday Harbor

360-378-3220

Technology programs offered: Computer Information Systems, Management Information Systems, Multimedia Interactive Technology, Telecommunications Networks Technology, Computer Training Institute (non-credit community classes)



PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Check with your school to find out what technology classes are offered to students.

Bellingham Public Schools

www.bham.wednet.edu

Bellingham HS	2020 Cornwall Ave, Bellingham	360-676-6575
Sehome HS	2700 Bill McDonald Pkwy, Bellingham	360-676-6482
Squalicum HS	3773 E McLeod, Bellingham	360-676-6471
Options HS	2015 Franklin St, Bellingham	360-647-6871
Fairhaven MS	110 Park Ridge Rd, Bellingham	360-676-6450
Kulshan MS	1250 Kenoyer Dr, Bellingham	360-676-4886
Shuksan MS	2713 Alderwood Ave, Bellingham	360-676-6454
Whatcom MS	810 Halleck St, Bellingham	360-676-6460

360-676-6400

1306 Dupont St, Bellingham

Blaine Public Schools

www.blaine.wednet.edu

Blaine HS	1055 "H" St, Blaine	360-332-6045
Blaine MS	975 "H" St, Blaine	360-332-8226

360-332-5881

770 Mitchell St, Blaine

Ferndale Public Schools

www.ferndale.wednet.edu

Ferndale HS	5830 Golden Eagle Dr, Ferndale	360-383-9240
Windward HS	5330 LaBounty Dr, Ferndale	360-383-9150
Clearview HS	2613 Thornton Rd, Ferndale	360-383-9345
Horizon MS	2671 Thornton Rd, Ferndale	360-383-9850
Vista MS	6051 Vista Dr, Ferndale	360-383-9370

360-383-9200

6041 Vista Dr, Ferndale

Lynden Public Schools

www.lynden.wednet.edu

Lynden HS	1201 Bradley Rd, Lynden	360-354-4401
Lynden MS	516 Main St, Lynden	360-354-2952

360-354-4443

1203 Bradley Rd, Lynden

Meridian Public Schools

www.meridian.wednet.edu

Meridian HS	194 W Laurel Rd, Bellingham	360-398-8111
Meridian MS	1 Ten Mile Rd, Lynden	360-398-2291

360-398-7111

214 W Laurel Rd, Bellingham

For Girls Only**Binary Girl, Where Girls and Technology Click**www.binarygirl.com

Seeks to share knowledge with those interested in learning more about technology through an interactive community of women.

Girl Geekswww.girlgeeks.org

Encourages women to develop careers in technology.

Girls' E-Mentoring Programwww.uic.edu/orgs/gem-set

Links girls, ages 13-18, to mentors for science, engineering, and technology career questions.

Girlstart-Smart from the Startwww.girlstart.com

Take quizzes, read articles, or play games all relating to math, science, & technology

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Whatcom Tech Prep Consortium would like to thank the following people for their time spent in research, writing and production of the Technology Guide:

Holly Hinman, Project Coordinator – Whatcom Community Connections

Yolanda Haynes, Spanish Translation Services

Irina Stepanova, Russian Translation Services

This guide has been prepared with funds made available by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). For more information or to order additional copies of this guide, please contact:

Whatcom Tech Prep Consortium

3028 Lindbergh Ave

Bellingham, WA 98225

P: 360-752-8409 / F: 360-752-7209

techprep@btc.ctc.edu



You may view or download a copy of the Tech Guide from the Tech Prep website:

<http://whatcomtechprep.org>