

## Career Pathways Available in Pasco County High Schools

**Anclote High School**  
Academy of Energy

**Gulf High School**  
Academy of Health

**Hudson High School**  
Academy of eCommerce

**Land O' Lakes High School**  
Academy of Culinary Arts

**J.W. Mitchell High School**  
Academy of Medical Arts  
Academy of Business Management

**Pasco High School**  
Academy of Health  
Academy of Building Technologies

**Ridgewood High School/  
Marchman Technical Ed. Center**  
Academy of Health and Human Services  
Academy of Building Technologies

**River Ridge High School**  
Academy of Engineering

**Sunlake High School**  
Academy of Finance

**Wesley Chapel High School**  
Academy of Automotive Service Technology

**Wiregrass Ranch High School**  
Academy of Information Technology (IT)

**Zephyrhills High School**  
Academy of Health

**This innovative opportunity is made possible by the  
collaborative partnership of the following organizations:**

Agency for Workforce Innovation

District School Board of Pasco County

Pasco Economic Development Council

Pasco-Hernando Jobs and Education Regional Partnership, Inc.

Pasco-Hernando Community College

**For more information visit us on the web:  
<http://careers.pasco.k12.fl.us/academies/>**



**District School Board of Pasco County**

Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent

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# Keeping it Real... Real World Real Life Real Education

## Pasco County Schools Career Academies

**Career Academies prepare students to meet the demands of a changing workforce while providing the opportunity for successful high school graduation, gainful employment, postsecondary education, and industry recognized certification.**

**A certified career academy must:**

- Be aligned with the needs of the workforce
- Lead to the highest recognized level of industry certification in high skill/high wage fields
- Explore options for hands-on learning through internship/externship opportunities
- Have an active business advisory council
- Offer opportunities for earning post-secondary credit

**Business and education partnering for the future**

- Business partnership activities have a significant impact on student performance.
- Business partnerships have a significant impact on the academic preparation of their future work force.
- Business partnerships provide services and experiences for students within the career academy that enrich the curriculum and extend learning beyond the classroom.
- Business partnership is essential to the success of a career academy.
- Successful career academies offer an integrated college and career preparation curriculum built around rigor, relevance, and relationships.

**Business Partnership Opportunities**

**Program Advisement** - Partners help develop curriculum to meet industry standards, and recommendations toward meeting industry certifications.

**Field Trips / Guest Speakers** - Field trips allow students to see industry up close, bringing relevance and connecting industry and academics. Guest speakers bring real-world application to the classroom.

**Donations** - Partner with an academy by providing goods and/or services.

**Advisory Board** - Advisory boards meet throughout the school year to provide advisement and direction to the program.

**Job Shadowing** - Allow students to job shadow in area businesses.

**Student Internship** - Career Academy students are eligible to participate in an internship within a related business or industry.

**Viewpoints from industry partners and community leaders**

*"Sustainable employment comes from successful businesses and successful businesses come from a skilled workforce."*

Mark Wimberly, Vice President - South Coastal Region, Progress Energy Florida  
Pasco Education Foundation Board Member and  
Pasco Schools Career Advisory Oversight Committee Chair

*"Career Academies are an essential tool for preparing students for future success. Career academies serve the dual purpose of strengthening our local economy through the development of a skilled workforce and providing students with the opportunity to earn industry certification and post-secondary credit in high skill, high wage fields. We are excited to offer this enhanced program in every high school and are grateful for the tremendous support we have received in this endeavor from our business partners."*

Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent, District School Board of Pasco County

*"We're passionate about getting the students and parents involved and create an awareness about the technical opportunities out there, little brief exposures to our industry can change a student and give them direction."*

Peter Buczynsky, President of Micron PharmaWorks  
Academy of Engineering at River Ridge High School Advisory Member

*"It is so important for the business and education community to collaborate! Students today need the skills and resources to succeed the 21st century job market. By working together, we can provide the essential tools, targeting higher paying professions that will enable students to see the relevance of their education, and to reap the rewards with high paying jobs. The business community wins by having pools of highly trained workers to choose from. The economic and social benefits are staggering!"*

Kathryn Starkey, District School Board of Pasco County Board Member, District 4

*"The availability of a skilled and qualified workforce is the number one concern of businesses. Career Academies provide opportunities for students to earn industry certifications in high demand occupations while providing businesses with the opportunity to identify industry trends and workforce needs. As we work with businesses expanding or relocating into Pasco County, we look to our Career Academies as a key component of a comprehensive marketing strategy."*

John Walsh, CECd, Pasco Economic Development Council