

“Over the past ten years, we tried to make another well-known, national student certification program work for our Electrical Engineering and Facility Maintenance students. Despite our continued efforts to maneuver the system, we encountered repeated difficulties. Our required business sponsor (at a cost of \$450.00 “membership fee” per year) changed several times causing a disruption in services. There was



an enormous amount of paperwork that had to be kept by the instructors. Forms that were submitted to our sponsor for review and forwarding to the national headquarters were not processed in a timely manner. We still have graduates calling us asking why they never received their certificates.

“We made the decision to discontinue that student certification program- it simply wasn’t worth the time and expense involved. Since then, we’ve been looking for an alternative. When I heard about the International Code Council’s program for high schools, I immediately requested further information. We conducted a phone conference with our instructors and Jim Ellwood to learn more about the High School Technical Training Program (HSTTP). In order to get a better idea of the process involved, I asked our instructors to review the Code Book and Study Companion and then take the test when they felt ready. Both instructors passed the Electrical Exam and they now have a current industry certificate that they can add to their credentials. They also have a better handle on how to deliver the program to our students. We’ve purchased the student memberships and materials, and plan to re-use the Study Companions from year-to-year to save on costs. Seniors will be able to keep their own Electrical Code Books and will promptly receive a national skill certificate if they pass the Electrical exam- a very nice addition to their resumes!”

Jan Kennerknecht, Supervisor of Instructional Support, Erie County Technical School, Erie, PA