



TCAT Athens Cost Sheet

2026-2027

WELDING

FULL-TIME

This Cost Sheet is an overview of the Cost of Attendance for the program and includes Direct Costs and Indirect Costs. Not all costs are charged through TCAT Athens.

The Shielded Metal Arc Welder Certificate requires completion of the 1st trimester (432 hours). The Gas Metal Arc Welder & Gas Tungsten Arc Welder Certificates require completion through the 2nd trimester (864 hours). The Combination Welder Diploma requires completion through all 3 trimesters (1,296 hours).

Direct Costs are charged directly to the student by the school (tuition, fees) to which Financial Aid is directly applied. If a student has more in Financial Aid than direct costs, a Financial Aid Refund is issued 6 weeks into a trimester and may be used to pay for Indirect Costs.

Indirect Costs are not charged by the school (tools, uniforms, testing fees, books, etc). Students may pay for indirect costs using a financial aid refund (if applicable) or self pay.

Textbooks may be purchased through the TCAT Athens online bookstore using Financial Aid (if applicable) or self-pay. Students are not required to purchase books through the bookstore. Students who purchase books from outside sources must pay out of pocket.

\$ = Direct costs charged by school.

* = Costs eligible for TN Promise & TCAT Reconnect (Tuition/Technology Fee/Student Activity Fee ONLY).

1st TRIMESTER		432 Total Clock Hours
Shielded Metal Arc Welder		Monday-Thursday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm
TUITION & FEES: (due BEFORE 1st day of class if not covered by financial aid or other 3rd party)		
*Tuition/Maintenance Fee \$	\$1,446.00	Due before 1st Day
*Technology Fee \$	\$85.00	Due before 1st Day
*Student Activity Fee \$	\$10.00	Due before 1st Day
SPECIAL ACADEMIC FEES:		
Welding Special Academic Fee \$	\$100.00	Due before 1st Day
ACADEMIC SUPPLIES:		
AWS Code (must be purchased through TCAT-Athens) \$	\$210.00	Due on 1st Day
TOOLS: (not purchased through TCAT-Athens)		
See Attached Tool List (estimated cost)	\$1,005.00	Approximate
1st Trimester Estimated Total:	\$2,856.00	

2nd TRIMESTER

432 Total Clock Hours

Gas Metal & Gas Tungsten Arc Welder

Monday-Thursday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

TUITION & FEES: (due BEFORE 1st day of class if not covered by financial aid or other 3rd party)

*Tuition/Maintenance Fee \$	\$1,446.00	Due before 1st Day
*Technology Fee \$	\$85.00	Due before 1st Day
*Student Activity Fee \$	\$10.00	Due before 1st Day

SPECIAL ACADEMIC FEES:

Welding Special Academic Fee \$	\$100.00	Due before 1st Day
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2nd Trimester Estimated Total: \$1,641.00

3rd TRIMESTER

432 Total Clock Hours

Combination Welder

Monday-Thursday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

TUITION & FEES: (due BEFORE 1st day of class if not covered by financial aid or other 3rd party)

*Tuition/Maintenance Fee \$	\$1,446.00	Due before 1st Day
*Technology Fee \$	\$85.00	Due before 1st Day
*Student Activity Fee \$	\$10.00	Due before 1st Day

SPECIAL ACADEMIC FEES:

Welding Special Academic Fee \$	\$100.00	Due before 1st Day
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3rd Trimester Estimated Total: \$1,641.00

Total Estimated Program Cost for Shielded Metal Arc Welder Certificate	\$2,856.00
Total Estimated Program Cost for Gas Metal & Gas Tungsten Arc Welder Certificates	\$4,497.00
Total Estimated Program Cost for Combination Welder Diploma	\$6,138.00

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED COSTS FOR ENTIRE PROGRAM

Program Length:	12 months (1,296 Clock Hours)
Tuition & Fees: (can be covered by TN Promise & TCAT Reconnect if eligible)	\$4,623.00
Special Academic Fees:	\$300.00
Academic Supplies:	\$210.00
Tools: (not purchased through TCAT-Athens)	\$1,005.00
Estimated Total:	\$6,138.00

1st TRIMESTER TOOL LIST

Tools and supplies must be purchased from outside sources.

Tools are required by the 3rd week of class & NOT SUPPLIED BY THE SCHOOL.

Item Description	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost
Safety Glasses (clear; must be contoured to face)	1	\$10.00
Welding Helmet with Headband (2 x 4 lens size with flip front)	1	\$45.00
Welding Hat	1	\$20.00
Welding Cape Sleeves (leather)	1	\$55.00
Welding Jacket (green; fire retardant)	1	\$40.00

Welding Gloves (basic stick welding gloves)	1	\$15.00
Wire Brush (long handle and steel bristle)	1	\$10.00
Chipping Hammer (H-Style)	1	\$20.00
Steel Measuring Tape (25 x 1 standard)	1	\$20.00
Vise Grip Pliers (7" flat jaw with teeth)	1	\$20.00
Cutting Glasses (shade #5 safety glasses)	1	\$20.00
Spark Lighter (one flint)	1	\$10.00
Tip Cleaner Set (standard)	1	\$10.00
Work Boots (steel toe; tops must cover ankle)	1	\$55.00
Clear Lens; 2 x 4 lens to fit welding helmet; impact resistant; not glass; ~100 (as needed)	100	\$155.00
Dark Lens; Shade #10 (to fit welding helmet)	3	\$20.00
4-1/2" Electric Right Angle Grinder; 11,000 rpm	1	\$120.00
4-1/2" Grinding Discs; for steel; 11,000 rpm to fit 4-1/2" grinder; ~40 (as needed)	40	\$135.00
2-3/4" Diameter Cup Brushes; twisted bristle to fit 4-1/2" grinder	4	\$75.00
BIB for 321 Cape Sleeve 14"	1	\$120.00
MIG Welding Pliers (Welpers)	1	\$30.00

Estimated Total: \$1,005.00

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

To apply for financial aid, complete the FAFSA at <https://studentaid.gov>.

Completing the FAFSA automatically applies you for federal and state aid.

Enter the federal school code 005358 as your 1st school of choice.

A FAFSA must be filed for every year financial aid is needed.

For free FAFSA assistance, please contact Darlene White with the Educational Opportunity Center at (423) 435-8442 or by email at jwhit195@utk.edu.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. The cost of attendance includes direct and indirect costs. Direct costs are fixed expenses that are paid directly to the school (tuition and fees). Indirect costs are not paid directly to the school (books, supplies, tools, uniforms, testing fees, etc. because they must be purchased from other sources).
2. Costs listed above for textbooks, testing fees, tools, etc. are estimated and subject to change without notice.
3. TCAT-Athens does not participate in ANY Federal Student Loan Programs or Federal Work Study Program.
4. Tuition rates are set by the Tennessee Board of Regents. Tuition costs usually increase annually in September.
5. All account charges (tuition, fees, special academic fees, etc.) are due by the beginning of each term if not covered by financial aid, VA, WIOA, or other 3rd party.
6. TCAT-Athens reserves the right to change required textbooks due to price increases and curriculum changes.
7. TN Promise and TN Reconnect are last dollar grants/scholarships that will pay for mandatory tuition and fees after all other financial aid has been awarded (federal, state, institutional, etc.). They will not pay for books, special academic fees, tools, uniforms, supplies, testing fees, etc.
8. TCAT-Athens does not sell tools, uniforms, supplies, etc. Please make arrangements to purchase these items from outside sources and have them per your instructor's required date.
9. Students planning to use a financial aid refund (if eligible) to purchase tools, uniforms, supplies, etc., refunds are not issued until about 6 weeks after your start date.
10. Charges and financial aid are applied to student accounts by term and not by the entire program at once.