

Advanced Technologies Academy, or A-TECH, is a career and technical academy in Las Vegas, Nevada that was established with the objective of integrating a rigorous academic program with a highly-technological setting. Since its inception, A-TECH has been consistently awarded for academic and technological success. In 2013, A-TECH was awarded Gold Medal status and recognized as the number one high school in the state of Nevada by *U.S. News and World Report*, and Magnet Schools of America recognized A-TECH as a Magnet School of Excellence. For the second time in less than a decade, the U.S. Department of Education named A-TECH a 2011-2012 Blue Ribbon School.

A-TECH opened in 1994 as the first fully computer-networked technology school in the state of Nevada. Today it houses 1083 students and approximately 1,218 desktop computers, 243 laptops, and 157 iPads; thus, students are never without technology. Students have direct access to computers with Internet and appropriate software in every room throughout the facility. This year, A-TECH has implemented Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), allowing students to bring in and utilize personal technological devices in class.

Students attending A-TECH embark on a learning experience designed to maximize opportunity and potential. The magnet program and its theme of Academics plus Technology, focus around students' choosing one of eight high-technology, college-preparatory areas of study: Legal Studies, Web Design & Development, IT Networking, Business Management, Graphic Design, Architectural Drafting & Design, Computer Science, and Engineering. Each curriculum ensures that students are not only knowledgeable in theory, but also experienced through hands-on, twenty-first century collaborative skills. The integrated academic and computer curricula prepare students for entrance into post-secondary education and/or provide skills for a successful school-to-career transition.

