

# Program Review

# Executive Summary

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## Building Construction Technology

Majors Reviewed:

- *Residential Construction Technology and Management (BRM), B.S.*
- *Construction Technology (CB), A.A.S.*

July 2021



**Pennsylvania**  
**College of Technology**  
A Penn State Affiliate

The Building Construction Technology programs continue to be a popular choice on the Penn College campus. Students participate in a predominantly hands-on path of coursework preparing them for a wide range of opportunities in the residential home building industry. The Building Construction Technology Associate degree students start careers which range from carpenters in the field to job site managers as well as building contractors employing others. The Residential Construction Technology and Management Bachelor's degree graduates head out to large home builders across the country as project managers and development site supervisors. The program enrollment went up as demand for construction services was strong across the country. The recent global occurrences have taken its toll on the program as it has across campus. The outlook ahead though is very positive, as the construction industry is still strong and poised to bounce back quickly when all returns to normal.

Many changes have been made to the programs and curriculum offered in these degrees. As the whole campus worked through the implementation of a new core curriculum, courses were all looked at carefully and evaluated for relevance and the ability to assess the quality of instruction being presented. The required student outcomes of many courses have been rewritten to allow more flexibility in instruction and more clarity in assessing student learning. Several courses have been adapted to address current building science issues and changing building codes. The sequence of upper-level courses has been adjusted to better balance the credit load as students progress through the degree. And courses were altered to provide a better culminating and encompassing wrap-up of concepts being taught which resulted in creating a Senior Project course.

As we look ahead, the construction industry is strong and growth is forecast. The program will need to utilize all the space currently occupied to provide the hands-on education the Penn College Construction program is known for. Some of these labs could use some freshening up and updating to continue providing an attractive learning workspace. And as we return to our path of growth, the faculty we have lost will have to be replaced to cover the course load being offered to the students. Overall, the program still maintains a strong foundation which will ensure its continued benefit to the student population served.