

Focusing on the FACTS

- *Ford Elective Advances Career*

Zach Watkins has always had his sights set on a career in the automotive industry. He attended UTI's Houston, Texas, campus for his automotive and diesel education and continued on at the campus for a 15-week Ford FACT elective. FACT is Ford's Accelerated Credential Training program which gives students hands-on training on Ford vehicles and prepares them for service technician employment in Ford and Lincoln dealerships.

"Once I got into the program, I realized just how impressive the Ford elective training really is. With such a big quantity of Ford vehicles on the road, I knew the work would be endless. And there are more Ford diesel vehicles on the road than any other diesel brand. I wanted to be a part of that," says Zach.

Zach recently joined the service team at Klement Ford of Muenster, Texas where he gets to work on accounts that have a sizeable fleet of vehicles and can really dive into the diesel side of business that he is passionate about.

"The additional Ford training is only 15 weeks, and I would have spent eight to ten years getting the same amount of certifications". – Zach Watkins, UTI Houston and Ford FACT Graduate

"Some of my customers are large oil companies who have 200-300 Ford trucks in their fleet. The work is consistent and lucrative. There is always a job coming in," says Zach.

Zach's service manager is Sam Johnson who has worked with Zach at a previous dealership and has seen his career blossom.

"Zach has come a lot farther in a short time than a technician without Ford FACT. The Advanced Training gave him a great attitude and he attacks his repairs with a real confidence. There is definitely more technical knowledge which leads to more productivity. That makes all the difference," says Sam.

This has all led Zach to lead a comfortable life in Gunner, TX, a short drive from Muenster. At the age of 23, he owns a home and enjoys toys such as a brand new 4-wheeler. He admits he's the most successful of his high school friends, even those who attended a four-year college.

To achieve this success at a young age, Zach worked hard and was dedicated to his education. He worked the entire time he attended UTI knowing that potential employers

would want to see that he had been outside of the classroom and had touched a car before. He maintained a high GPA and had an excellent attendance record.

“The work experience mattered most when I was looking for a job,” he said. “I can’t emphasize how important it is to get practical experience.”

“If I hadn’t been certified, I would probably still be working at a local lube shop,” continues Zach. “I certainly wouldn’t be where I am today. The additional Ford training is only 15 weeks, and I would have spent eight to ten years getting the same amount of certifications.”

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For more information on UTI’s Advanced Training Programs visit us on line at www.uit.edu/advancedtraining, follow us on facebook or come see us on campus in the Employment Services Dept.

Advanced Training locations:

BMW FastTrack: Avondale AZ, Rancho Cucamonga CA & Orlando FL

BMW STEP: Avondale AZ, Rancho Cucamonga CA, Orlando FL & Woodcliff Lake NJ

Cummins Engine Program: Avondale AZ & Houston TX

Cummins PowerGen: Avondale AZ

Finish First: Avondale AZ

Ford FACT: Avondale AZ, Rancho Cucamonga CA, Sacramento CA,
Orlando FL, Glendale Heights IL, Norwood MA,
NTI Mooresville NC, Exton PA, Houston TX

ITEP Fleet Program: Glendale Heights IL

ITEP MSAT Dealership Program: Sacramento CA, Glendale Heights IL &
Exton PA

Mercedes-Benz START: Rancho Cucamonga CA & Norwood MA

Mini STEP: Orlando FL

Nissan NATT: Sacramento CA, Orlando FL, Norwood MA, NTI
Mooresville NC, Houston TX,

Porsche PTAP: Atlanta GA

Toyota TPAT: Sacramento CA, Glendale Heights IL, Exton PA

Volvo SAFE: Avondale AZ

Got GAME? **Employers prefer**
high achievement of:

- **G**PA (Grade point Average)
- **A**ttendance
- **M**otor Vehicle Record
- **E**xcellence

