

Reading Area Community College Offers Auctioneering Certification

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*Food And Family
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READING (Berks Co.) — Reading Area Community College (RACC) is one of only two schools approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Auctioneer Examiners.

The program was established in 1991. The major difference between RACC and Harrisburg Area Community College, which is the other approved school, is that HACC offers the courses for college credit and RACC offers the courses through its continuing education department.

Merry Fidler, who coordinates RACC's program, said, "Completing our certification program qualifies the individual to become an auctioneer, but course credit cannot be applied to the college side of RACC."

This translates into lower tuition cost for the prospective auctioneer who doesn't intend to get a degree. The curriculum is similar at both schools.

Fidler is coordinator for the program, but doesn't teach any of the classes. Instead, classes are taught by four auctioneers, Bob and Barbara Kist, a husband and wife auctioneer team, Charles Camelleri, and Randall Rook. Attorney Randy Selagy teaches auctioneer law.

Fidler said curriculum was developed by meeting with auctioneers interested in teaching courses. Their recommendations were presented to the state auction board, which approved it before RACC offered the course. Courses are offered two times annually for 10 weeks.

RACC's auctioneering program averages 20-25 students yearly. Most students are from Pennsylvania, but classes include students from New York and New Jersey. Some students are auctioneers in other states who want certification to sell in Pennsylvania.

For more information about RACC's program, call (800) 626-1665, ext. 5181.

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