

PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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CareerFocus

Rise of the Machines

Advanced manufacturing brings big changes, big opportunities

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Piedmont Technical College
PO Box 1467
Greenwood, SC 29648



**MORE
ON THE
INSIDE:**

**WE'VE GOT
YOUR BACK**

**A BRIDGE TO
LIFELONG SUCCESS**

**A HELPING
PROFESSION**

**WHERE DO YOU
WANT TO GO?**

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Choosing which college to attend is an important decision, and it's not one to be taken lightly. A lot of people think they know what Piedmont Technical College has to offer. If you're not considering it as a way to reach your goals, you're missing out on some really big opportunities.

For starters, we offer two options for your next move.

1

Want a career as soon as possible? At PTC, you can choose from over 80 programs that lead to in-demand jobs that will allow you to get to work in two years or less and earn the paycheck you deserve.

2

Want a bachelor's degree without the debt? Start at PTC, and transfer to the four-year college of your choice. You can enter your destination college as a junior and finish your degree in a couple of more years — saving over **\$10,000** in the process.

Whatever path you choose, PTC will make sure you have the best foundation for lifelong success.

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CareerFocus

Questions about the PTC programs and services described in this publication should be directed to the Office of Admissions at (855) 446-3864. Comments or questions about the publication itself can be directed to the PTC Office of Marketing and Public Relations at (864) 941-8669.

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Institutional Mission

Piedmont Technical College transforms lives and strengthens communities by providing opportunities for intellectual and economic growth.

The College, a member of the South Carolina Technical College System, is a public comprehensive two-year postsecondary institution. Piedmont Technical College contributes to the economic growth and development of the largest and most diverse region of the technical college system, Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda counties and to the state. The College responds to the academic, training and public service needs of the community through excellence in teaching and educational services. Piedmont Technical College's open admissions policy provides accessibility for individuals with diverse backgrounds the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills for employment in engineering technology, industrial technology, agriculture, business, health, and public service. Piedmont Technical College graduates develop competencies in communication, mathematics, problem solving and technology.

The College offers university transfer; associate degrees, diplomas and certificates in technical and occupational areas; college preparatory programs; student development programs providing academic, career and individual support; and custom-designed credit and non-credit programs to provide training for business and industry and to meet the needs of the community. To optimize access to higher education in the rural seven-county service area, Piedmont Technical College offers distance learning courses through multiple modes of delivery.

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For information on tuition and fees, program length, graduation rates, placement rates, and median loan debt, visit www.ptc.edu/ge.

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Juan Ramirez, Machine Tool Technology Student.



On the go?

Get career and college tips anytime online at:
<http://ptc.mycareerfocus.org>

It's the easy way to share articles, access Piedmont Technical College Resources and get on the path to a new career.



We've Got Your Back

Need a Game Plan? Your first step is the Office of Admissions at PTC where you can speak with one of our friendly admissions counselors.

Your local technical college is an unparalleled resource for education, whether you are starting fresh or starting over. It's your local, flexible, and affordable option to prepare for your career.

It's also your source of support. With family and job responsibilities, adult learners have a lot on their plates. That's why Piedmont Technical College offers a range of student services.

Career Advice

Need a game plan? Your first step is to contact PTC's Office of Admissions and speak to one of our friendly counselors!

If you're considering classes but you aren't sure where to begin, take an interest and skills inventory. We'll identify your aptitudes, careers that match your interests, and help plan out your program of study.

Give Admissions a call at 855-446-3864, visit us online at ptc.edu/admissions, or come in for a face-to-face meeting on campus. We're located in the Enrollment Center on the Lex Walter's Campus-Greenwood.

Financial Aid

Compare PTC to four-year schools in the state, and you'll find that our tuition and fees are half the cost. Learn about our affordability: ptc.edu/cost

You may qualify for federal aid. Find out by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.ed.gov. PTC's college code is 003992.

PTC also offers multiple scholarships through federal, state, and private endowments. Find out if you qualify: ptc.edu/aid

Study Resources

Did you know that PTC offers free tutoring in various subject areas? Learn more at ptc.edu/tutoring or drop by the Student Services Center.

Our library also offers quality academic resources to help you succeed. Visit ptc.edu/library to search the catalog, browse journals, and place an inter-library loan request.

Options, options, and more options

PTC offers dozens of two-year Associate degree programs, as well as many one-year certificates and even shorter term certification options.

Beyond the credit degree programs, continuing education and training at the college offer more options to help you brush up on your skills.

Looking for something fun to do? PTC offers an extensive selection of noncredit recreational classes in everything from cake decorating, self defense, podcasting, and blogging. Explore more: ptc.edu/continuing-ed.

All of these options and more are available in your community, when and where you want them. Night, weekend, and online classes help you fit classes into your busy life.

Learn more at ptc.edu. ■



Find Your Health Care Niche:

Medical careers are on the rise

Health care is one of the biggest drivers of the American economy, and with an aging Baby Boomer population, the field is poised for a substantial expansion in the coming decades.

Just how big is the US health care system? In 2015, Americans spent \$2.9 trillion on health care, making up one-sixth of the country's gross national product.

With 15 million health care workers, more than one in every ten jobs in the US today are in the industry, and according to the federal Department of Labor, hospitals, ambulatory centers, and physicians offices are leading hiring.

Wages and higher ed investment

Along with job growth comes good pay, something that sets health care apart from much of the lower wage retail and service sectors driving the American economy.

In fact, six of the ten highest-paying careers in the US in 2015 were in health care, according to job site CareerCast.com. Of course, these positions – the top-ranked surgeons along with psychiatrists, physicians, dentists, orthodontists, and pharmacists – all require extensive schooling and often carry heavy financial burdens.

The average medical school graduate shoulders around \$180,000 in student loans, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges. Health care education site Medscape.com found that many doctors were still making monthly student loan payments well into their 50s.

If that investment stings your eyes, read on.

Some of the hottest jobs are of the "middle-skill" variety: they offer solid wages and benefits while requiring less than a bachelor's degree in education.

Changing roles in health care

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, as the saying goes. Increased focus on preventing illness and educating the public about healthy lifestyles has boosted the importance of some traditional support staff roles in clinics and hospitals.

Massive advances in technology and expanded access to care through government health care coverage, are likewise redefining health care careers across the board.

The medical profession is staffed by millions of caregivers from every level of education. Indeed, many health care careers are in reach with between two and four years of college, and all of them are expected to add tens of thousands of jobs to the economy in the next few years.

Earning a certificate or associate's degree at a technical college is a relatively painless entry into a rewarding health care career. Many supporting or assistant health care jobs have a bright outlook, solid pay scale, and reasonably short training period. ■



MEDICAL CAREERS



Occupational Therapy Assistant

Median pay (2016): **\$56,070** per year, **\$26.96** per hour
 Growth through 2024: 40% (much faster than average)
 Number of jobs (2014): 41,900
 New openings through 2024: **16,800**



Respiratory Therapist

Median pay (2016): **\$58,670** per year, **\$28.21** per hour
 Growth through 2024: 12% (faster than average)
 Number of jobs (2014): 120,700
 New openings through 2024: **14,900**



Radiologic and MRI Technologists

Median pay (2016): **\$58,960** per year, **\$28.35** per hour
 Growth through 2024: 9% (faster than average)
 Number of jobs (2014): 230,600
 New openings through 2024: 20,700



Licensed Practical Nurse

Median pay (2016): **\$44,090** per year, **\$21.20** per hour
 Growth through 2024: 16% (faster than average)
 Number of jobs (2014): 719,900
 New openings through 2024: 117,300

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics 2015 Occupational Outlook Handbook

Rise of the Machines

Advanced manufacturing brings big changes, big opportunities

In a few short years, economic developers have seen advanced manufacturing go from a niche within traditional manufacturing to the standard for just about anything that gets made in America today.

"You don't talk about manufacturing as something you want to recruit without talking about advanced manufacturing," said Heather Simmons Jones, chief executive with the Greenwood Partnership Alliance.

Advanced manufacturing is growing in our area, with major announcements by companies such as Samsung Electronics America and carbon fiber manufacturer Teijin Ltd. With those hundreds of millions of dollars in investment comes jobs – opportunities for local residents with the right skills.

The Engineering and Industrial Technologies Division at Piedmont Technical College offers training for in-demand, advanced

manufacturing jobs in areas such as industrial electronics, mechatronics, machine tool technology and welding. Piedmont Tech also works with readySC to create custom training courses for local manufacturers who are opening new facilities or expanding current capabilities.

Skills get an upgrade

Rick Farmer, who heads economic development for Newberry County, recalls touring a furniture manufacturer early in his career. The factory floor was packed with workers standing shoulder to shoulder on an assembly line.

"We just don't see those rooms full of people anymore," he said. "We use a lot more automation today and the workers that are there have to have a lot more skill training. They need to be able to read technical manuals and, in some cases, do advanced math."

Even workers with a background in manufacturing may need to upgrade their skills to work at a new employer, or if their current employer adds new equipment or product lines.

"As companies change and adapt, they're becoming more automated," said Rusty Denning, interim dean of engineering and industrial technologies at Piedmont Tech. "If you haven't had the hands-on training, you can't operate the necessary equipment."

PTC's Center for Advanced Manufacturing, on the Laurens County Campus, is designed to support the training needs of local industry. The center houses CNC, CMM, mechatronics and welding labs and classrooms. It is also developing flexible training space for more specialized equipment and processes.

"Some folks may already have a manufacturing skill set, they just need to boost their skills in certain areas," Denning said. "A lot of the training we're doing is with current employees."

Piedmont Tech is also developing the Sen. William H. "Billy" O'Dell Upstate Center for Manufacturing Excellence in Greenwood. That 45,000-square-foot facility, which is currently

in the design phase, will house machine tool technology, mechatronics and welding classes while offering flex space for employer-specific training.

"Teijin will be able to utilize that space," Simmons Jones said. "That was a selling point for Teijin and will be for future companies as well."

Investing in people

Research by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that thousands of jobs for machinists, machine tool operators, welders and maintenance workers will be created in the coming years. However, a Deloitte study estimated that while 3.4 million U.S. manufacturing jobs would be created between 2015-25, as many as 2 million of those jobs could go unfilled due to a lack of sufficiently trained workers.

"I don't think there's ever been a more important time for technical college education and what it can offer," Simmons Jones said.

A 2016 National Economic Council report stated that manufacturing wages were 20 percent higher than the national median income. A BLS study found that manufacturers pay higher wages

than other industries for similar jobs such as maintenance and repair technicians.

PTC's mechatronics technology program prepares students to work as a technician in an advanced manufacturing environment.

"That program has continued to grow," Denning said. "For someone looking for a good career in manufacturing, mechatronics is one of the best."

Newberry County has been a supporter of the mechatronics program.

"A lot of these students have jobs waiting for them before they graduate," Farmer said. "We see lots of companies who like to reach out to young talent."

And in advanced manufacturing, the opportunities don't end with the first job.

"If you love hands-on work, you can quickly become educated and employable and make a very good salary," Simmons Jones said. "And a certificate can lead to future study where you can advance your skills, often with financial support from your employer." ■



Advanced Manufacturing Training

PTC offers several credentials that will lead to a career in advanced manufacturing in two years or less.

Engineering Technology Associate Degrees

- Electronic Engineering Technology
- Engineering Design Technology
- Mechanical Engineering Technology

Industrial Electronics

- Industrial Electronics Technology Associate Degree
- Electrical Maintenance Technician Certificate

Machine Tool Technology

- Machine Tool Technology Associate Degree
- Machine Tool Technology Diploma
- Computerized Numerical Control Certificate
- Machine Tool Operator Certificate

Mechatronics Technology

- Mechatronics Technology Associate Degree
- Mechatronics Technology I Certificate

Quickskills

- Machine Tool CNC Precision Operator
- Manufacturing Production Technician
- Precision Metrology Certificate

Welding

- Welding Diploma
- Basic Welding Certificate
- General Technology Associate Degree – Welding

PROFILE

Brendan Golding

Student Gets to Work While Finishing His Degree

Like many Piedmont Technical College students, Brendan Golding did not go to college directly after high school.

"I waited a little bit of time before I figured out exactly what I wanted to do," he said. "I didn't want to spend the money and not like it."

When Golding did decide to pursue his degree, he chose something that connected back to interests he's had since childhood—machine tool technology.

"My dad is a very mechanical person and I've always been around this field," said Golding.

Golding was also inspired by a friend who was applying his machining skills to the field of racing. "I love cars and I have a friend who is already running his own business making parts for cars," he said. "I thought that was the coolest thing ever. So, that was a big thing that drew me into machining."

Now, not only has Golding excelled in the program, he was able to land a job as a CNC machine operator after just one semester in the program. So, he is already applying his training directly to a career while continuing his education.

In fact, Golding is logging 42-48 hours per week at his job at Piedmont CMG in Ware Shoals. But he is still able to focus on the program at PTC due to the flexible nature of the course work.

"I get tired because I don't get off until the middle of the night," said Golding. "So, my teachers will work with me, especially since I'm working in the field, so I can complete my projects." ■



A helping profession:

Human services workers provide support, advocacy

Helping others has its own rewards, but it's also something that you can make a career out of.

"Jobs in the human services area are expected to grow by a minimum of 12 percent between 2014-24," said Jamilla Jenkins-Nelson, a human services instructor at Piedmont Technical College. "It's a rewarding career because you help people cope with life's challenges."

Human services workers are found in numerous government agencies and nonprofit programs, serving young and old, individuals and families. Opportunities are diverse. Human services workers could be handling duties such as case management from an office, or they could be out in the community visiting clients and conducting assessments.

"The field of human services has developed out of social work programs," Jenkins-Nelson said. "Many of the jobs are similar."

But while professional social workers have bachelor's and/or master's degrees, a career in human services can begin with a two-year degree. PTC offers an Associate in Applied Science degree program in human services with both day and evening scheduling options.

"Students will learn basic, entry-level skills, such as human behavior, crisis intervention and family dynamics," Jenkins-Nelson said. The program prepares students to seek the Human Services-Board Certified Practitioner credential. "Our students test for that after they finish their degree at Piedmont Tech."

Real-world training

Along with classroom work, PTC's human services students venture out for 270 hours of supervised field work, which provides a real-life perspective.

"We need them to understand the diverse nature of what they will be doing in their jobs," Jenkins-Nelson said.

Students serve with organizations such as Meg's House, a shelter for domestic violence victims that serves Edgefield, Greenwood and McCormick counties.

"They work very closely with our students," Jenkins-Nelson said.

In addition to shelter services, Meg's House provides case management and general advocacy for clients, who may need help with housing, employment, or navigating government systems. Lauri Rooney, shelter services program coordinator, says PTC students are trained on multiple tasks, such as answering the abuse hotline.

"They do what we do," Rooney said. "They are working with our clients directly and learning to be advocates."

Rooney added that one student has already been hired to work full time as a house monitor.

"It's been great working with the Piedmont Tech students," Rooney said. "It seems they have a good rapport with our clients. They take advice,

they can apply the advice and they're really hard workers."

Rooney herself earned a human services degree from Piedmont Tech in 1996.

"I really enjoyed Piedmont Tech," she said. "The human services program provides a great opportunity."

Positive job outlook

It's an opportunity that can be seized by those who are new to the field as well as those who have experience and want a credential to improve their career prospects. Entry-level jobs in human services pay an average salary of \$28,850. As of May 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates there were 4,730 workers in the category of "social and human service assistants" in South Carolina.

The BLS predicts that job growth in human services will occur due to the nation's growing elderly population, as well as rising demand in general for health care and social services. Locally, Jenkins-Nelson said she's witnessing a rising need for home healthcare workers and those who can work with the elderly.



With demand growing for human services workers, PTC program graduates have enjoyed an 86 percent job placement rate between 2014-16.

"There's going to be a need," Jenkins-Nelson said. "Students that graduate from our program have good prospects."

What makes a good human services worker? Very often, they are a "people person," according to Jenkins-Nelson.

"Most of our students have a passion for people," she said. "Many students also want to be change agents."

That's important, because a human services worker doesn't always see people on their best days.

"People seek out social services because there's some type of issue in their life," Jenkins-Nelson said of clients. "It's a pretty big responsibility."

Which is why she does volunteer work and advocates for troubled young adults.

"If you can change just one person, you have the potential to change generations that follow," Jenkins-Nelson said.

And what can be more rewarding than that? ■



PROFILE

Sandy Webb

Finding a Career for a Compassionate Heart

After an eight-year stint in the Navy, Sandy Webb worked as a machine operator at Avery Dennison for 22 years until the unthinkable happened.

"I was riding out the rest of my time," she said. "I was ready to retire."

But she didn't have that opportunity because her job was relocated and she was left wondering what she would do next.

"My job went overseas," said Webb. "So, I had the opportunity at the age of 52 to come back to school which I never thought I'd do."

She wasn't sure where that path would take her or if she was up to the challenge, but she set out to get a degree from Piedmont Technical College.

"I've always been the type of person who cared about other people," said Webb. "I realize that people have a story. Everybody goes through something in life. I was just at that point in my life where it was time to get off of a machine and deal more with people."

It was that sentiment that led Webb to pursue a career in human services. She got to work in the program and quickly found that she had all of the assistance she would need to excel.

"The hardest thing about coming back to school was my age," said Webb. "I graduated from high school in 1980. The fear of being older and in class with all of the younger people was overwhelming. I didn't even know how to study."

"But once I got here, everybody helped me," she added. "I wasn't thrown to the wolves."

Webb graduated from the human service program in May 2016. By the time she graduated, an internship she had participated in had turned into a full-time job—outreach coordinator for the Laurens County Safe Home. ■

A Bridge to Lifelong Success: Lander and PTC Offer Enhanced Transfer Option

Piedmont Technical College students who are planning to transfer to Lander University will have a smoother transition and more because of a new agreement between the two colleges.

"Many of our students transfer to colleges in South Carolina and beyond, but Lander University is consistently the top transfer destination," said Dr. Jack Bagwell, vice president for Academic Affairs at Piedmont Tech. "Our students will benefit greatly if they have a stronger connection with the university as early as possible."

A Historic Agreement

The Bearcat Bound Bridge program is a dual admissions partnership between Lander and PTC. After a student is admitted into the Lander transfer track at Piedmont Tech, there is now a process in place that will usher them through the admissions process at Lander—guaranteeing admission to Lander University as long as transfer requirements are met by the student while at PTC.

"The Bearcat Bound Bridge program will allow many students a seamless transition from Piedmont Tech to Lander University," said Andy Benoit, vice president for Enrollment and Access Management at Lander. "The program's dedicated advisement and structured transfer pathway will allow for a more-defined course of study and progression toward completion of the two-year and four-year degrees. This program truly strengthens our commitment to helping students succeed."

The program will provide prospective transfer students who meet the minimum GPA requirement of a 2.0 and a minimum of 30 hours of college-level coursework with advising and academic support for a guaranteed transfer of credit from PTC to Lander.

Additionally, students who transfer to Lander before completing an associate degree will be able to easily transfer credit back to PTC to complete that credential while working toward their bachelor's degree—allowing students to graduate from Lander with two degrees instead of one.

A Bridge Worth Crossing

"There is a lot of excitement now that we have this agreement in place," said Bagwell. "We want to remove any obstacles that stand in the way of our students achieving their academic goals. And we also want to see them achieve those goals by staying in the region."

As more college-bound students recognize the cost benefit of staying close to home for their degree, the Bearcat Bound Bridge program provides a viable solution to make that commitment affordable, efficient and effective.

"College affordability is top of mind for a lot of parents and students as they shop for college," said Bagwell. "When a student stays in this region instead of going away to college, the savings can be tremendous. Add in a strong partnership between the two public institutions in PTC's seven county service area, and you have a recipe for student success that is unmatched."

Program participants will also benefit from an array of services that will improve their transition from PTC to Lander. "The bridge agreement allows students to immerse themselves into the cultures of both institutions from day one," said Jennifer Mathis, executive director of Admissions at Lander, "and it creates a very unique higher education experience for those students."

Removing All Roadblocks

Bearcat Bound students will be issued a Lander University student identification card, which gives students access to all campus facilities, including the fitness center, pool and other on-campus amenities, as well as free entrance into sporting events and fine arts performances. Students will also have access to dual academic advisement by professionals at both PTC and Lander.

Upon successful completion of the Bridge requirements associated with PTC, Bridge students are granted full acceptance into Lander as well as being eligible for priority registration for their first term at the university.

"The Lander-PTC partnership on the Bearcat Bound Bridge program will help ensure that students have no roadblocks to success," said Dr. Richard Cosentino, president of Lander University.

"We are in the business of showing individuals the clearest pathway to the degree they have their sights set on," said Dr. Ray Brooks, Piedmont Tech president. "Everywhere we can make a connection for PTC students that provides additional educational opportunities through Lander is a win-win situation for the community, the students and the state." ■



BEARCAT BOUND

BRIDGE PROGRAM



LANDER UNIVERSITY and PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE



PROFILE

Te'yanna Mathis Making Early Transfer Connections

Te'yanna Mathis had an idea – go to Piedmont Technical College for two years, then transfer to a four-year school. She just didn't know which university.

"I was trying to find a good plan for me," said Mathis, who graduated from Greenwood High School in June.

After talking with PTC staff, Mathis discovered the Bearcat Bound Bridge program with Lander University which she described as "the best of both worlds."

"When I heard about it, I thought it was great," Mathis said.

Mathis plans to finish at PTC with an associate in arts degree then study marketing at Lander. She is already looking forward to familiarizing herself with the Lander campus, faculty and staff while studying at Piedmont Tech.

"It will let me get involved," she said of having a Lander ID. "And I definitely want to go to the student activities, like plays and games."

"I felt it was a good fit for me," Mathis added. "I would definitely tell other students to consider it, so they can already get involved at the school where they want to transfer." ■

PTC Transfer Degrees

- Associate in Arts
- Associate in Science

Top Transfer Majors at Lander University

- Biology
- Mass Communication
- Early Childhood Education
- Psychology
- Exercise Science

Learn More at www.ptc.edu/lander.

A Certificate in One Year or Less

Through regular collaboration with business and industry leaders, faculty and staff members at Piedmont Technical College are tuned in to the workforce needs of the region. As a result, the college readily creates programs to help fill these identified growth areas with skilled graduates.

For instance, it seems every day there is a new report of computer hacking or system problems at a major company or organization. Local employers are facing similar issues. So, PTC is doing its part to prepare local workers to navigate an increasingly complex world of information technology challenges by offering two new certificates.

The college has also added a certificate program for HVACR installers to help area residents beat the heat as summer wanes and stay warm as winter approaches.

By creating certificates to address these employment needs, the college has created affordable, fast-paced pathways for students to get the credentials they need and get to work in a year or less.

More Options for Aspiring IT Pros

A new Certified IT Professional certificate prepares students to take national certification exams offered by Microsoft, CompTIA and others. The college's new Cybersecurity certificate prepares students to protect IT systems from attack.

"We are seeing high demand for workers with these skills," said Coronicca Oliver, instructor of computer technology at Piedmont Tech.

The Certified IT Professional certificate is a 24-credit, two-semester program being offered on the Greenwood Campus. Courses range from computer systems management to operating systems to network architecture.

"Students can take a lot of these classes online," Oliver said. "We get their need for flexibility."

This fall, PTC added a one-year certificate program in cybersecurity.

The 27-credit program is offered on the Greenwood Campus. It includes some courses being offered for the first time by Piedmont Tech, such as computer forensics, digital forensics and certified ethical hacking.

The certification is good training for someone who is interested in working as a security analyst.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were nearly 1,400 information security analysts

working in South Carolina in 2016. They earned an average wage of \$73,170 per year. The South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce reported that as of May 31 of this year, there were more than two dozen open jobs for information security analysts statewide.

"As long as there are computers, there will be hackers," Oliver said. "The size of a business makes little difference. Every company needs somebody with security knowledge."

Local Demand for HVACR Installers

HVACR stands for heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration. A new certificate program, which started this fall, will prepare students for an entry-level job in the field, according to Bill Cockrell, HVAC program coordinator at Piedmont Tech.

"It's a two-semester certificate and most of the classes are offered in the day or evening," Cockrell said. "About 50 percent of the coursework is lecture and about 50 percent is lab work."

Classes will take place in Piedmont Tech's 10,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art HVAC training facility, which opened in 2016.

"We have one of the nicest facilities around," Cockrell said.

Students will take 10 credit hours in the fall and 11 in the spring. Coursework covers topics such as tools needed for the job and how to use them safely, as well as fundamental training in automatic controls, refrigeration, electrical, and sheet metal.

The certificate holders will be a boon for local HVAC firms, according to Cockrell.

"There's a shortage of workers right now," he said. "Now, instead of having to train a new worker from scratch, they'll be able to hire someone who already has the basic knowledge and can contribute right away."

There were more than 294,000 people working in that occupation as of May 2016. The field is expected to grow by nearly 40,000 workers between 2014-24, and that doesn't count job openings created by retirement and attrition. ■



Where Do You Want to Go?

For many people, deciding on a career can feel like taking a journey without either a map or a destination. Eventually, with some advice and direction, a little exploration and maybe a dead end or two, you begin to get a sense of where you'd like to go and how to get there. Whether you're just starting out or picking up a new career mid-life, Piedmont Tech offers courses and services to help you find your path and get to your goal.

Good advice and good resources are the best road maps. PTC's Counseling, Career Planning and Employment Services can help you explore your options and get started on a plan of action. Academic advisors, too, can help you choose the right classes for your goal.

PTC's 80+ certificate, diploma and degree programs are some of the best vehicles around for taking you to your career destinations. In a year or less a certificate can get you into a job, in two years an associate degree can move you a little farther along your career path, and transferring to a four-year college will take you even farther.

Map out your options by taking a look at the PTC A-Z listing below. And when you're ready to start planning your career, visit www.ptc.edu to find out how to enroll in classes. Call the Admissions Office at (855) 446-3864 for answers to your questions. ■



UNIVERSITY TRANSFER PROGRAMS

If you're headed toward a bachelor's degree, we can help you get there. Piedmont Tech offers more than 80 courses that transfer to any public university or college in South Carolina, and hundreds of PTC students transfer credits earned at Piedmont Tech to universities throughout the state each year.

Associate in Arts

The Associate in Arts program prepares students for four-year baccalaureate majors in fields such as business, accounting, management, English, journalism, social work, education, music, psychology, history, pre-law, humanities, fine arts and social sciences.

Associate in Science

The Associate in Science degree stresses mathematics, as well as natural and physical sciences, and prepares students for four-year baccalaureate majors in those fields, plus engineering, pre-med, veterinary medicine, chiropractic and education.

Transfer Partnerships & Career Path Transfers

PTC has established specific transfer agreements with more than 19 colleges and universities, as well as specific career path transfers in areas such as business, criminal justice, engineering technology, education and many more. Talk to your advisor to decide which path is right for you.

For more information, visit www.ptc.edu/transfer



AGRICULTURE

We all know that agriculture is an important part of South Carolina's heritage. But did you know that agriculture-based businesses play a critical and expanding role in the growth of the state's economy? In fact, agribusiness is one of the largest economic clusters in the state and a critically important part of the knowledge based economy.

Diversified Agriculture

Provides students with advanced technical knowledge in sustainable agriculture, field crop production, pest management, soil and water management, hydraulics and pneumatics, agriculture economics and marketing related to the agricultural industry.

A.A.S., Major in Diversified Agriculture
Basic Diversified Agriculture Certificate

Horticulture Technology

Students are prepared for supervisory, middle management and technical positions in horticulture, including landscape design, implementation and maintenance.

A.A.S., Major in Horticulture Technology
Horticulture Landscape Management Certificate

South Carolina Mean Salaries
Farmer - \$76,880
Agricultural Technician - \$37,670
Nursery Operator - \$24,420



BUSINESS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

If you're a good communicator who enjoys solving problems, a career in business might be right for you. Computers have also become an indispensable part of everyday life. Majoring in Computer Technology at Piedmont Tech will give you the knowledge and skills you'll need to get started in Information Technology and computer science.

Administrative Office Technology

Actual work experience and instruction in keyboarding, word processing, spreadsheet applications, transcription, office procedures, communication, accounting and more give graduates the ability to work independently and handle the details of office administration.

A.A.S., Major in Administrative Office Technology
Office Technician Certificate

Business Administration

Probably no other occupational area encompasses a more diverse range of activities than the business field.

A.A.S., Major in Business Administration
Accounting Certificate
Entrepreneurship Certificate

South Carolina Mean Salaries*
Tax Preparer - \$52,390
Medical Transcriptionist - \$35,570



Commercial Art

If you have an artistic streak and you enjoy solving problems by thinking creatively and interacting with computers, you should consider a major in Commercial Art.

A.A.S., Major in General Technology – Commercial Art

- Concentrations in advertising design, digital rendering and photography

Advertising Design Certificate

Digital Rendering and Gaming Development Certificate

Photography Certificate

Computer Technology

Students study computer maintenance, local and wide area networks and popular programming languages. Graduates are truly prepared to take their place in the Information Age.

A.A.S., Major in Computer Technology

PC Technician Certificate

Cybersecurity Certificate

Certified IT Professional Certificate

In today's Advanced Manufacturing operations, qualified employees are essential to a successful production operation. The Quickskills training programs listed below allow people to learn in a relatively short time frame the necessary entry level skills to help them start work with more than a basic understanding.

Machine Tool CNC Precision Operator

Students will learn and perfect introductory skills in the programming and daily maintenance of CNC machines. Various types of automated equipment, such as Coordinate Measuring Machines are utilized so that students gain practical experience that will help them obtain gainful employment in industry.

Manufacturing Production Technician

The curriculum includes mathematical and statistical techniques and applications, industrial safety and operational principles, production process cycle including resource availability, product specifications and state-of-the-art manufacturing practices, including Lean Manufacturing tools and techniques.

Precision Metrology Certificate

The Precision Metrology certificate is designed to upgrade or refresh skills for people familiar with measuring systems required in Advanced Manufacturing industries. Working with tolerances on the order of millionths of an inch, Quality Control Inspectors require the knowledge to operate highly sophisticated inspection equipment such as optical comparators, profilometers and CMM (Coordinate Measuring Machine) systems.

If you're fascinated by technology and enjoy a hands-on approach to problem solving, Engineering Technology may be the right career path for you.

Electronic Engineering Technology

The graduate is skilled in the operation, troubleshooting, calibration and repair of electronic instruments and systems found in process control, communications, computers, manufacturing, programmable logic controllers and microprocessors.

A.A.S., Major in Electronic Engineering Technology

Engineering Design Technology

All phases of manufacturing or construction require the conversion of new ideas and design concepts into the basic line language of graphics.

A.A.S., Major in Engineering Design Technology

Mechanical Engineering Technology

The Mechanical Engineering Technology curriculum equips the graduate for: performing a key role in the mechanical design process; installing, troubleshooting and repairing mechanical and electro-mechanical equipment; programming CNC machine tools, computers, programmable controllers and robots; and performing general maintenance functions.

A.A.S., Major in Mechanical Engineering Technology

South Carolina Mean Salaries

Electrical and Electronics Drafter - \$62,780
Electronic Engineering Technician - \$61,010
Mechanical Engineering Technician - \$51,930

Engineering Bachelor's Degree Options

Agreements have been developed to provide options for transfer into three bachelor's degree programs: The USC Electrical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering programs; SCSU's bachelor of science in Electrical Engineering Technology (BSEET) degree or the bachelor of science in Mechanical Engineering Technology (BSMET) degree programs; and USC Upstate's Engineering Technology Management B.S. program.

Students enrolled in any of the Industrial Technology curricula will gain practical experience and technical knowledge. Well-equipped labs, broad-based programs and hands-on opportunities make the difference in their futures.

Automotive Technology

Students are trained to perform quality maintenance, diagnosis and repair of complex modern vehicles.

A.A.S., Major in Automotive Technology

Automotive Fundamentals Certificate

Building Construction Technology

Students gain practical training in estimating building costs, carpentry, cabinet making, residential wiring, blueprint reading, brick masonry, construction, building codes and safety.

A.A.S., Major in Building Construction Technology

Carpentry Certificate

Gunsmithing

A.A.S., Major in General Technology - Gunsmithing

Advanced Gunsmithing Certificate

Introduction to Gunsmithing Certificate

Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Technology

Students in this program are educated in the installation, maintenance and repair of air conditioning, refrigeration and heating systems.

A.A.S., Major in Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Technology

Heating Fundamentals Certificate

Refrigeration Applications Certificate

HVACR Installers Certificate

Industrial Electronics Technology

Instruction covers DC and AC voltages; basic hydraulics; machine shop practice; motor control; and the generation, distribution and utilization of electrical power.

A.A.S., Major in Industrial Electronics Technology

Electrical Maintenance Technician Certificate

Machine Tool Technology

Students in this program get training and practical experience in machining operations used in the manufacturing industry. The graduate is skilled in the use of precision equipment and can make intricate parts.

A.A.S., Major in Machine Tool Technology

D.A.S., Major in Machine Tool

Computerized Numerical Control Certificate

Machine Tool Operator Certificate

Mechatronics Technology

Combining electronic, mechanical, robotics and information system technologies, this program provides the graduate with the skill set needed for today's automated manufacturing facilities.

A.A.S., Major in Mechatronics Technology

Mechatronics Technology I Certificate

Welding

Students learn to join metal by use of gas-fueled torches and electric arc processes.

A.A.S., Major in General Technology - Welding

D.A.S., Major in Welding

Basic Welding Certificate

South Carolina Mean Salaries

Automotive Technician	- \$36,250
Carpenter	- \$38,400
HVAC Technician	- \$41,700
Electronics Technician	- \$61,010
CNC Machine Tool Operator	- \$37,490
Mechatronics Technician	- \$61,146
Welder	- \$38,400



With the complexity and diversity of today's health care system, varieties of health care professionals are needed. To function effectively by providing safe, knowledgeable patient care, the health care professional needs a thorough understanding of basic sciences and individual curriculum theory.

Cardiovascular Technology

The Cardiovascular Technologist performs diagnostic tests which are used in the diagnosis, treatment, and serial follow-up of patients with cardiovascular disease.

A.A.S., Major in Cardiovascular Technology

Emergency Medical Technician

The Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) is a vital link in the health care chain. Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) are employed in areas such as emergency ambulances, private non-emergent transport services, clinics, and other allied health care settings.

Emergency Medical Technician Certificate

Funeral Service

This program provides the educational foundation needed to seek South Carolina licensure both as an embalmer and as a funeral director.

A.A.S., Major in Funeral Service

Funeral Service Education Certificate

Health Science Transfer Program

By working closely with an advisor, students can select options in Medical Laboratory Technology, Physical Therapy Assistant or Dental Hygiene. Successful completion of the core requirements and the selected advising option will qualify students to be considered for an Associate in Applied Science degree at Greenville Technical College.

Human Services

The program prepares students to work in diverse settings such as group homes; correctional, mental retardation and mental health settings; family, child and youth service agencies; and programs concerned with alcoholism, drug abuse, family violence and aging.

A.A.S., Major in Human Services

Massage Therapy

Massage Therapy is one of the fastest growing professions in the health care field. There is an ever increasing acceptance of massage as a holistic approach to health care and health maintenance.

A.A.S., Major in General Technology – Massage Therapy

Massage Therapy Certificate

Medical Assisting

The Medical Assisting program prepares a multi-skilled graduate to function in clinical and administrative areas of the physician's office and ambulatory care centers.

A.A.S., Major in General Technology – Medical Assisting

D.A.S., Major in Medical Assisting

Nursing

The Nursing program will assist students in developing the intellectual, technical and professional competencies necessary to practice. Upon successful completion of the NCLEX licensure exam by the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina, graduates can seek employment as licensed registered nurses or licensed practical nurses depending on their program of study.

A.A.S., Major in Nursing

D.A.S., Major in Practical Nursing

LPN to ADN Nursing Transition Option

Occupational Therapy Assistant

As only one of three two-year programs of its kind in South Carolina, Piedmont Technical College's Occupational Therapy Assistant program is a great option for students seeking this in-demand training in the Upstate and Midlands.

A.A.S., Major in Occupational Therapy Assistant

Patient Care Technician

Because health care is changing at an unprecedented pace, new or varied approaches to patient care are emerging. One such approach is the use of multi-skilled individuals known as Patient Care Technicians who are a part of the health care team.

A.A.S., Major in General Technology – Patient Care Technician

Patient Care Technician Certificate

Pharmacy Technology

Graduates of the pharmacy technology diploma are health care professionals who assist the pharmacist in a hospital or clinical setting to provide quality health care related to medication administration in an institutional setting.

A.A.S., Major in General Technology – Pharmacy Technology

D.A.S., Major in Pharmacy Technology

South Carolina Mean Salaries

- Cardiovascular Technologist - \$47,810
- Funeral Director - \$42,430
- Human Services Assistant - \$26,270
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) - \$39,410
- Massage Therapist - \$36,900
- Pharmacy Technician - \$30,060
- Radiologic Technologist - \$49,430
- Respiratory Therapist - \$50,240
- Registered Nurse (RN) - \$61,110
- Veterinary Technologist - \$29,940

Phlebotomy Technician

This certificate program provides students with the basic skills necessary for the collection of laboratory blood specimens.

Phlebotomy Technician Certificate

Radiologic Technology

The Radiologic Technology curriculum is designed to assist students in acquiring the general and technical competencies necessary to enter the radiography field.

A.A.S., Major in Radiologic Technology

Respiratory Care

The respiratory care practitioner is trained to assist the medical staff with the treatment, management and care of patients with cardiopulmonary abnormalities or deficiencies.

A.A.S., Major in Respiratory Care

Surgical Technology

Surgical technologists are members of the operating team who work closely with surgeons, anesthesiologists, RN's and other personnel to deliver patient care before, during and after surgery.

A.A.S., Major in General Technology – Surgical Technology

D.A.S., Major in Surgical Technology

Veterinary Technology

The veterinary technician works under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The specialized training received will allow the graduate to seek employment in such areas as clinical medicine, laboratory animal medicine, emergency medicine, pharmaceutical sales, food inspection and government agencies.

A.A.S., Major in Veterinary Technology

Students interested in a career in Public Service may choose majors in Criminal Justice or Early Care and Education.

South Carolina Mean Salaries

- Police Officer - \$40,340
- Preschool or Daycare Director - \$47,310
- Preschool Teacher - \$30,320

Criminal Justice

This program is designed to prepare professionally-educated and competent criminal justice practitioners for careers within the criminal justice system.

A.A.S., Major in Criminal Justice

Early Care and Education

The Early Care and Education program offers a combination of classroom instruction and supervised, hands-on experience that prepares students for direct entry into the field of Early Care and Education.

A.A.S., Major in Early Care and Education

A.A.S., Major in Early Care and Education, Infant/Toddler Care Concentration

Early Childhood Development Certificate

Infant/Toddler Certificate

The General Technology degree is designed to provide students with an opportunity to upgrade diploma or certificate programs. The program is designed to be substantially individualized to meet the needs of employees who have or seek to have broad technical responsibilities.

General Technology

The major in General Technology is designed to provide students with an opportunity to upgrade diploma or certificate programs into broader occupational degrees. The program is designed to be substantially individualized to meet the needs of employees who have or seek to have broad technical responsibilities. Total credit hours for this degree must equal 60 or more. Students in the following program areas, with general education courses, may earn an associate in applied science with a general major in general technology: Welding, Gunsmithing, Commercial Art, and Health Science.

A.A.S. = Associate in Applied Science
D.A.S. = Diploma in Applied Science

IT'S YOUR MOVE

MAKE IT COUNT

Deciding on the right career or the best path to a bachelor's degree is an important decision. And we know you have questions.

Maybe you're paying for college out of your own pocket, and you're not quite sure how to cover the tuition and fees. Maybe you're ready to step out of your comfort zone to pursue the career you've always wanted, but you're unsure of the direction you should take. Whatever questions you have, **Piedmont Technical College can help you find the path to a successful future.**

So, don't let anything hold you back from following your dreams.

Get started today at makeitptc.com.

ABBEVILLE COUNTY CAMPUS

143 Hwy 72 W
Abbeville, South Carolina
(864) 446-8324

CENTER FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

109 Innovation Drive
Laurens, South Carolina
(864) 682-3702

EDGEFIELD COUNTY CAMPUS

506 Main Street
Edgefield, South Carolina
(803) 637-5388

LEX WALTERS CAMPUS-GREENWOOD

620 N. Emerald Road
Greenwood, South Carolina
(864) 941-8324

LAURENS COUNTY CAMPUS

663 Medical Ridge Road
Clinton, South Carolina
(864) 938-1505

MCCORMICK COUNTY CAMPUS

1008 Kelly Street
McCormick, South Carolina
(864) 852-3191

NEWBERRY COUNTY CAMPUS

1922 Wilson Road
Newberry, South Carolina
(803) 276-9000

SALUDA COUNTY CAMPUS

701 Batesburg Hwy.
Saluda, South Carolina
(864) 445-3144

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visit www.ptc.edu
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