

CareerFocus™

**Internet Job Search
the Right Way**

**Tips for
Returning
Adult Students**

**A Cutting
Edge Career
in Advanced
Manufacturing
Demand for Machinists
at an All-time High**

**Helping
Patients
Breathe
Easy**

**Respiratory
Therapists
Play an
Important Role
in Health Care**

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER
ECSWSS

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
ACADEMIC
MARKETING SERVICES

Piedmont Technical College
PO Box 1467
Greenwood, SC 29648



NEWBERRY CAMPUS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The demand for qualified IT personnel is high and growing across South Carolina. To help connect more people with these rewarding careers, Piedmont Technical College is adding the full Information Technology concentration of the Computer Technology associate degree program to the Newberry County Campus.

What can I do with a degree in IT?

An information technology-related degree opens the door for a career in a wide-range of fields from homeland security and health care to gaming development.

In PTC's program, you'll learn a wide range of skills, from programming, to security, to project management. You'll have a working knowledge of most aspects of modern information technology.

Curriculum Endorsed by:



South Carolina

South Carolina State Seal
is an independent agency of the
State Cross and Blue Shield Association



LEARN MORE

Learn more about career opportunities in IT:

CONTACT:

Lesley Price
Information Technology
Department Head
P: (864) 941-8746

WHERE:

Newberry County Campus
1922 Wilson Road
Newberry, SC 29108

www.ptc.edu/computer

Questions about the PTC programs and services described in this publication should be directed to the Office of Admissions at (864) 941-8369. Comments or questions about the publication itself can be directed to the PTC Office of Marketing and Public Relations at (864) 941-8541.

Publisher: L. Ray Brooks
 President, Piedmont Technical College
 Editor: Josh Black
 Assistant Editor: Dawn Lewis
 Photography: Randy Pace

Visit Piedmont Technical College on the Web at www.ptc.edu

Piedmont Technical College Area Commission

- Y. J. Ahn—Greenwood
- Cherry Houston Brown—McCormick
- Dr. George P. Cone, Jr. —Greenwood
- Richard Cain—Laurens
- Emma Goodwin—Abbeville
- Jane J. Herlong, Secretary—Edgefield
- Stephen M. Lamb—Laurens
- Peter J. Manning—Greenwood
- H. George Piersol, II—Newberry
- Rufus C. Sherard—Abbeville
- William I. West—Greenwood
- William A. Whitfield, Chairman—Saluda

Institutional Officers

- L. Ray Brooks, Ed.D., *President*
- K. Paige Childs, *Vice President for Business and Finance*
- Rebecca R. McIntosh, *Vice President for Student Development*
- Susan G. Timmons, *Vice President for Educational Affairs*

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 and Comprehensive Education System, is a public comprehensive two-year post-secondary 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 enrolls approximately 4,500 to 5,500 credit students. 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; developmental education programs; student development programs providing academic, career and individual support; and custom-designed Continuing Education programs provide training for business and industry.

CareerFocus is published twice a year by Piedmont Technical College, PO Box 1467, Greenwood, SC 29648 in partnership with Academic Marketing Services.

All rights reserved. No part of the material printed may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage retrieval system without the permission of the publisher.

© 2013 Piedmont Technical College

CareerFocus™

Features

- 2 Internet Job Search the Right Way**
 ...and Advice About Why These Excuses Don't Fly
- 3 Tips for Returning Adult Students**
 Resources help ease the transition
- 6 The Perfect College Fit**
 A high-school student's guide to selecting the right college

PTC Programs

- 4 A Cutting Edge Career in Advanced Manufacturing**
 Demand for well-trained machinists is at an all-time high
 STUDENT PROFILE
Jared Roach
- 7 Ask All the Right Questions**
- 8 Helping Patients Breathe Easy**
 Respiratory Therapists Play an Important Role in Health Care
 ALUM PROFILE
Sharon Calliham

In Every Issue

- 10 Where Do You Want to Go: PTC Programs A-Z**
- Inside Back Cover Continuing Education Summer Camps 2013**



4



7



8

On the cover:
 Sharon Calliham, 2005
 Respiratory Care Graduate.



On the go?

Read CareerFocus anytime on your mobile device, computer or tablet 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.



Internet Job Search the Right Way

Start online but don't stay there

A mere 10 percent of job hunters will find a job online. That fact is sad but true. Yet online job hunting seems so promising. Just scroll through the hundreds of jobs on huge sites such as Monster, CareerBuilder or Indeed, choose a few listings that look like a good match, send off a nice resume and cover letter—and wait.



A better way

And wait and wait and wait, because you're probably just one of thousands of applicants, and it's almost impossible to stand out in a crowd like that.

However the odds of landing a job go way up for job seekers who make face-to-face contact with real people.

Job hunters who knock on doors, make phone calls and develop a focused job search are much more successful at getting hired explains employment guru Richard Bolles in

The odds of landing a job go way up for job seekers who make face-to-face contact with actual people.

his book *The Job Hunter's Survival Guide*.

Donald Asher, author of *Cracking the Hidden Job Market* seconds that, "You get jobs by talking to people," he says.

The Web is just a starting point

This doesn't mean that online job sites are worthless. It just means

that you have to use them differently. Job boards can provide valuable leads for the real work of the job search.

Steve Dalton author of the *Two Hour Job Search*, has a strategy that gets job hunters out from behind the computer and into the real world. As a career counselor at



Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, he developed this effective and systematic approach to help students improve their job search success.

Most people get so bogged down in the online job search, says Dalton, that just developing a strategy and making contacts with real people can put them well ahead of the game.

"Two hours refers to the time it takes to get the basics in place, not the entire job search," he says. "After that it will take varying amounts of time depending on the day."

A systematic approach

Dalton recommends that job hunters begin by spending just two hours on the Internet to research job boards and corporate websites and find jobs and companies that interest them.

With this information, they create a list of 40 employers they'd like to work for. Then they do a little more research to add names of people to contact at these companies. Finally they rank the employers on their list based on how much they want to work for them.

Then this list becomes the basis for a real-life, face-to-face job search.

"I've yet to see a student get to 15 on the list without finding a job," says

Dalton. It works because employers, just like everyone else, would rather hire a person they know.

It's still about real people

The second part of the job search is to reach out to the contacts on your list for informational interviews.

With these interviews you make appointments to meet with the contacts on your list. These aren't job interviews but they are a good way to learn more about your profession and to create a network of people who know you and know you're looking for work.

"Very few people are a perfect fit for a particular job, so in reality most people are hired based on likability and referrals," says Dalton.

While job seekers often fear talking to people face-to-face, Dalton reassures them that this disappears after a few interviews. "Your goal is to get contact with real people. Not every person will help you but don't stress. Keep moving," he says.

"When you can get someone who knows and likes you to advocate for you, your chances go up."

"I encourage students to look at the job search as a game of odds," he says. "Not every contact will pay off, but you can definitely take actions that will increase the odds of your success." ■



Tips for Returning Adult Students

Resources help ease the transition

Changing careers in today's economy can often mean returning to college to gain new skills to prepare for the evolving marketplace. Technical colleges are often the first place career changers turn for assistance.

"Non-traditional-aged students bring motivation and maturity to the classroom.

They are often not afraid to ask questions or seek an instructor's help," said Becky McIntosh, vice president for Student Affairs at Piedmont Technical College.

"Coming back to school is a big decision that comes with great rewards," said McIntosh. "Students can expect to be pleasantly surprised by being open to all sorts of new opportunities, challenges, ideas and points of view." ■

Coming back to school is a big decision that comes with great rewards.

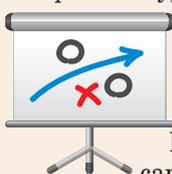
At times a returning adult student can feel out of place, which can be anxiety provoking when coming back to school.

Here are a few tips for adults getting ready to return to the classroom

1

Consult with advising professionals

to review your goals and plan a course of study. Advisors will help you understand if past college credentials **and** **or** work experience can apply toward your goal. Consider the following questions: why do you want to return to college... how will college help personally, professionally and financially... are you ready... what is your commitment level...are on campus or online classes best for you?



3

Scan the employment environment

and know your marketability. Capitalize on current areas of need.



5

Ensure a good fit

Investigate the requirements for a career choice and see if it fits your interests, abilities and needs. If changing career fields, identify the transferable skills you already possess.



7

Assess yourself academically

Depending on your length of absence from college and the courses you are about to study, you need to reassess your skills via placement test. Don't let this stop you. PTC offers classes at all levels.



9

Consider online classes

If you are concerned about returning to a traditional classroom environment, or are worried your schedule cannot accommodate going back to school, consider online classes. This flexible learning approach offers advantages for your busy schedule. PTC also offers hybrid classes which combine the best of in-class and online learning.



2

Expect to see students with similar goals in class

You are not alone in considering college after working for several years. A large percentage of PTC students are non-traditional (over the age of 25). For all the work that college requires, most of them love it.



4

Do something you love

Selecting something you truly have an interest in is intrinsically rewarding.



6

Have a support system in place

Identify who you can count on for moral support. Surround yourself with people who believe in you and your goals. Don't be afraid to ask for help.



8

Consider financial aid and explore scholarship opportunities

The first step is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available at fafsa.gov. Don't miss out on valuable opportunities including scholarships.



10

Realize how much you already know. The prior experience and knowledge you bring as a returning adult student will benefit your college experience and your classmates. ■



A Cutting Edge Career in Advanced Manufacturing

Demand for well-trained machinists is at an all-time high

The manufacturing sector has been making a big comeback in Upstate South Carolina, and one of the skill sets in the highest demand is machining and CNC programming.

At the moment, employers need more machinists than they can find. In fact, some expanding companies like Bosch Rexroth in Fountain Inn are even recruiting nationally for local positions.

“The demand for machinists is at an all-time high,” said Bob Koster, Metal Trades department head.

According to Koster, companies are currently hiring everybody they can find with experience. Koster points to 30 job openings on his desk that his students could apply for right now.

“There are more jobs out there than we have students,” he said. “And that’s good news for the people in the Machine Tool Technology program.”

What does a Machinist Do?

Machinists have a hand in practically everything: from the parts on your

car to the equipment at your doctor’s office to the shoes in your closet.

Machinists take raw materials, like metal or plastic, and produce a specialized finished product by using a set of machines, or by programming a computer to follow a set of specifications.

They need to have an understanding of blueprint reading and schematics, a knowledge of measurement techniques, and the skills required to operate various types of machinery.

These machines can include manually operated machines like lathes, drill presses, milling machines, or grinders, and can progress into what’s

We have requests almost daily from manufacturers in our region and out of state for one or two machinists, and sometimes as many as 30.

called CNC technology, which means “computer numerically controlled.”

CNC is a technology used by virtually every advanced manufacturing company in the world today.

CNC programmers are needed to write the programs that are used by advanced machines to design a part. When these programs are entered into a computer, the computer will tell the machine how to make the part.

Training in the Skills Employers Need

Piedmont Technical College offers state-of-the-art training facilities in its Machine Tool Technology program to train machinists in the skills employers are looking for.

Machine Tool students produce hands-on projects from blueprints or existing parts. Activities cover operation of all machine tool equipment, as well as precision measurement, shop-related blueprint reading and applied mathematics.

And the work is precise—very precise. Generally, machinists make parts that have to be within 1/1,000 of an inch of specifications. That’s thinner than

a strand of hair. In some cases, parts have to be within 1/10,000 of an inch.

In addition to conventional machines like lathes, drill presses and grinders, students learn machine code programming, conversational programming, and create working programs for CNC machines.

“Basically what we do is take someone with no knowledge of machining or Machine Tool technology and show them how to take a part from raw material to a finished product,” said Johnny Merck, Machine Tool instructor.

Koster says that Machine Tool students come from every background you can imagine—from right out of high school, to people looking for a new career, to people coming back to school to upgrade their skills for a wage increase.

“Some students have never even operated a drill press or done anything mechanical in their lives prior to enrolling,” Koster said.

The program offers different options, ranging from certificates up to an associate degree, to allow students to complete their coursework in phases if they need additional flexibility.



“It’s set up so that you can get quick skills in a short period of time that you can utilize for the rest of your life—something that nobody can take from you,” said Merck.

Good Career Opportunities

Students who enroll in PTC’s Machine Tool Technology program qualify for a wide variety of jobs, according to Merck.

Normally, graduates start out as machine operators, then work their way up to machine set up, and can then become programmers. Experienced CNC programmers can be very well compensated, and are in high demand throughout the country. Other career tracks include sales, engineering and more.

Merck says that someone graduating from Piedmont Technical College’s Machine Tool associate degree program can expect to make from \$15-\$20 an hour starting out with no previous experience, and some students earn more than \$30 an hour.

Both Koster and Merck are in constant contact with the manufacturing community about openings in the region, and about new shops that are looking for groups of qualified machinists.

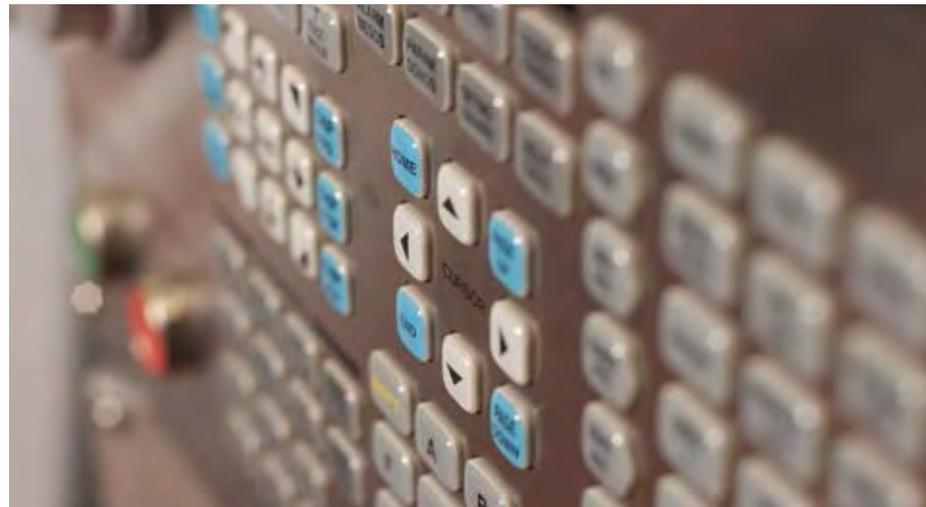
“We have requests almost daily from manufacturers in our region and out of state for one or two machinists, and sometimes as many as 30,” says Koster.

Koster says that part of the way the Machine Tool faculty define their jobs is to help students get employment, and that students frequently get hired before they finish their studies.

Overall, the program can be a starting point for a very rewarding field for someone looking for a hands-on career.

As Merck says, “People use their hands and their minds, and it’s a very satisfying program to be in. To be able to design a part, write a program, and then physically make that part can be very fulfilling.”

Visit www.ptc.edu/machinetool for more information. ■



New Precision Metrology Program

In Summer 2013, PTC will be offering South Carolina’s first and only Precision Metrology program at the Center for Advanced Manufacturing in Laurens County.

The Precision Metrology certificate is designed to upgrade or refresh skills for people familiar with measuring systems required in advanced manufacturing. 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 Coordinate Measuring Machine (CMM) systems.

The classes included in this certificate will benefit those with the responsibility to inspect manufactured products and also would be beneficial to any machine operator or shop manager interested in learning new techniques for inspection.

The classes will require students to operate CNC equipment along with all the available inspections tools. A ZEISS Scanning CMM will be the major component of this program along with the available CMM 3D Simulation Software provided by ZEISS.

For more information or to enroll, contact Bob Koster at (864) 941-8471.

Student Profile

Jared Roach

Machine Tool Student on the Right Track

Jared Roach has found a way to put his mechanical abilities to good use.

The Ware Shoals native graduated from Greenwood Christian School in 2010 and enrolled in the Electronic Engineering Technology program at Piedmont Technical College. But a walk through the machine tool shop changed his life.

Roach had enrolled in the Electronic Engineering Technology program because he had worked with electronics his whole life and had been exposed to the field by his father. It was never something that called to him, though, he said.

“I walked through the machine shop one day and thought it would be interesting to do,” Roach said.

“I thought this would be more challenging and hands-on.”

Roach changed his major and hasn’t looked back. He is on track to graduate from the Machine Tool program in May 2013. The hands-on environment has provided Roach with the training he was searching for when he came to PTC.

“Everything I do in the shop has been so beneficial,” he said. “Bob (Koster) and Johnny (Merck) have been great instructors.”

The change of major has proven to be valuable for Roach. In October 2012, he was hired by Piedmont Plastics in Ware Shoals as a CNC operator.

“The company was looking for machinists and Bob recommended I apply,” Roach said. “It’s been a



great thing because I’ve gotten more experience.”

Upon graduation, Roach wants to continue his education with more classes, including more CNC classes and the new CMM classes offered at the PTC Center for Advanced Manufacturing in Laurens.

“The more education you have, the more options you have in your career,” he said. “And you never stop learning in this field.”

For those looking for a long-term career, Roach highly recommends students explore the Machine Tool program at Piedmont Technical College.

“As long as there are businesses that need equipment, there will be a need for machinists to make the parts,” said Roach. “The training you get from the instructors at Piedmont Tech will prepare you with the basics for what you will see in the field.” ■

The Perfect College Fit

A high-school student's guide to selecting the right college

The United States has more than 4,000 colleges and universities, including everything from two-year technical colleges to huge state universities, small private liberal arts colleges, and elite private universities.

How can you possibly find the one that is right for you?

In truth, there isn't any one school that will fit you. You probably could be happy and successful at several schools. Nevertheless, you must make a choice. So how do you do it?

First, start early. Your parents, your counselors, maybe even your friends will tell you college can be some of the most important years of your life. Deciding where you want to go is something you need to take seriously and not decide on the spur of the moment.

Make time for research

It's a good idea to start exploring colleges in your junior year of high school, if not sooner, and to apply to schools early in your senior year.

Begin by considering which is more important to you—the programs offered or the type of institution. Some students know exactly what they want to study and search

for schools that have the leading programs in their field. Others choose the type of university they want—large or small, urban or rural, private or public—then explore those.

The Internet, guides to U.S. colleges, college rankings, and materials your high school counselor has on file can get you started. Attend college fairs in your community, pick up the free materials, ask lots of questions, and bring paper and pencil so you can make notes and write down your impressions.

Don't overlook your local technical college. Low tuition rates and excellent faculty and easy transfer options make it the perfect start for students who plan to earn four-year degrees. Two years at a technical college can shave thousands of dollars from your tuition bills, or boost your GPA allowing you to transfer to your dream school.

Get ready to apply

By this time, you should have identified several schools that meet your criteria. Narrow this list down to ones you want to investigate in depth. Create your own college calendar so you can keep track of when applications are due, when you sent your application in, and when admission decisions are made.



You really can't get the feel of a college from a brochure. Go on campus. Have lunch in a student cafeteria. Walk through classroom buildings.

Contact the institutions directly and ask for more materials. Watch how quickly they respond to your request to see how they treat prospective students.

Then plan some site visits. You really can't get the feel of a place and figure out if you will fit in from a brochure or CD. Go on campus. Talk with people in the Admissions Office. Have lunch in a student cafeteria. Walk through classroom buildings.

You will find you respond differently to different places, and this is good. It helps you make the decision of where to actually apply. Don't ignore your instincts. Include them as one more piece of information.

Application time

Filling out an application is not fun. It is a challenge that you may repeat several times. Almost 300 colleges accept the Common Application, and that should make the process easier. Seventy percent of students apply to three or more colleges, according

to the Higher Education Research Institute.

Make sure your technical college is on that list. Applications are usually free and you'll have the option to take summer classes even if you decide to enroll at another college.

After you have done your work, and submitted your application, the waiting begins. Keep an open mind and consider that 84 percent of all colleges accept more than 50 percent of the students who apply, according to statistics from the National Association for College Admission Counseling. ■

The 10 Worst Reasons For Choosing a College

1. My girlfriend/boyfriend is going there.
2. Most of my friends are going there.
3. My guidance counselor (or my computer) told me it was the right school for me.
4. It's a party school.
5. It accepted me, and I want to stop applying.
6. It's the only school I know about.
7. My parents went there.
8. It looks cool in the virtual tour/guidebook.
9. It's as far away from home as I can get.
10. It's got all this prestige.

Ask All the Right Questions

Your honest answers to these questions will help you decide what kind of college is the best fit for you, financially, academically and personally.

1 How much can you afford in tuition, fees and room and board?

Tuition alone can range from about \$3,600 a year for a technical college to \$50,000 or more a year for private colleges. If you live on campus, room and board will run around \$8,000 on top of that.

Students who decide to live with their parents and attend technical college will have the lowest costs. By completing the first two years of required courses at a technical college and transferring to a university to complete your bachelor's degree you can save thousands and avoid crippling student loan debt.

2 Can you meet the entrance requirements?

Colleges can be very selective, and clearly someone with a low grade-point average will have a hard time getting into Harvard. Colleges do look at grades.

If you don't get into your dream school on the first try, consider attending technical college, raising your GPA and then transferring after you prove you're a serious student.



3 What kind of living situation is best?

Do you want to live at home, close to home, or far from home? Do you want to live in a dorm or off campus?

While some students can't wait to live on their own, others prefer easing into adulthood and remaining near family and friends. And if cost is an issue, splurging on dorm life now might not be worth moving back in with your parents after you graduate.

4 Do you prefer a small, medium or large school?

Student populations on U.S. campuses can range somewhere between 200 and 50,000 students. Technical colleges too vary in size from small rural campuses to large urban systems.

5 What do you want out of college life?

Do you want a school with a lively social life, big football games, and lots of traditions? Do you want a school that is quiet, serious and intellectual? Are extracurricular activities or sororities and fraternities important?

Remember, these are not completely exclusive. But a large university is more likely to offer up big football games and Greek life than a small liberal arts college.

- **Technical colleges too, have their own identities.** Some excel in the arts or specific academics; some have thriving sports teams and campus activities. Some offer extensive transfer credits, others emphasize vocation and technical training. Find out what your technical college has to offer. Consider online classes. If you are concerned about returning to a traditional classroom environment, or are worried your schedule cannot accommodate going back to school, consider online classes. This flexible learning approach offers advantages for your busy schedule. PTC also offers hybrid classes which combine the best of in-class and online learning.
- **Realize how much you already know.** The prior experience and knowledge you bring as a returning adult student will benefit your college experience and your classmates. ■





Helping Patients Breathe Easy

Respiratory Therapists Play an Important Role in Health Care

Although the general public is more familiar with doctors and nurses, anyone who's had a serious hospital visit or surgery has probably had contact with a respiratory therapist at some point.

These respiratory experts are important members of the health care team, and are involved in saving and improving the quality of people's lives on a daily basis.

Holly Gosling, a second year respiratory student, saw just how important the field could be while working at a local hospital.

"I decided to enroll in respiratory when I worked in the Critical Intensive Care Unit. I was behind the scenes, behind the desk, and I would sit back and watch the nurses and RTs when people came back from heart surgery," she said.

"The therapists were there for their patients at all times. I chose this field to get hands on experience working directly with patients so I can make a difference in their lives."

Making a difference is a common theme for respiratory students.

Jessica Ford, a student from Honea Path, says "The part that I love about it is when you take a patient off the ventilator and they're getting to speak to their family for the first time. Being present at that moment can be an amazing experience."

Combined with a good salary and excellent career potential, respiratory therapy can be a good choice for someone interested in a health care career.

What does a Respiratory Therapist Do?

Respiratory therapists are experts in life support equipment, and work closely with doctors and other health care staff to treat heart and lung diseases like cardiac failure, asthma and more.

"As respiratory therapists, we work with physicians and nurses, and a lot of times, we all have to come together

to create the best plan for the patient," says Ann Allen, program coordinator for PTC's Respiratory Care program.

"We're also part of the discharge planning team," she says. "We're right there with social services and the home health nurses trying to decide what's going to be the best plan of care for these patients when they go home."

Respiratory therapists can work in a wide variety of settings, from

rehabilitation clinics and sleep labs to trauma centers and hospitals.

They provide temporary relief to patients with chronic problems, are part of the critical and intensive care teams, and can give emergency care as a part of surface and air transport teams or as part of rapid-response teams in the hospital.

Respiratory therapists provide treatment for all age groups—from infants to the elderly, and are involved in everything from rehabilitation to smoking-cessation, disease prevention, case management and the diagnosis of breathing disorders.

"We spend a lot of our time not just taking care of the patient, but also teaching them about their disease," Allen says. "It's a part of our responsibility to educate patients on their medications and how to return to a normal life."

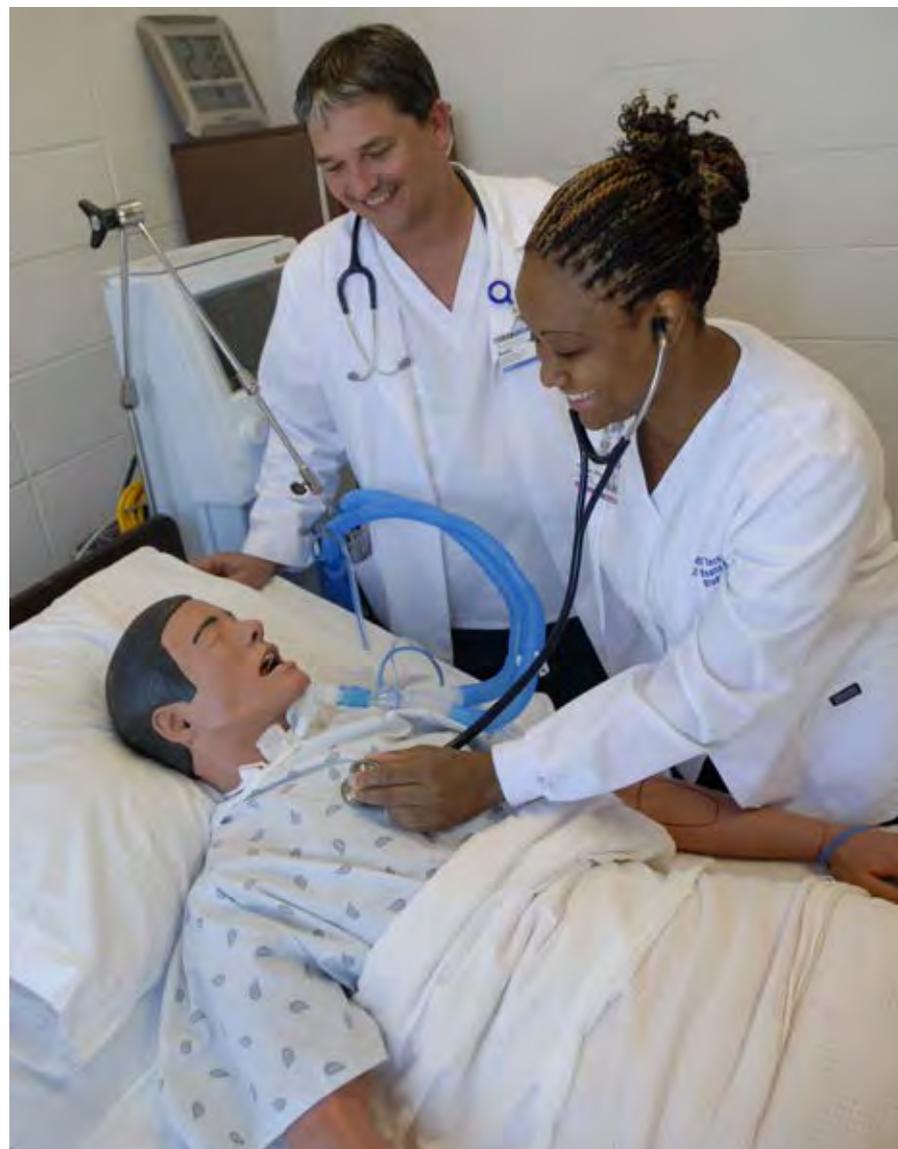
Practical Experience from the Beginning

If you're interested in a career in respiratory therapy, PTC's Respiratory Care program provides the training and practical experience with regional hospitals and clinics that you'll need to get a solid start.

The program at PTC is a two year program that starts classes each fall. Students are in clinicals each semester and a special internship in the final semester.

In class, students get in-depth, hands-on training with ventilators, obtaining blood gases, patient interaction and more. When students actually get into the hospital, they see that what they're learning in class is directly applicable in the real world.

"One of the great things about our program is that we get the students in



Alum Profile

Sharon Calliham

Respiratory Grad Finds her Passion in Home Health

Sharon Calliham has found her passion in helping people. As a registered respiratory therapist working in home health, she gets to fuel that passion each day.

“I love the personal interaction with the patients,” she said. “They become part of my family.”

Calliham came to Piedmont Tech following a long career in textiles. As the jobs started to go, she knew she needed to find a new profession. She decided she needed to go back to school.

“Straight out of high school, I got married and worked in the cotton mill. I made good money and at the time, that’s what it was all about,” Calliham said. “It took me a little more time to realize that it was more serious than that to plan for the future.”

Calliham enrolled at Piedmont Tech in the Surgical Technology Program. But she went a different direction after beginning her school work.

“Jerry Alewine was my medical terminology instructor,” she said. “He told me he thought Respiratory was something I might like and

that he thought I could go further than what I was aiming for.”

Calliham changed her major and excelled at the program, even serving as a Presidential Ambassador. In January 2005, she was hired by Parrish Home Medical, a full six months before she graduated. The job provided extra training as she completed her degree and proved to be her calling.

“A hospital setting is so much more hectic” said Calliham. “I love that I have the flexibility to make my own schedule and I don’t have to be in a hurry, which means I can spend more time with the patients.”

Calliham gets to share her experiences with current Respiratory Care students. Parrish Home Medical serves as a clinical site for home health care instruction. Students travel with her two days a week and learn how to do patient assessments and how to set up the necessary equipment. Her advice to these students and anyone else thinking of entering the Respiratory Care program is to be prepared.

“Make sure you are serious about this because it’s not just a job,” she said. “It’s about having compassion for people.” ■



clinical the very first semester,” says Allen.

After basic lab training, during the first half of the semester, students start working in the hospital about one day a week.

During that time, students begin to see patients, experience what it’s like to see patients using oxygen, and see some of the procedures that they’ll be learning the rest of the program.

The program coordinators work directly with health care providers all over the region to ensure that students get a wide range of clinical experience in hospitals of varying sizes, in home health care, and in other areas.

“The larger hospitals like Self and AnMed give students a lot of critical care experience, and a very fast-paced emergency room experience,” said Karla Gilliam, PTC’s director of clinical education and an instructor in the respiratory program.

Gilliam said that the smaller hospitals sometimes offer students a slower pace, but that the variety lets students make

an informed decision about what kind of environment they want to work in.

“What’s really kind of interesting is that a lot of our graduates are now department heads and supervisors in the same hospitals where they did their clinicals,” Allen said.

Both Allen and Gilliam emphasize the program’s family atmosphere.

“We’re focused on our students’ success at PTC, both in the classroom and professionally, and although the work is challenging, this is a supportive environment,” said Gilliam.

Combined with a good salary and excellent career potential, respiratory therapy can be a good choice for someone interested in a health care career.

A Personally Rewarding Career

Recent PTC grads earn an entry level salary of about \$38,000, with good potential for growth—up to around \$60,000 in this region.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Respiratory Therapists is projected to increase faster than average through 2020, or about 28 percent nationally.

Respiratory therapists need at least an associate degree, although both associate and bachelor’s degrees are common.

To become a respiratory therapist, there are several levels of required testing at the national level. PTC graduates are prepared to take both the entry-level and advanced National Board exams. Graduates are also certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and Neonatal Resuscitation Provider, credentials that make them more marketable.

While graduates work primarily in the college’s service region, PTC grads are working all over the state: in

Charleston, Greenville, Columbia, and some in Charlotte.

Overall, Respiratory Care can be both personally and professionally rewarding, as Eddie Brown, a PTC grad who now mentors PTC clinical students in addition to his full-time respiratory therapy position, can attest.

“Once I graduated with my associate degree, I was actually already working at Newberry Hospital,” he said.

“Now I work in the Cardiovascular ICU in Greenville. During my career, I’ve been on many codes and many life-saving teams. I really love my patients. I love respiratory, and I love what I do.”

For more information, visit www.ptc.edu/respiratory. ■



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 in 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) 682-7094 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 15 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

Agriculture Education Transfer Option to Clemson

Horticulture and/or Turfgrass Transfer Option to Clemson

South Carolina Median Salaries

- Farmer - \$32,300
- Landscaping Supervisor - \$39,800
- Nursery Operator - \$43,230



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
Microcomputer Software Specialist Certificate
Office Technician Certificate

Business

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

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

South Carolina Median Salaries*

- Accounting - \$31,600
- Administrative Office Technology - \$28,600
- Office Manager - \$41,200
- Network Administrator - \$61,700
- Funeral Director - \$54,600



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

Advanced Web Development Certificate

PC Technician Certificate

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.

Advertising Design Certificate

Desktop Publishing Certificate

Digital Rendering and Gaming Development Certificate

Illustration Certificate

Photography 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

Professional Pottery

Located in historic Edgefield County, the Professional Clay program is designed to offer a comprehensive education in the craft of pottery, and in the discipline of making a living doing what you love.

Advanced Professional Clay Certificate

Professional Clay Certificate

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 Graphics 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 Graphics Technology

General Engineering Technology

Students will learn how computers and robotics are used in industry to operate automated manufacturing systems. They will also learn to program computers, robots, computerized numerical control (CNC) machines, programmable logic controllers and automated equipment.

A.A.S., Major in General Engineering 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

Transfer Options

Electronic Engineering Transfer Option

Mechanical Engineering Transfer Option

South Carolina Median Salaries

Electrical and Electronics

Drafter - \$49,300

Electronic Engineering

Technician - \$52,600

Mechanical Engineering

Technician - \$44,400

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

Construction Management Certificate

Gunsmithing

Introduction to Gunsmithing Certificate

Advanced 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

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

Electronic 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

Precision Metrology 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.

D.A.S., Major in Welding

Journeyman Welding Certificate

South Carolina Median Salaries

Automotive Technician - \$32,700

Carpenter - \$33,000

HVAC Technician - \$35,900

Electronics Technician - \$47,900

CNC Machine Tool Operator - \$34,100

Mechatronics Technician - \$59,300

Welder - \$35,100



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

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.

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.

D.A.S., Major in Medical Assisting

Nursing

The Nursing program will assist students in developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes 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 nurses.

A.A.S., Major in Nursing

D.A.S., Major in Practical Nursing

LPN to ADN Program

Associate in Arts, Nursing Transfer

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.

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.

D.A.S., Major in Pharmacy Technology

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.

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

Health Science Transfer

Health Science Transfer Certificate

South Carolina Median Salaries

- Cardiovascular Technologist - \$46,300
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) - \$37,600
- Massage Therapist - \$27,800
- Pharmacy Technician - \$26,200
- Radiologic Technologist - \$48,700
- Respiratory Therapist - \$51,200
- Registered Nurse (RN) - \$57,500
- Veterinary Technologist - \$26,800

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

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

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

South Carolina Median Salaries

- Police Officer - \$36,800
- Preschool or Daycare Director - \$34,500
- Preschool Teacher - \$22,000
- Human Services Assistant - \$26,800



The Occupational 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 requires that a student have completed or be in the last term of a diploma or certificate program of 28 hours. Students in the following programs, with general education courses and a secondary specialty, may earn an Associate in Applied Science with a major in General Technology: Advertising Design, Desktop Publishing, Horticulture Landscape Management, Illustration, Machine Tool, Mechatronics Technology I, Medical Assisting, Pharmacy Technology, Photography, Surgical Technology and Welding.

A.A.S. = Associate in Applied Science

D.A.S. = Diploma in Applied Science

Piedmont Technical College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097: Telephone number (404) 679-4901) to award the associate degree and holds membership in the American Association of Community Colleges and in the American Technical Education Association. For a full list of accreditations, visit <http://www.ptc.edu/about-ptc/accreditation>

Research Salary Data Online

PTC offers free access to Career Coach, a tool designed to help you find a good career by providing the most current local data on wages, employment, job postings, and associated education and training. Powered by ZIP code-level labor-market data** and real-time job postings from Indeed.com, Career Coach was designed to be a self-guided resource for jobseekers that requires zero assistance to navigate.

Visit: ptc.emsicareercoach.com



Continuing Education Summer Camps 2013

Automotive Technology Camp

At this camp, students will learn about tools in the Automotive Technology center, visit local dealerships, tour BMW in Spartanburg and visit NASCAR Hall of Fame. This week-long program is open to rising middle school students (rising seventh, eighth, and ninth graders) who have an interest in learning about careers in the automotive industry. Enrollment is limited.

Greenwood | Jun 24 2013 - Jun 28 2013 | M-F | \$95.00

Dessert Designer

Participants ages 14-16 are invited to take the Dessert Design challenge at this exciting and creative summer camp. Participants will learn to bake and decorate cookies, cakes, and cupcakes. Mixing icing, using décor tips, and creating designs will be covered. We will finish the week with a "Dessert Designer Cake Challenge". You don't want to miss this one! Decorating kit is included. Participants will be asked to bake and bring an undecorated cake from home for the challenge.

Greenwood | Jul 8 2013 - Jul 11 2013 | M-Th | \$109.00

DIGITech Camp: Sponsored by Fujifilm

If you love computers and photography and are between the ages of 11-16, then this is the camp for you! This one week summer camp will engaged participants in real-world, hands-on applications in photography, animation, website design, computer hardware and internet security. Participants will take a field trip to a fun and exciting location so they can capture photographs using the technology learned at the camp. Lunch and snacks provided.

Greenwood | Jun 17 2013 - Jun 21 2013 | M-F | \$95.00

Fishing FUNdamentals

Learn the principles of fishing and become the expert fisherman! Campers ages 9-11 will learn the basics of freshwater and saltwater fishing along with techniques for catching the many different types of game fish. This camp includes casting practice, knot tying, fishing safety, fishing conservation, and instructional presentations. Supplies for learning will be provided.

Greenwood | Jul 29 2013 - Aug 01 2013 | M-Th | \$99.00



G. A. T. E. Summer program sponsored by Eaton

This summer program for rising 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders is dedicated to introducing young women to the disciplines of engineering technology. The high school student will gain knowledge through hands-on activities such as robotics, automation, and computer-aided drafting and design using solid modeling programs while interacting with engineering technology faculty, students, and staff.

Greenwood | Jun 10 2013 - Jun 13 2013 | M-Th | \$75.00

Junior Dessert Designer

Participants ages 11-13 are invited to take the Junior Dessert Design challenge at this exciting and creative summer camp. Participants will learn to bake and decorate cookies and cupcakes. Mixing icing, using décor tips, and creating basic designs will be covered. We will finish the week with a "Junior Dessert Designer Cupcake Challenge." You don't want to miss this one! Decorating kit is included. Participants will be asked to bake cupcakes at home and bring them to decorate for the challenge.

Greenwood | Jun 17 2013 - Jun 20 2013 | M-Th | \$109.00

Junior Survival Camp

This camp is great for those that enjoy the outdoors, weekend camping trips, or hiking trails! Campers from ages 10-12 will learn basic first aid, CPR, and survival skills to keep them safe. They will also learn the importance of fire, water, shelter, food, signaling, and compass reading. Campers will even learn what to do when you encounter a wild animal. Each camper will take home their own first-aid kit.

Greenwood | Jul 22 2013 - Jul 25 2013 | M-Th | \$109.00

Princess Camp

Girls ages 8-10 will love everything about this camp from pretending, to dancing, music, make-up, fingernail polish, princess stories, crafting princess accessories and a tea party. Participants will spend their time "being princesses" while learning proper manners, self-esteem, social interaction with others, dance movements, and coordination. The week will end with a tea party for the princesses.

Greenwood | Jun 24 2013 - Jun 27 2013 | M-Th | \$99.00

Robotic Engineering Camp

Calling all future robotic inventors! This summer program will be fun as well as educational for each participant! Participants from ages 11-13 will learn problem-solving techniques and communication skills as they build their own robot and bring it to life. In addition, participants will learn about electricity and how it works while building a working motor.

Greenwood | Jul 15 2013 - Jul 19 2013 | M-F | \$99.00

Tiny Princess Camp

Little girls ages 5-7 will love everything about this camp from pretending, to dancing, music, make-up, fingernail polish, princess stories, crafting princess accessories and a tea party. Participants will spend their time "being princesses" while learning proper manners, self-esteem, social interaction with others, dance movements, and coordination. The week will end with a tea party for the princesses.

Greenwood | Jun 10 2013 - Jun 13 2013 | M-Th | \$99.00



Tours and Trips

Piedmont Technical College has partnered with Collette Vacations & Get Away Scott Free to offer a variety of group travel opportunities including extended and short trip options. These tours and trips are affordable and almost all inclusive.

The Plains of Africa: Kenya Safari September 12-25, 2013

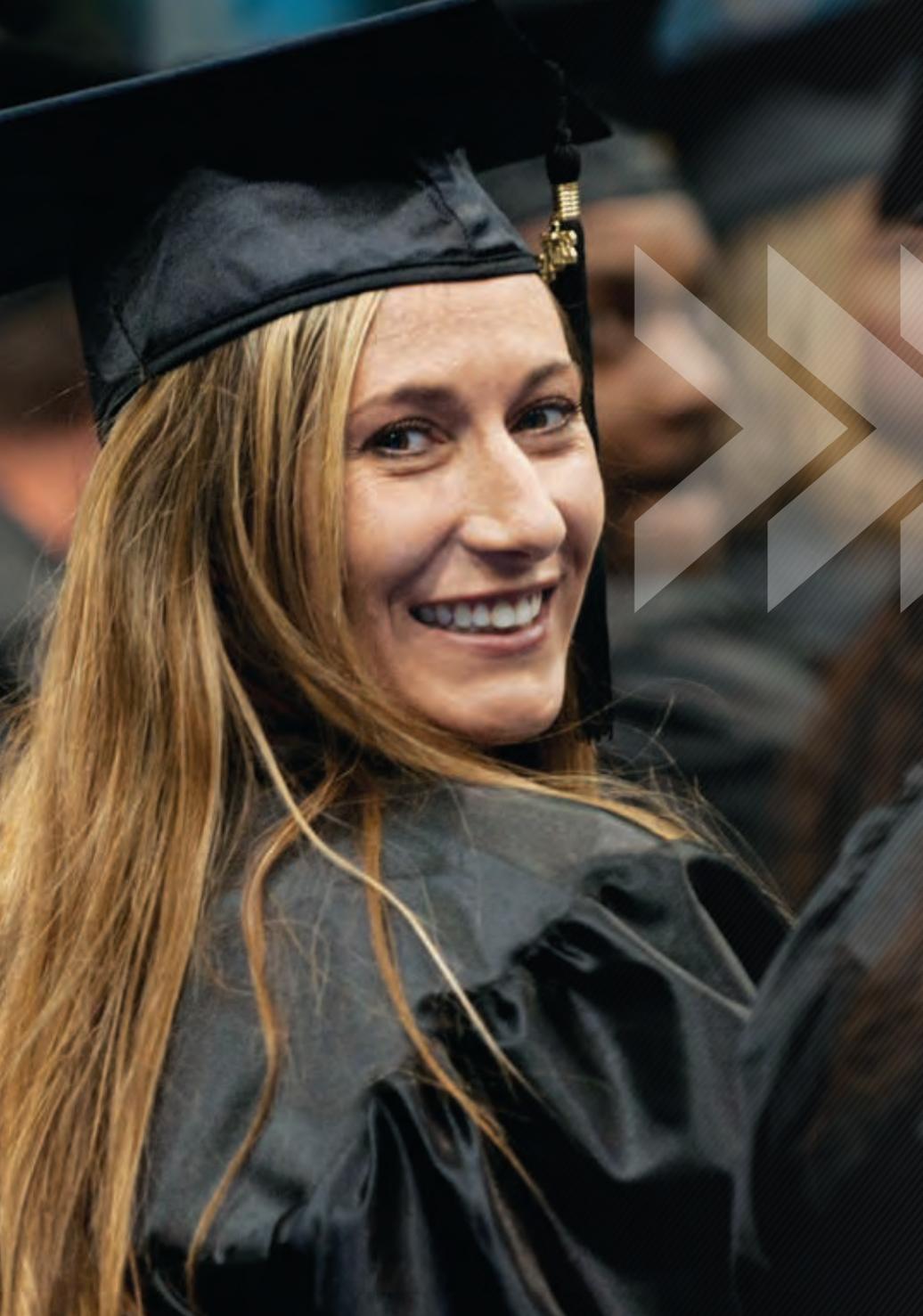
The Galapagos Islands & Machu Picchu February 4 - February 17, 2014

Imperial Cities (Prague, Vienna, & Budapest) August 2014

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta (Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico) October 2014

Short Travel Opportunities

Southern Living 2013 "Taste of Charleston" Tour September 27 - September 29, 2013



HIGHER EDUCATION STARTS HERE.

At Piedmont Technical College, we believe you deserve an education that's driven by your goals. You deserve an education that's designed from the ground up to prepare you for success – that you don't have to take out a second mortgage to afford.

Get a real-world education for today's job market. Get a solid foundation for a four-year degree. And get hands-on training you can take directly to work in the process.

FALL CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 21.
GET STARTED TODAY.

ABBEVILLE COUNTY CAMPUS

Highway 28 Bypass
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



Your goals. Our mission.

For more information,
visit www.ptc.edu
or call (855) 682-7094.