

CareerFocus™

Good Jobs for Bad Times

Ten recession-proof career choices

Not Rich, Just Smart

Transfer students get the same education and spend a lot less

Cardiovascular Technology

A growing field that's in high demand

Avoid College Money Mistakes

Smart parents teach financial skills

Your goals. Our mission

Piedmont Technical College programs A to Z



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Facts and Finds

More Education Equals Less Unemployment

It's a scary time: although some maintain that the recession is over, the economy is still shaky and unemployment is still on the rise. Since the recession began in December 2007, the number of unemployed nationwide has risen by 7.6 million.

Yet, historically the more education workers have, the less likely they will be unemployed.

Workers without a high school degree have an unemployment rate of a whopping 15.6 percent while workers with a bachelor's degree feel far less pain with an unemployment rate of 4.7 percent.

In between those extremes, workers with some college education still felt the pinch with an 8.2 percent unemployment rate, and high school grads limped by with 9.7 percent unemployment.



“Your portfolio is down 50 percent, your mortgage is worth more than your house, and your savings account is barely visible. The job meanwhile is making a roaring comeback...we’re rediscovering the job as the most valuable asset a person can have...The cognition you’ve got up there in your head—your education and training—it’s worth something.”

— *“Jobs Are the New Assets” Time Magazine, March 23, 2009*

Facts AND Finds

Best Job? Depends on Who’s Asking

Mathematician. Yup, that’s the best job ever. Well, at least for this year according to JobsRated.com. And just for the record, lumberjack is rated the worst. JobsRated scored 200 jobs on five criteria (stress, work environment, physical demands, income and outlook) to determine their ranking.

Among the U.S. News selections are clergy, genetic counselor, hairstylist and urban regional planner.

You’d think with such similar criteria, the lists would look a lot alike. But no, only one career appears in the top 30 of both lists: engineer. None-the-less, both Web sites offer useful data about working conditions and salaries in a wide-range of occupations that is sure to be useful to students, job hunters and career changers.

Now jump over to the U.S. News “Best Careers of 2009” (www.usnews.com/sections/business/best-careers/index.html) and mathematician is nowhere on the list.

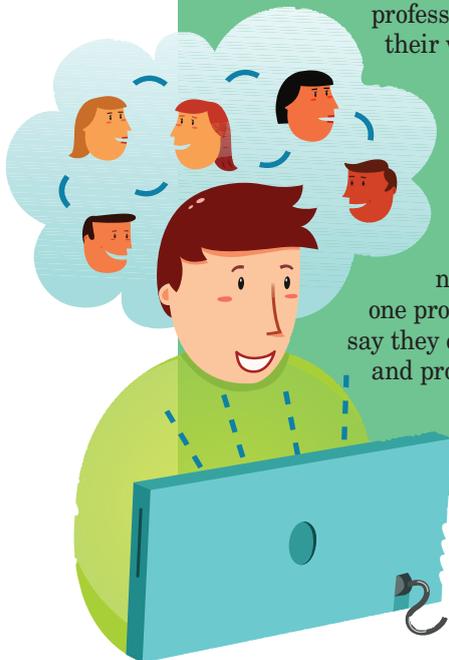
These jobs too are scored on five criteria (job outlook, job satisfaction, difficulty of



Friending or Working

Social networking sites have definitely gone mainstream. Today 35 percent of all adult Internet users are on sites such as Facebook or MySpace according to a May 2008 Pew Research survey. And while most users are online to keep in touch with old friends and make new friends, 28 percent say that they use their online profiles to make business and professional contacts or to promote their work.

People who use social networks for professional purposes often create a business profile separate from their personal site. About half of all social networkers have more than one profile and of those, 19 percent say they do this to keep the personal and professional separate.



Fifty First Jobs

When Daniel Seddequi graduated from the University of Southern California in 2005, he did what everyone does and started looking for a job. Over 40 interviews later and still no luck, he decided to try something different. He discovered that trying new jobs in new places was a

perfect way to explore careers and see the country. So a new plan was born to work 50 jobs in 50 weeks in 50 states.

“Whenever I travel, I am intrigued where people live and work,” he says on the Web site he created to chronicle his adventures. “Nothing is more appealing than the contrasts. I was unaware of what life was like outside my bubble. I didn’t know what kind of career I wanted to take on.”



by dozens of newspapers, ABC News, CNN and NPR. He’s blogging about his experiences and planning to write a book. He’s worked as an archeologist, border patrol agent, farmer and rodeo announcer and has been offered at least 10 full-time positions.

He’s also learned how to handle rejection, estimating he’s heard about 2,000 no’s as he’s searched for jobs across the country. What will he do when it’s over? “Who knows, I’ve opened up so many opportunities for myself and four months ago I had zero,” he told one interviewer.

Now midway into his adventures, Seddequi has been interviewed

Find out more about his adventures at www.livingthemap.com **CF**



CareerFocus™

Questions about the PTC programs and services described in this publication should be directed to the Office of Admissions at 1(800)868-5528. Comments or questions about the publication itself can be directed to the PTC Office of Marketing and Public Relations at (864)941-8541.

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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 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.

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PTC A TO Z

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On the cover:
Rebecca Coates of Greenwood
Cardiovascular Technology Major

NEW!

CareerFocus Café
www.careerfocuscafe.com

An online resource
for students,
job-hunters and workers

Good Jobs for Bad Times

Ten recession-proof career choices

Over two million jobs lost last year. Unemployment edging toward 10 percent. Over 14 million Americans out of work. With numbers like those, it's easy for job seekers to lose hope. But here's a statistic you probably haven't heard: as the economy limped through the summer, there were still roughly 2.6 million job openings across the country. Granted, that represented a significant drop from the previous year. But it shows that work can still be found, no matter how dire the recession. Here are 10 career choices that will help you get (and keep) a job, even in the toughest of times.

During a typical recession, cost-cutting becomes a high priority for most businesses. During a severe recession, it can become a matter of survival. When the time comes for a company to cut costs, jobs that can be done more cheaply by a machine or foreign worker are likely to be automated or outsourced. To avoid this fate, pursue a career that requires a human touch and/or human intelligence. Consider a job that depends on your empathy and physical presence, like home health aide, medical assistant or mental health counselor. Or focus on work that requires the kind of creativity or big-picture insight that computers can't easily replicate, like personal

1 Get a job that can't be outsourced or automated

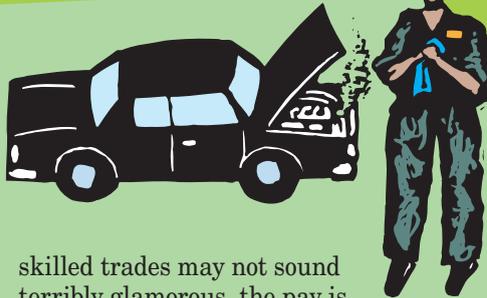
financial advising or software engineering. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, hard to automate/outsourced careers make up almost all of America's 30 fastest-growing occupations. So now is a great time to get into them.



Some things are inevitable, no matter what the economy's doing. Cars will break down. Sinks will clog. Floorboards will rot. If you can excel at the practical skills needed to maintain people's homes and possessions, you're likely to enjoy a lifetime of employability. And during a recession, demand for these services tends to rise, since repairing a car or roof is cheaper than replacing them. Though a career in the

2 Develop trade skills that are always in demand

skilled trades may not sound terribly glamorous, the pay is higher than you might expect—on par with what teachers, interior designers and reporters make.

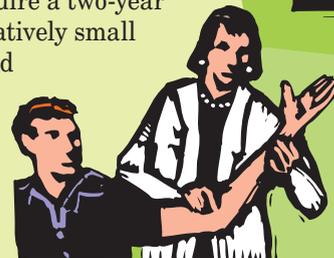


People get sick and schools stay open, regardless of the economy. So health care and education are among the most stable careers out there.

4 Get into a recession-proof field

that in the coming years, nearly half of the 30 fastest growing jobs will be in health services. Many of these jobs, from registered nurse to radiography, only require a two-year degree. So with a relatively small investment of time and money, you can shift to a new career that's likely to need you tomorrow.

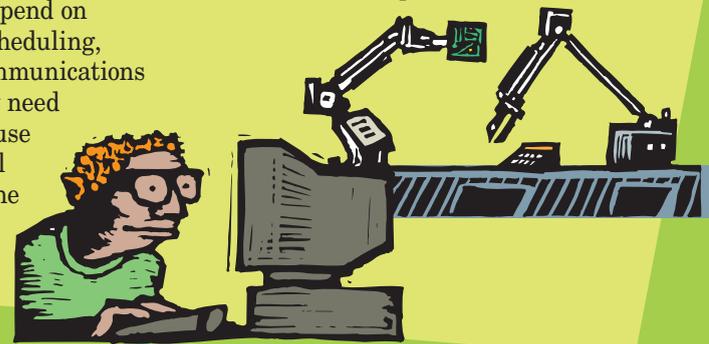
Recent trends also point to increasing demand in both fields. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, job growth in education will be fueled by a growing student population and an increasing retirement rate among older teachers. And as the baby boomer generation ages, their health care needs will also increase. The BLS predicts



The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that information technology will be one of the fastest growing careers of the coming decade. But if you scan a few job postings, you'll see that even non-technical jobs now require computer proficiency. Companies increasingly depend on computerized scheduling, inventory and communications systems—and they need employees who can use them. So if you're still uncomfortable using the Internet or common programs like

3 Master the skills of the future

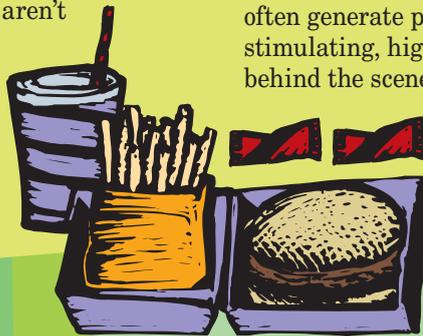
Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel, take a class in basic computing skills. And if you enjoy technical work, consider getting a degree in information technology. Just two years of study will open the door to plenty of high-paying jobs, in everything from network support to software development.



5

Focus on industries that grow when the economy shrinks

In October of 2008, with the economy on the verge of collapse, McDonald's enjoyed a 5.3 percent increase in U.S. sales. A month later, Walmart's sales grew by 3.4 percent. The numbers proved an interesting point: For some industries, recessions are good business. Fast food and discount retailers aren't the only winners. Housing foreclosures and bankruptcies produce work



for many

businesses, from moving companies to law firms. And rising unemployment leads to increased crime rates, so security-related careers are likely to grow. But what if moving sofas or flipping burgers isn't your idea of a dream job? Remember that these industries often generate plenty of stimulating, higher paying work behind the scenes, in everything from management to marketing.

6

Start your own business

Surprisingly, a recession can be the ideal time to become your own boss. As big companies scale back marketing and reduce services, dissatisfied customers become more receptive to smaller (and cheaper) alternatives. And since older companies have larger overhead costs, a lean-and-mean startup can beat their prices and still cut a profit. In a recent USA Today



article, small business guru Rhonda Abrams noted that over half of the companies in the Dow Jones industrial average got their start during a recession or depression. Strange as it sounds, an economic downturn can be an ideal time to become your own boss. But what if you have no business experience, no funding and no desire to manage employees or inventory? No problem: In the information age, you can parlay your unique professional experience into a profitable niche business with a very modest investment. For example, let's say you were laid off from a corporate marketing job, spend a few hundred dollars on a Web site and business cards and become a freelance marketing consultant. Take some business classes, carefully assess your target market and be prepared to work hard. Self-employment could become the most rewarding and lucrative job you've ever had.

7

Choose an employer that will never go out of business

With more than 1.8 million civilian employees, the federal government is America's largest employer. It also provides some of the most stable careers out there. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, government firings and lay-offs happen at just one-quarter the rate of the private sector. And with generous benefits, competitive wages and a vast variety of

work available, the government is an attractive employer even in good economic times. Due to increasing retirements among an aging workforce, the demand for new employees is strong. And if you're not willing to move to Washington, don't worry—nine out of 10 government employees work outside of D.C.

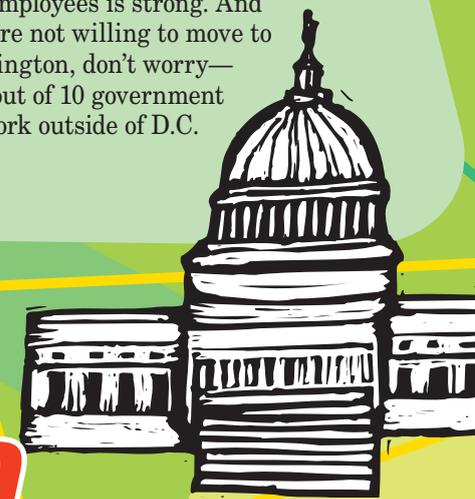


8

Take your cue from Washington

The Obama administration brings a new set of national priorities, from alternative energy research to infrastructure repair. A Democratic Congress makes it likely that many of these priorities will be funded in the coming years. This could mean boom times for several industries, from sustainable energy development to medical research and construction. And according to Hugo Sellert, research manager at the employment

Web site Monster.com, "When the economy starts going down and unemployment goes up, the government has in place certain automatically triggered functions, such as unemployment benefits and other areas of public assistance that help people in tougher times. So in areas like social services, community nonprofits and other service organizations, hiring might even pick up when the economy goes south."



10

Follow your bliss

Nobody wants to be laid off, but losing an uninspiring job could be the spark you need to create a more satisfying career. If you find yourself facing unemployment, take the opportunity to figure out what you really want to do with the next phase of your life. Do you have a passion you've always wanted to pursue, but have never had the time (or courage) to try? If so, now is the perfect time to make it happen. Instead of applying for the same type of job you just lost, start looking for work you actually want to do. If you don't have the skills or credentials to get hired, consider going back to school or even starting your own business. Once you've

aligned your professional goals with your interests, you may experience a surprising phenomenon. Since your job search is now focused on creating the career of your dreams, you'll approach it with real energy and enthusiasm. You'll make more contacts, do more networking, win more interviews and impress more recruiters. And before long, you'll be back to work—and loving it. **CF**



9

Never stop learning

Education is key to employment—at every stage of your career. Even if you already have a degree and a stable job, developing new skills can help you keep it—and bounce back if you're ever laid off. Focus on learning marketable skills that are useful in a variety of professions. For example, selling is crucial to success in business, so sales and marketing expertise will increase your value to many employers. With the rise of the Internet and information technology, Web design and data management skills will also strengthen your resume. And it's always a good idea to improve your

leadership and communication skills. As Peter Manzi, national certified career counselor says, "Become more well-rounded. Develop the ability to lead small groups, to coordinate other people and take control of a project. Learn to understand people and express yourself clearly and professionally." If you do, employers will find you irresistible—in good times and bad.



Not Rich, Just Smart

Transfer students get the same education and spend a lot less

Nationally about 41 percent of all college students get their education at community colleges. That number is even higher—around 50 percent—in South Carolina. While starting at Piedmont Technical College has always been a smart move, in today's uncertain economy, it makes even more sense.

Consider this: A year at Piedmont Tech, including tuition and fees, costs between \$3284 and \$3596. That same credit load would cost \$9156 at the University of South Carolina, \$11,078 at Clemson University and about \$30,280 at a private institution like Wofford College.¹

That means if you spend two years at Piedmont Tech and transfer to a four-year university for the rest of your education, you can expect to save anywhere from \$11,120 to \$53,368.

Is the value of a college education related to its cost?

Transfer students get exactly the same diploma as students who spent four years—and a lot more money—at a four-year institution. The quality and content of PTC's academic courses are top-notch. Classes are small, the faculty is committed to teaching, and PTC credits transfer to universities all over the state.

So if you start out at a four-year university, you might get to share a tiny dorm room with two other students, gain your freshman 15

on dining hall food and gaze at a few ivory towers, but are you going to get a better education?

Three easy ways to transfer

One of the reasons community colleges were created was to provide the first two years of a four-year degree at low cost and close to home. So naturally we do it well. Our classes are designed to transfer; our academic advisors know where the best four-year programs are; and our instructors will inspire you to do your best.

What if I don't have a plan—or a major?

You're certainly not alone if you want to explore your interests before you declare a major. According to the Web site MyMajors.com, as many as 80 percent of incoming freshman haven't settled on a program of study yet.

PTC associate dean of Student Services David Rosenbaum recommends all students take time to meet with an advisor. "We have assessments available to help students understand their interests and talents. These will guide them in their choices of classes and possibly help choose a transfer institution, too. It's a good idea to develop an educational plan in the beginning and reassess it once a semester," he explains.

If you spend two years at Piedmont Tech and transfer to a four-year university for the rest of your education, you can expect to save anywhere from \$11,120 to \$53,368.

PTC's Associate in Arts program is a good option for students who want to explore their interests before committing to a major. It's designed to provide a broad foundation in the humanities and social sciences, allowing you to choose from a menu of courses in art, science, language and music, among others.

Undecided students might want to take a look at the SC Commission on Higher Education statewide agreement on transfer and articulation. This agreement identifies all the general education classes that transfer to South Carolina colleges. But when you're ready for specifics, it's a wise move to contact the four-year school you want to attend for their transfer guide—or find it on Piedmont Tech's Web site.

PTC also hosts a higher education day each spring, which gives students an opportunity to speak one-on-one with representatives from colleges and universities throughout South Carolina about their plans.

"It's a great opportunity for students to learn more about college requirements. We invite colleges from around the state so that students can get a better feeling for which institution is the right fit for them," said Lynn Mack, PTC associate dean of Instructional Development and Transfer.

Smart transfer students know that not every class transfers to every institution. For example, graphic design classes may earn you credit if



you go to art school, but not if you transfer into a pre-med program. That's why it's important to work with an academic advisor to create a plan—and to adapt it if you change your mind.

What if I know exactly what I want?

What if you've always dreamed of being a Tiger or a Gamecock, but your grades didn't make the cut? What if your parents just can't pay for the private liberal arts college you set your sights on? With PTC's help you can still get there. By raising your GPA and saving money, you can still earn your bachelor's degree from your dream school—and probably discover that the technical college in your backyard has some great things going for it too.

Of course there are other colleges too. PTC has created many articulation agreements with four-year schools that make it easy for students to complete basics at PTC and add higher-level courses at a transfer institution.

What if I want to get an associate degree now but still want a bachelor's degree later?

Students who decide to train for an occupation at PTC often can turn their associate degree into a bachelor's degree by transferring to a four-year college.

The college offers many programs—agriculture education, early care and education, business, public service, and many more—that facilitate a direct transition into a bachelor's degree.

South Carolina State's transfer program is a popular choice for PTC students. The comprehensive transfer program allows students who complete their Associate in Applied Science degree in either MET or EET at PTC to transfer their courses into SCSU's Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology (BSEET) degree or the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering Technology (BSMET) degree programs. All course work is completed at PTC's Greenwood campus.

For more transfer information, visit www.ptc.edu/transfer or contact Lynn Mack at (864)941-8449. **CF**



Student Profile:

PTC Graduate Takes Advantage of Transfer Opportunities

Chyanne Kingsland came to Piedmont Technical College for a second chance at her education. And she has definitely made the most of that second chance.

Kingsland finished with a 3.70 GPA and was named to the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Community College Academic Team. As president of the Omega Chi chapter, she was the driving force behind many of the events at Piedmont Tech sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College. Primarily through her efforts, the chapter received regional and international recognition including being recognized in 2008 as one of the top three chapters in the Carolinas Region and one of the top 25 chapters in the world.

Kingsland's success has come despite many setbacks. Upon graduation from high school, she entered a small four-year college. But Kingsland said it was not what she was looking for in an educational experience.

"When attempting to speak with an instructor regarding grades, students were required to give their number, never their name. It was very impersonal, cold and uncaring," she said. "Even after I underwent an emergency appendectomy, my instructors

had no compassion. I left feeling very much a failure."

Kingsland left college and became a preschool teacher, strengthening her desire to work with children. Then the federal No Child Left Behind legislation was passed, requiring all teachers to hold a degree.

"I believed my career was finished," Kingsland said. "Then I applied to Piedmont Technical College. I found a completely different experience."

Kingsland completed her classes at PTC in August, and has since enrolled in the bachelor's degree program in the fall at Erskine College on a full scholarship. Her positive experiences at Piedmont Tech have inspired her to pursue her master's degree and, eventually, her doctorate in education. Ultimately, Kingsland would like to work at a two-year college.

"The positive experiences I had at Piedmont Tech will stay with me for a lifetime," she said. "Without those experiences, I don't think I would have been able to go on to Erskine College or beyond. I feel that I am better prepared for what is to come." **CF**

¹ Tuition and fee information for public institutions taken from the SC Commission on Higher Education Web site. Information from Wofford College taken from the Wofford College business office page.

Cardiovascular Technology

A growing field that's in high demand



If you're looking for a high-paying career that's in demand throughout the state, Piedmont Technical College dean of Health Science Jerry Alewine thinks you should consider Cardiovascular Technology. "Unfortunately, heart disease is a problem that isn't going away," Alewine says. "And there's a real need throughout our state—really throughout the country—for qualified cardiovascular technologists."

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States and is a major cause of disability. Almost 700,000 people die of heart disease in the U.S. each year. That's about 29 percent of all U.S. deaths. In 2004, 12,597 people died from cardiovascular disease in South Carolina, the leading cause of death in the state – more than the total number of people who died from all cancers, pneumonia, influenza and car accidents combined.

These are sobering statistics. Given the immensity of the problem, it makes sense that cardiovascular technology is one of the most rapidly growing fields in South Carolina.

Data from the U.S. Department of Labor reports that employment

According to the American Medical Association, entry level salaries for cardiovascular technologists range from \$36,000 to \$45,000. More experienced personnel can earn more than \$75,000 per year.

for cardiovascular technologists is expected to grow by 26 percent—much faster than the average for all occupations—through the year 2016.

Based on this information and a growing concern expressed by health care providers throughout the state about the lack of qualified personnel, Piedmont Technical College conducted a needs survey to determine how to address the situation.



"The immediate needs are staggering. Astonishingly, until we launched our program, there wasn't a public cardiovascular program to prepare technicians to become team members to work with cardiologists and cardiovascular facilities in South Carolina," said Alewine.

Alewine said that the number of certified personnel has not kept up with the demand. In response, many health care facilities have cross-trained nurses and other technicians

to fill the vacancies. So Piedmont Technical College developed its own Cardiovascular Technology program to prepare cardiovascular technicians in conjunction with Self Regional Healthcare.

Job Outlook

According to the American Medical Association, entry level salaries for cardiovascular technologists range from \$36,000 to \$45,000. More

Cindy Evans

PTC Alum Tapped for New Program

Cindy Evans has come full circle in her professional career. The Piedmont Technical College grad is now the instructor for the new cardiovascular technology program.

Evans graduated from PTC in 1992 with an associate degree in respiratory care. She worked at Self Regional Healthcare as a licensed respiratory therapist for the neonatal unit as well as working with adult patients. But, she was always seeking to do more.

In 1999, Self Regional Healthcare sought a new advanced cardiovascular department. Evans

saw this as an opportunity to pursue a personal interest.

"I've always been interested in the heart," Evans said. "At this point of my life, I had time to devote to learning a new skill."

Evans attended Gulf Coast Ultrasound in St. Petersburg, Fla., and received additional training at the American College of Cardiology Heart House in Washington, D.C. and the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. She continued to work at Self Regional through 2005. In 2006, she moved on to Piedmont Cardiology, working

with nuclear medicine, the stress lab, ultrasound and phlebotomy lab. At that time, Evans also became an adjunct instructor with the respiratory care program at Piedmont Tech.

"I have known Cindy for a long time," said Jerry Alewine, dean of Health Science. "Between her natural talent and her experience, there is no one I would rather have in this position."

"I was excited for the opportunity, not just for myself, but for the college," Evans said. "This is a



very innovative and evolving curriculum."

The first class of students began their clinical rotations during the fall semester. Evans says she is eager to continue working with the students.

"The first semester was a growing experience, for me and the students," she said. "But, I have high hopes that the program will continue to grow and thrive." **CF**



experienced personnel can earn more than \$75,000 per year.

As the population ages and health care providers like hospitals and private medical practices contend with greater demand for their services, employment of cardiovascular technicians is expected to increase substantially. In addition to helping physicians cope with the sheer volume of cardiovascular cases in an aging population, the increased national emphasis on the prevention of serious medical conditions will drive an increase in the demand for cardiovascular technologists and technicians qualified to perform diagnostic procedures.

“The take-home point is that starting a career in cardiovascular technology will be a good choice for the foreseeable future,” said Alewine.

What does a cardiovascular technician do?

Cardiovascular technologists and technicians diagnose and treat illnesses of the heart and blood vessels, review patient files and doctors’ interpretations and schedule appointments. They also operate and care for testing equipment, explain test procedures to patients and compare findings to a standard to identify problems.

For a cardiovascular technician, as in most medical professions, there is always the element of the unknown. “From the tiniest of newborns to elderly patients with chronic congestive heart

What is Cardiovascular Technology?

“Cardiovascular Technology” describes three basic areas of expertise: Invasive Cardiology, Noninvasive Cardiology and Vascular Technology.

Invasive Cardiology. Cardiovascular technologists specializing in invasive procedures are called cardiology technologists. They assist physicians with cardiac catheterization procedures, monitor patients’ blood pressure and heart rate with EKG equipment, and may monitor patients during open-heart surgery and during the insertion of pacemakers and stents.

Noninvasive Cardiology. Technologists who specialize in vascular technology or echocardiography perform noninvasive tests. Tests are called “noninvasive” if they do not require the insertion of probes or other instruments into the patient’s body.

Vascular Technology. Technicians who assist physicians in the diagnosis of disorders affecting the circulation are known as vascular technologists or vascular sonographers. Vascular technologists complete patients’ medical history, evaluate pulses and assess blood flow. Then they perform a noninvasive procedure using ultrasound instruments to record vascular information. Many of these tests are performed during or immediately after surgery. **CF**

failure—you never know what type of patient you’ll be treating on a day-to-day basis,” says Cindy Evans, PTC cardiovascular technology instructor. “That’s part of what makes this job exciting.”

According to Evans, the job requires both in-depth technical knowledge and a knack for detective work. Cardiovascular technologists often aid clinicians in diagnosing complex medical mysteries—helping patients who have been ill for long periods of time with limited or no response to treatment.

Although heart patients are often faced with chronic problems related to their illness, Evans says the work is rewarding. “Ultimately the reward is the opportunity to build relationships with patients—always offering care and compassion in their time of need.”

One of a kind, on the cutting edge

As the only two-year program of its kind in South Carolina, Piedmont Technical College’s Cardiovascular Technology program offers a



The program has been launched in conjunction with Self Regional Healthcare. Classes will be taught on the PTC Greenwood campus, with lab facilities housed at Self Regional. But, the format will be different.

“Because we are the only technical college in the state providing cardiovascular education, we want to work with students so they do not have to travel to Greenwood for the entire program. Therefore, students will be

able to take their prerequisite courses at a college close to them, or online,” Alewine said. “They will only need to travel to the Greenwood campus for the actual cardiovascular courses. Then, we intend to work with health care agencies throughout the state to arrange for students to complete their clinical requirements in facilities near their home.”

comprehensive study of both invasive and noninvasive cardiovascular technology. Because the program is much more in-depth and hands-on than similar programs, Evans says graduates will be much more prepared for the demands of the work force after graduation.

“Our students get instruction in a wide variety of protocols and standards by rotating through a variety of hospitals and health care settings,” she says. “Students learn from cardiologists in the classroom, and work side by side with physicians and cardiologists during their training to actually perform procedures.”

The end result is that students graduate with a much more intense practical knowledge of the field, and with direct experience on cutting-edge equipment.

“The equipment in the center is the same kind you would see if you were being treated at Self today. It is state of the art,” said Craig White, former vice president of Self Regional Healthcare Foundation.

For more information on the Cardiovascular Technology program, contact Alewine at (864) 941-8536 or at alewine.j@ptc.edu. **CF**



Avoid College Money Mistakes

Smart parents teach financial skills

As the parent of a college student, which of these two recent grads do you hope your child will resemble?

The first, Tamanika Ferguson, earned \$80,000 in scholarships to California State University and graduated debt-free last spring. The second, who asks to be referred to only as “Jane,” graduated around the same time. But Jane took out over \$45,000 in student loans and built up \$50,000 in credit card debt by the time she got through school. She currently pays about \$1,500 a month in debt payments, with over \$400 of that in credit card finance charges alone.

Communication is key

Naturally, you’d love to see your kids graduate in a situation like Tamanika’s. But in an age of skyrocketing tuition and record student debt, Jane’s predicament may sound far more plausible. Fortunately, there are many ways you can prepare your kids to beat the odds and graduate financially strong. According to some experts, it all starts with good communication.

“We find that too many families treat money as almost a taboo topic,” says James Boyle, president of College Parents for America. “Our number one suggestion to parents is to have an open dialogue with their child about all matters related to money.”

“We find that too many families treat money as almost a taboo topic,” says James Boyle, president of College Parents for America. “Our number one suggestion to parents is to have an open dialogue with their child about all matters related to money.”

That discussion often reveals a surprising lack of financial savvy among otherwise worldly young people. “Some students don’t grasp some pretty basic things, like the difference between a loan and a grant,” Boyle says. “And a vast majority don’t understand the various types of loans available, the payback terms and financial consequences of interest rates.”

A family affair

According to Marcia Weston of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, one way to address this problem is by making your own finances a family affair. “Parents need to be role models,” she says. “They need to do the family’s budgeting along with their kids, so the kids see how it’s done.”

Besides familiarizing them with financial concepts, this involvement shows students the real-life consequences their college spending could have on their families. As Boyle says, “There should be a frank and open dialogue about the impact of college expenses on the family budget, and the impact of any loans on the student’s future. And that’s a good time to talk about what the parents’ and student’s contributions will be.”

Surprisingly, Boyle says, many parents never tell their children exactly how much they’re willing to spend on their education. But by being open about your intentions (and limitations) from the start, you can help your kids prepare to cover any remaining costs. Through a combination of budgeting, scholarships, part-time work and school selection, some students are able to manage the expense themselves.

Avoid the credit card pitfall

Take Tamanika Ferguson: “I had to maintain a budget, and I started off at a community college, which was cheaper,” she explains. “And there’s been many a time when I’ve spent weekends – when I could’ve been out partying – at home filling out scholarship paperwork.”

But even with scholarships and budget discipline, most students will need to borrow money eventually – and that’s when parental guidance becomes most crucial. Besides helping them evaluate and apply for different

loans, you should prepare them for one of the prime temptations of campus life: credit cards. Credit card debt has become such a problem that some parents advise students to avoid the plastic entirely.

But Jim Boyle recommends a different approach. “You should say, ‘Credit cards will be part of your life, but it’s important to get off to a good start,’” he says. “Explain what a credit history means, and the consequences, in terms of interest, of only making minimum payments.”

Learn to say no

As a precautionary measure, you may even want to open a joint debit or credit card account with your kids. “It’s a piece of plastic with training wheels,” Boyle says. “Students can use it for essential spending, but there is a limit on what they can spend, and the parent will receive the bill and know what they’re buying.”

But what if, in spite of careful planning and supervision, you receive a plaintive mid-semester phone call from a cash-strapped kid? “When a student calls and says, ‘I need money,’ it’s important to find out why,” Weston says.

“There are always things that happen that are out of their control. But when it’s a case of overspending, parents should not bail them out. It’s hard to say no, but we set limits because we want them to become self-sufficient. In the long run it’s better for students to know that not only do they have limits, their parents have limits too.” **CF**



Ready for the Real World?

Good money skills start with straight talk

Congratulations – your pride and joy is getting ready for college. But how prepared is your child to achieve financial independence in the coming years? This quiz can help you find out.

Quiz

1. When did you start teaching your child about finances?

- a. In high school
 b. In middle school
 c. Not yet

2. How many of these concepts have you explained to your child: interest, credit ratings, loan payment schedules?

- a. All three
 b. One or two
 c. None

3. Did your child buy a car in high school?

- a. Yes
 b. No

4. Do you have open discussions with your child about money – including your own financial struggles and limitations?

- a. Yes
 b. No

5. What advice have you given your child about credit cards?

- a. Get as many as you think you need
 b. Get one and use it wisely
 c. Avoid credit cards entirely
 d. We haven't discussed it

6. Have you helped your child seek out and apply for scholarships and loans?

- a. Yes
 b. No

7. If a four-year college costs more than your child can afford, have you discussed community college?

- a. Yes
 b. No

Answer Key

Give yourself one point for each correct answer.

1-b Experts say that parents should start discussing finances as soon as their kids are old enough to understand. "I think the middle school years are a good time to start," says James Boyle. "That's when a student is starting to have a greater awareness of the world of commerce." Marcia Weston adds, "I think the minute a student either gets an allowance or starts to work, there needs to be an understanding of how they deal with money in their lives."

2-a Don't overestimate your child's financial knowledge – even basic concepts like interest are confusing to many students. As Weston says, "A lot of students feel that if they sign loan papers, then drop out of school, they don't have to pay it back because they didn't get their degree!" Don't let that be your child – explain financial concepts to them yourself.

3-b Money spent on major purchases like automobiles is money that's not available for college. And students' first cars often require frequent repairs, eating up even more of their hard-earned cash. Besides, many universities forbid freshmen to have a car on campus. Unless they absolutely need it for work or school, students should try to avoid this purchase as long as they can.

4-a Talking about money with your kids isn't always easy, especially when your own financial history is less than perfect. But as Boyle points out, "A little humility can go a long way. By telling a student about the time you bounced a check, or didn't make a payment on time, it brings a note of reality to the discussion. It helps you get across a warning in a way that shows that you once walked in the same shoes."

5-b In Boyle's view, "One credit card is plenty, in case of emergency or situations that require it. But multiple credit cards can lead to a false impression that you have more money than you really do." A credit card doesn't have to be an invitation to overspend: Just ask Tamanika Ferguson. "I had one credit card in college," she says with a laugh. "I still have it, and it's had the same credit limit the whole time! I don't use it at all."

6-a According to Weston, "Many students don't even know, when they sign a loan paper, how much they owe." Parents can walk their kids through scholarship and loan applications, clarifying confusing terms and making the process seem less intimidating. Paperwork isn't fun, but it's worth their time: Ferguson estimates that she spent around 500 hours filling out the applications that generated \$80,000 in scholarship cash. That averages out to \$160 per hour – a lot more than you can make delivering pizzas.

7-a From an employer's perspective, where you started college matters less than where you finished. As Boyle says, "With the continued rising costs of college, community college is a very smart option. If a student spends their early years in community college then moves to a four-year university to get their bachelor's degree, the total cost of that degree is less."

Scoring

6-7 points: Good job! You've prepared your child well for the financial challenges ahead.

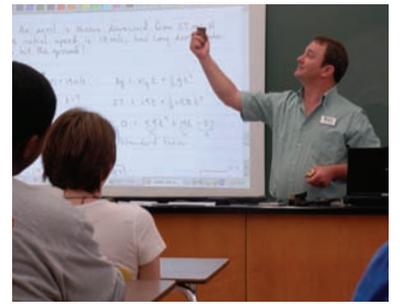
4-5 points: Not bad, but a bit more financial dialogue wouldn't hurt.

2-3 points: It's probably time for a serious conversation about money.

0-1 points: For your kid's sake, talk to them now – before they get their first credit card! **CF**

Careers A to Z

Your goals. Our mission.



For over 40 years, Piedmont Tech has been providing access to a college education to thousands—make that hundreds of thousands—of students in Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda counties. High quality, affordable, college education that's close to home.

In these turbulent economic times, PTC continues to provide training

for displaced workers, occupational training for trade and technical jobs and an affordable academic foundation for students who plan to transfer to four-year colleges.

Piedmont Tech's programs provide students with options in numerous career fields. Thinking about a career in business? Our business curriculum has programs in accounting, administrative office technology and entrepreneurship. Interested in a career in art or

design? Our commercial art program integrates animation, graphic design and photography.

For students planning on a four-year degree, PTC's University Transfer Programs provide a solid two-year start on a bachelor's degree. Transfer students who haven't decided on a career path yet can fulfill their general education requirements at PTC before moving on to a four-year school to concentrate on a major. And students who've already decided on a career path can build a foundation

of specific transfer courses in diverse fields such as technical communications, law enforcement and engineering.

Look over the full range of options in this PTC programs listing to find an associate degree or transfer program that fits your talents and interests.

To find out more about how to prepare for your future at PTC call 1-800-868-5528 or visit our Web site at www.ptc.edu. **CF**



UNIVERSITY TRANSFER PROGRAMS

If you're headed toward a bachelor's degree, we can help you get there. Piedmont Tech offers over 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.

General Studies Certificate

This certificate program provides an integrated option for students seeking an introduction to various academic disciplines.

Transfer Partnerships & Career Path Transfers

PTC has established specific transfer agreements with more than 15 colleges & 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 & pneumatics, agriculture economics and marketing related to the agricultural industry.

Basic Diversified Agriculture Certificate

Advanced 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

Agriculture Education Transfer Option to Clemson

Horticulture and/or Turfgrass Transfer Option to Clemson

South Carolina Median Salaries

Farmer - \$33,600
Landscape Supervisor - \$37,100



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 - \$49,800
Administrative Office Technology - \$27,000
Office Manager - \$38,900
Network Administrator - \$53,600
Funeral Director - \$48,200



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**
- 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 Services**
- 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, computer 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**

Certificate Programs

- Computer Aided Drafting Design**
- Electrical Engineering Transfer**
- Mechanical Engineering Transfer**

South Carolina Median Salaries

- Drafter - \$41,300
- Electronic Engineering Technician - \$49,900
- Mechanical Engineering Technician - \$48,600

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**
- Advanced 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**
- Construction Management Certificate**
- Carpentry Certificate**

Gunsmithing

- Advanced Gunsmithing Certificate**
- Gunsmithing Certificate**

Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Technology

Students 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**
- Electrical Discharge Machining 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**
- Mechatronics Technology II 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 - \$30,000
- Carpenter - \$31,100
- HVAC Technician - \$34,600
- Horticulturist - \$35,600
- Electronics Technician - \$42,300
- Machinist - \$31,700
- Mechatronics Technician - \$57,100
- Welder - \$29,400



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

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 intellectual, technical and professional competencies necessary to practice. Upon successful completion of the NCLEX-RN licensure exam by the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina, graduates can seek employment as licensed registered nurses.

A.A.S., Major in Nursing

D.A.S., Major in Practical Nursing

Advanced Placement Nursing Program

Patient Care Technology

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 Technology Certificate

Pharmacy Technician

Graduates of the Pharmacy Technician 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 Technician

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

South Carolina Median Salaries

- Cardiovascular Technologist - \$44,000
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) - \$35,800
- Medical Assisting - \$25,900
- Pharmacy Technician - \$24,000
- Radiologic Technologist - \$46,100
- Respiratory Therapist - \$36,800
- Registered Nurse (RN) - \$54,300
- Veterinary Technologist - \$27,200



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

Biotechnology Certificate

Health Science Transfer Certificate

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

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

Special Needs and Disabilities Certificate

South Carolina Median Salaries

- Police Officer - \$34,900
- Corrections Officer - \$34,900
- Preschool or Daycare Director - \$34,600
- Preschool Teacher - \$20,400
- Human Services Assistant - \$22,100



*Salary data is based on information from the South Carolina Employment Security Commission.

A.A.S. = Associate in Applied Science

D.A.S. = Diploma in Applied Science

Are You Work Force Ready?



The Center for Workforce Preparation reports that an astonishing 69 percent of manufacturers in the United States cite the lack of basic employability skills as the most common reason they reject applicants for hourly positions. In today's competitive job market, soft skills are more important than ever before. Piedmont Technical College's Continuing Education & Economic Development Division offers a very unique course that will help you get the skills you need most when seeking employment.

"Employability Skills" for professional development provides students with the skills necessary to become more competitive in the job market. Karon Wright, who became a dislocated worker after

spending 19 years at Velux of Greenwood, decided to take the Employability Skills class to help improve her job seeking skills while looking for a new career. "I hadn't interviewed or submitted a resume in 19 years," Wright said, "I am very glad that I took the class because it has helped me better prepare for my job interviews and I've learned how to prepare an updated resume."

The class covers everything from resume writing to daily tips that will help the student succeed on the job. Employability Skills emphasizes the importance of soft skills and professionalism. "I am so thankful that I was able to take this class, it was very important and has definitely helped me in my job search," said Wright, "I'd take it all over again if I could." **CF**

Classes Coming Soon ...

Computer Skills

Basic Digital Photography **NEW**

Learn to take professional looking pictures at home and edit them using computer software with this six module program. Modules may be taken separately or together.

101 Series/201 Series

Are you struggling to keep up with the latest technology? Our Computer Skills 101 series will allow you to start where you are and learn at your own pace. Begin with the basics and work your way through the competencies into our Computer Skills 201 Series.

Microsoft Application Series

Basic and intermediate courses are offered in many Microsoft Office Applications including Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Personal Enrichment

Motorcycle Safety: Beginner, Intermediate, & Experienced

Learn to safely enjoy the thrill of motorcycle riding in our beginners' class or add to the skills you already have in our intermediate and experienced level classes.

Driving Safety Classes

These classes prepare teens and adults to operate an automobile safely and get them ready to obtain a driver's license.

Cake Decorating

Begin a new hobby or brush up an old one when you learn the basics of cake decorating in this fun and convenient class.

Belly Dancing

Experience the art of this mystic dance while exercising and toning your body in our basic or intermediate class.



Healthcare

Certified Nursing Assistant

The Certified Nursing Assistant course is a study of the concepts required to assist with nursing care. Successful completion of course consists of classroom, skills lab and clinical experience.

Medical Receptionist

Learn the fundamental knowledge required to become a skilled receptionist in any medical office environment.

EMT-Basic

Train to become an Emergency Medical Technician and be eligible to sit for certification.

Professional Development

MSSC

Quick training prepares students to become MSSC Certified Production Technicians.

Weatherization Classes **NEW**

Building Analyst, Manufactured Housing, and Envelope Professional BPI certifications as well as Weatherization Installer Technician Training

Mechanical Maintenance for Manufacturing **NEW**

Learn maintenance principles that will prepare you for a career in a manufacturing setting. This course is also beneficial to those who wish to expand their current knowledge.

CNC Machinist

Learn the basics needed to become a CNC Machinist in this quick skills class.

Supervisory Development

The skills of a supervisor are critical to business success. This 16-week course will prepare you to become an effective supervisor. This course is highly recommended for both new and experienced supervisors.

CDL Training **NEW**

Train to become a commercial truck driver in our new CDL training program. Students learn how to safely operate commercial vehicles and prepare to get a commercial driver's license. **CF**

To learn more about these courses call 864-941-8400.

Visit us online and subscribe to our e-newsletter at <http://www.ptc.edu/coned>



REGISTER TODAY

Spring classes begin January 19.

With over **80 academic programs** that lead to well-paying careers, transfer agreements with colleges and universities throughout the state, and a wide selection of online courses, Piedmont Tech has a choice that's right for you.

Stop by one of our seven locations to **get started today.**

Abbeville County Center
Highway 28 Bypass
Abbeville, South Carolina
(864) 446-8324

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

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

Laurens County Higher Education Center
663 Medical Ridge Road
Clinton, South Carolina
(864) 938-1505

Greenwood Campus
620 N. Emerald Rd.
Greenwood, South Carolina
1 (800) 868-5528
(864) 941-8324

McCormick County Center
407 East Augusta Street
McCormick, South Carolina
(864) 465-3191

Newberry County Center
540 Wilson Road
Newberry, South Carolina
(803) 276-9000

PIEDMONT
Technical College

Your goals. Our mission.