



# *Growing* **STRONGER**

PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
**2022 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**



**PIEDMONT**  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

# OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**VISION** We will become a premier community college with a shared commitment to create vibrant learning communities through relentless pursuit of student success and economic prosperity for all stakeholders.

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

The College, a member of the South Carolina Technical College System, is a public comprehensive two-year 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 responds to the academic, training and public service needs of the community through excellence in teaching and educational services. Piedmont Technical College's open admissions policy provides accessibility for individuals with diverse backgrounds the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills for employment in engineering technology, industrial technology, agriculture, business, health, and public service. Piedmont Technical College graduates develop competencies in communication, mathematics, problem solving and technology.

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

## **WE ARE GUIDED BY THE PRACTICE OF THESE CORE VALUES:**

- Proactive Leadership and Innovation
- Integrity, Accountability, and Transparency
- Collaboration and Collegiality
- Inclusivity, Diversity, and Accessibility
- Student Success and Customer Service
- Awareness of and Responsiveness to Emerging Trends
- Entrepreneurship and Workforce Development
- Lifelong Learning and Community Improvement
- Data-informed Decision Making
- The Ongoing Pursuit of Excellence
- Commitment to Lean Principles



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# Growing **STRONGER** **EVERY DAY**

*For the first time since 2015, enrollment at Piedmont Technical College has surpassed 5,200 students. It's a milestone manifested by a committed faculty and staff who truly slayed the grindstone to bring our numbers up where other colleges saw pandemic-related declines.*

Without question, the no-cost tuition option, which we have offered for three semesters now, has been a powerful factor in boosting these numbers. But students won't enroll — even for free — unless they have confidence in their decision. Word of mouth is a compelling force. Students won't take that first step without the warm greeting and proficient assistance they receive at the college.





**Our enrollment for the fall term 2022 was 17% above last year.** There are many factors contributing to this success, including our outstanding faculty and staff, as well as our supportive lawmakers, civic servants, and business partners. Their combined focus and stalwart efforts have generated some exciting developments.

With critical support from the PTC Foundation and significant funding action by our state legislators, we secured resources to renovate and expand PTC's decades-old healthcare education facilities. This will increase the college's capacity to enroll record numbers of students seeking training for in-demand healthcare careers. Preparation for this important construction work is underway and will result in the renovation and expansion of a modernized, state-of-the-art healthcare training space.

Every year, we confer more than 350 degrees to graduates in healthcare professions. That number is certain to grow, and PTC will continue to channel highly needed, well-trained professionals into the healthcare workforce.

Another boon is happening in Edgefield County, where essential funding has been secured to help construct a new PTC advanced manufacturing center that will be a technological showplace and resource for the community, similar to the William H. "Billy" O'Dell Upstate Center for Manufacturing Excellence now in operation on our Greenwood campus and providing training space for our industry partners. The planned facility will produce a ready pipeline of skilled graduates in advanced manufacturing, allowing PTC to sufficiently meet the current and future workforce needs of Edgefield County and beyond.

**"Year after year, we tell our students to 'expect more' at PTC, and year after year, we are able to deliver."**

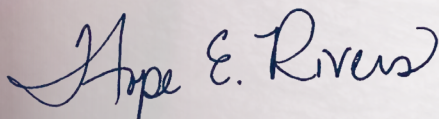
And when we expressed the need for a larger conference venue in Greenwood than is currently available, our supporters listened and took action. With funding allocated by our SC lawmakers and support from the PTC Foundation, PTC will revamp existing space to provide an all-amenities banquet and conference center that includes an exhibit hall, a ballroom, and multiple breakout spaces. This facility, on our Greenwood campus, will keep venue dollars here in the Lakelands. It will provide PTC and the communities it serves a vital resource to assemble and participate in meaningful thought-sharing and consensus-building that will impact our region and the state of South Carolina as a whole.

Year after year, we tell our students to "expect more" at PTC, and year after year, we are able to deliver.

Working together, we are truly stronger. Working together, we are growing. And working together, we are changing lives and communities.

We have indeed come a long way, but we are only getting started.

**Don't believe me? Just watch.**



Dr. Hope E. Rivers  
President, Piedmont Technical College







# *Growing Through* **ACADEMICS**

By the time our students attend their first day of class, whether in person or online, they have successfully navigated financial aid and admissions paperwork. If they are first-time college students, they likely have tried to suppress doubt about their ability and whether they actually belong in college. That's why the smaller class sizes at Piedmont Technical College are deliberately designed to facilitate more individual interaction with instructors.

From day one, PTC instructors are clear about expectations, treat their students with respect, and wholeheartedly welcome all questions. Above all, they are passionate about their subject matter because they don't just teach it, they live it. They are career professionals in their specialty. Their experience conveys the value of each student's choice of concentration and its impact on the community. Their robust enthusiasm shows, which only fosters greater engagement. Some instructors are even PTC alumni, which makes them all the more approachable through the shared student experience.

Sandy Anderson is such an instructor. A PTC graduate who also completed a Human Services internship at PTC, she now teaches students who may have similarly complicated backgrounds with empathy and encouragement.



# BE PREPARED TO CHANGE YOUR MIND

Sandy Anderson knows what it's like to be treated like a statistic. When she was 18 and seeking prenatal care, she overheard a doctor telling his staff that he didn't want to take Anderson as a patient because she was a teenager pregnant for the second time. He said she was just perpetuating a cycle.

"I remember it like it was yesterday and how it made me feel," the PTC Human Services Program instructor recalled. "I wanted to prove him wrong."

And that she did.

First of all, Anderson stayed in school with the help and encouragement of human services professionals. She graduated with an associate degree in human services in 1996. She went on to work in the human services field at Greenwood School District 50 for 19 years. She married her husband, Dennis, with whom she had two more children. The couple also adopted a fifth child, a 17-year-old boy.

While her children grew up, Anderson returned to college, earning bachelor's (2017) and master's (2021) degrees in social work from Limestone University. As

part of her master's requirements at Limestone, she completed a HUS internship at PTC, taught as an adjunct for several months, and became full-time faculty in February 2022. That internship experience enhanced Anderson's professional trajectory, just as internships in so many industries influence interns' most important decisions and can be powerful career boosters. By their nature, internships help interns decide if they are following the right career path and wish to proceed in that direction. They also provide valuable, real-world work experience that also refines their existing skill sets. Internships provide access to professional networking opportunities and mentorships where they might not otherwise exist. As in Anderson's case, her internship developed into a full-time role with the college.

As most human services professionals know, life can be messy, but Anderson thrives on helping set things in order.

"I am an organizer to the 'T'," she said. "I love to plan and organize different things. It brings me joy. If I did any kind of business in my spare time, I would probably do event planning. That is a love language for me."

Anderson is thankful every day to be in this role at PTC at this time. Working with Human Services Program Director Kristi Byrd, she continues to learn and gain different insights.

"She has recognized in me things that I didn't see myself," Anderson said.

The appreciation is mutual for Byrd, who said: "What Sandy brings to the program is her knowledge of education. She understands





# Sandy

*"Be ready to change your mind. You have to have that positive, unconditional regard for people. If something is important to them, it must be important to you."*

nontraditional avenues our students take to achieve their education goals. She also shares her personal story. ... We saw her as a perfect fit."

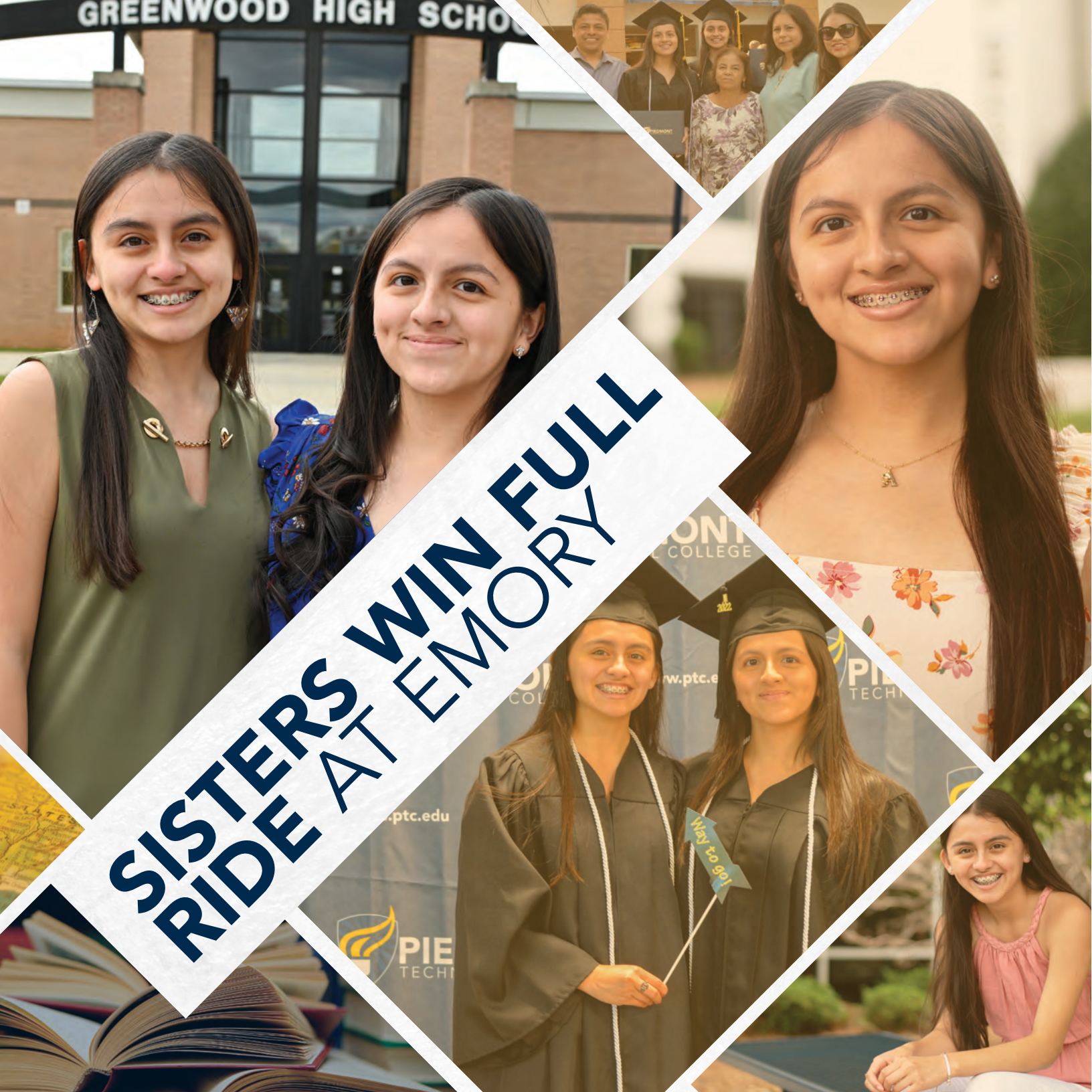
Thinking back to the physician who didn't want to see the "stereotypical" teenage mother-to-be, Anderson regards the incident as a blessing in disguise.

"The day my firstborn graduated high school, I was ecstatic. I wanted my boys not to be statistics," she said. "Be careful what you say. It can build someone up or tear them down. That experience with the doctor, that could have torn me down, but it pushed me."

Anderson says those who truly want to work in human services must have a heartfelt calling for it. If they do, the rewards are infinite.

"I have always had a passion for people," she said. There are a variety of roles within the field but little room for preconceptions. It's important to listen without judgment and keep an open mind. "Be ready to change your mind. You have to have that positive, unconditional regard for people. If something is important to them, it must be important to you."





**SISTERS WIN FULL  
RIDE AT EMORY**



**Araceli and Yesenia Manuel understand that some traditions endure because they work. Hailing from a close-knit family, they hold dear the values their parents raised them with.**

"Our family has at least one meal together every day," Yesenia said. "Some of our friends think that's kind of weird because it's not what their home life is like."

As seniors at Greenwood High School, the sisters applied to a college match program through Questbridge, a national nonprofit organization that connects the brightest students from lower-income backgrounds with leading institutions of higher education. When matches are identified, the partnering colleges and universities fund scholarships for the matched individuals. Since the Manuel sisters are just 10 months apart in age, they have been attending school in the same grade.

Earlier this year, Araceli and Yesenia learned that they both had been matched with Emory University in Atlanta, both with a full free-ride scholarship each. They feel ready for college because they've already had a taste of college work as dual-enrolled students at Piedmont Technical College.

"I think dual enrollment is a really great opportunity," Araceli said. "It gives you an advantage in college because you already have learned what it's like."

"We are getting some college credits early," Yesenia continued, "and already have a foundation for what we will learn in college."

Both are planning initially to major in biology. Araceli aspires to be an optometrist, and Yesenia is interested in

becoming a veterinarian. Biology is a solid base for either. They began classes at Emory in the fall of 2022.

"Having shared a room before, we are quite used to living in each other's personal space," Araceli said. "We are really close."

"We have actually never gone 24 hours without the other," Yesenia added. "I can't imagine what that would be like!"

**"I think dual enrollment is a really great opportunity ... It gives you an advantage in college because you already have learned what it's like."**

The two agree they are as compatible as roommates could be and anticipate the need to develop even finer "adult-ing" skills at Emory, especially with time management, taking initiative, and fostering communication. "It's important to communicate with professors and understand what to expect," Araceli noted. "They are happy that you are asking for help. They actually care about what you are doing."

Each sister provides resolve and encouragement for the other.

"A support system is important. It helps motivate you to work," Yesenia said. "She is my biggest support system. ... Araceli is always trying new things and has motivated me to try new things."



# MECHATRONICS TECHNOLOGY **TEACHING A NEW DOG OLD TRICKS?**

You might say that Piedmont Technical College's O'Dell Upstate Center for Manufacturing Excellence in Greenwood is now a dog-friendly facility. A new four-legged resident can be seen patrolling the halls on a regular basis, and it's loyal to the Mechatronics Technology Program. And make no mistake, the light chrome-colored canine is a very special "shop dog."

"It's a quadruped robot. It walks on four legs. It actually looks like a dog. It has artificial intelligence gesture recognition, so it can be programmed to follow you around," said Sam George, Mechatronics Technology instructor at PTC. "I was told we are the first in the state to get one."







So far, the AI canine has not been given a name, though it seems inevitable that students will come up with one before long. Perhaps it should be something like “Nimble,” because the robot dog is lithe and flexible, able to navigate different terrains, to jump, to rear up and beg, and even to climb stairs. Equipped with seven cameras, it is capable of mapping an entire building. It can move pretty quickly, too, with a top speed of 10 miles per hour.

“It’s a quaduped robot....It has **artificial intelligence gesture recognition**, so it can be programmed to follow you around. **I was told we are the first in the state to get one.**”

George says the robot dog is a valuable teaching tool for much of the Mechatronics Technology curriculum. “It’s basically a computer on four legs,” he said. Students can maintain, repair, and program it. “I am hoping to get a couple more. Right now, we rotate it through our classes.”

Now if they can just program one to catch a frisbee. ...







# WOMEN IN MANUFACTURING

'THIS IS WHERE THE MONEY IS!'

Before Lynn Rogers got home from her job interview with ZF Transmissions in Gray Court, an email offering her the position already had landed in her in-box. A 2020 graduate of Piedmont Technical College's Computerized Numerical Control (CNC) Certificate Program, Rogers has been working full time at ZF for nearly two years now. She is proud to be among the female faces in a profession where they once were scarce.

"I am one of five females in my department at ZF," Rogers said. "I think a lot of women sometimes are intimidated or not even familiar with machining. I like putting a female face on the profession. We are out here working in a highly skilled, technical role."

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*NOTE: After PTC published this story, it was shared widely and picked up by several media outlets. The Upstate SC Alliance produced their own article on Lynn Rogers to publicize its Skill Up initiative. The article then received interest from Site Selection Magazine and, ultimately, The New York Times! Talk about pass-along value!*

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Before enrolling in the CNC Certificate Program at PTC, Rogers worked for 14 years in the medical records field. Seeking a change, she initially began at PTC as a nursing major. Then it was respiratory care, but she just wasn't finding her niche. After a conversation with Machine Tool Technology Program Director Phillip Calhoun, Rogers decided to try the CNC Certificate Program. She admitted that it seemed like a crazy move at first.

"I had no manufacturing experience whatsoever," she said. The program was described as a ZF "Boot Camp," and there were about 10 ZF employees in the class. "They worked in assembly and were in the class to get out of assembly and move into machining."

Rogers knew she was in the right place from day one, and she has been applying the knowledge from class on the job every day.

"In class, we learned a lot of terminology, which has been really helpful to me on the job," she said. "When I am on the floor and things are being said, I know what they are talking about. A lot of people don't know how to read a blueprint, but we learned that at PTC. The machining at ZF is way more involved than lathes and mills. It's all part of a much larger-scale picture."

Calhoun was impressed with Rogers' work ethic, conscientiousness, and attention to detail.

"She was a really enthusiastic student," he said. "She was here every day. She always took notes, and she often stayed after class for extra time on the machines."

With experience now under her belt in manufacturing, Rogers already is shaping up her next career goals, and she wants to realize them at ZF.

"I would like to be a setup technician," Rogers said. A setup technician is someone who assembles, maintains, troubleshoots, and repairs equipment. "There is only one female that is a setup technician at ZF, and there has never been a female setup technician in my department, which makes ring gears. Our department has the biggest machines on the floor at ZF."

**"I am one of five females in my department. ... I like putting a female face on the profession. We are out here working in a highly skilled, technical role."**

Calhoun sees no reason why Rogers wouldn't achieve this goal. "It's not surprising that Lynn wants to excel and grow at ZF," he said. "She has all the capabilities to do that. Her drive and tenacity are unreal, and she has great mechanical ability."

Rogers works the second shift at ZF, which works out well for her as a parent because she can take her children to school in the morning, and she has family and a teenage daughter to help out in the afternoon after school. She would recommend advanced manufacturing fields to women who may never have considered them before. The world is changing.

"This is where the money is!" she said. "Women are in this environment, and we are thriving!"







# *Growing Through* **PARTNERSHIPS**

Partnerships have great power. In fact, they can even change the laws of mathematics. How? By making one plus one equal 10 or even 25 or more. That's because partnerships result in an exponential increase in mutual benefits gained by parties in the relationship.

PTC nurtures many partnerships that include government agencies, private businesses, human service organizations, philanthropies, manufacturing enterprises, and more. Each year brings new partnerships that yield even more growth for PTC and its partners.



# GOING THE DISTANCE AT PIEDMONT TECH

A cross-country runner in high school, Rachel Caron is well acquainted with sometimes meandering racecourses that might loop and bend through grassy fields, forest trails, or muddy pastures. The Piedmont Technical College (PTC) transfer student's college experience, in fact, has been a reversal of the conventional transfer pathway to a baccalaureate degree. She began her journey at the University of South Carolina and will finish her degree at PTC, rather than the other way around.

Caron is finishing up her UofSC biology degree with a clinical experience through PTC's Cardiovascular Technology-Invasive Program, which employs sophisticated medical equipment to perform procedures on patients for diagnostic and interventional treatment of cardiovascular diseases as part of a cardiac catheterization team.

"In high school, I played a lot of sports," Caron said, having been on Wando High School's cross-country and track teams, as well as a stint as a cheerleader, while maintaining a 4.39 GPA. "I was interested in student athletics and first majored in exercise science at UofSC but changed my major to biology."

Medical school is one possible direction after graduation, but she hasn't decided. Caron's father is a pediatrician in Charleston.

"I change my mind all the time," she said. "I always seem to know what I'm NOT interested in." But once Caron eliminates those unwanted choices, she remains open to new things and is game to try just about anything at least once.

The biology program she is in at UofSC requires that

students apply for and complete a clinical program in their senior year (an appropriate CVT program was not available at the university), and Caron's advisor recommended the PTC program.

"The only other program was in Augusta," Caron said, and she chose to transfer to PTC to complete clinical requirements for her baccalaureate degree. She graduated in December.

"We have an articulation agreement where students earning their associate degree at PTC can go on to earn their bachelor's from UofSC," CVT Instructor Laura Boone said. "Rachel is one of two students doing the reverse transfer. She has been a star in this program and has a bright future."

While at PTC, Caron served as a Presidential Ambassador and, despite a busy schedule, still found time to work out. (The 22-year-old considers a 4-5-mile run "easy.") While completing her studies, Caron was training for a half-marathon. For now, she has settled into a steady pace and is primed to go the distance.





# Rachel

*She began her journey  
at the University of  
South Carolina and  
will finish her degree  
at PTC, rather than  
the other way around.*



# A PAIRING LIKE HAM AND SWISS

It's a partnership that pairs as agreeably as a delicious ham and swiss from E.A. Sween's extensive menu of pre-packaged sandwiches and other goodies. Piedmont Technical College (PTC) and national food franchise E.A. Sween (EAS) have embarked on a remarkable partnership that's a boon for workforce development in Greenwood County and surrounding communities.

This year, as EAS prepares and upfits its newly purchased facility in the North Greenwood Industrial Park in Hodges, its employees will receive startup training facilitated by readySC™ on equipment specially installed by EAS at PTC's O'Dell Upstate Center for Manufacturing. The partnership will ensure that EAS employees are 100% ready to work the first day the facility goes online, which is estimated to be around the fall of 2023.

The arrangement marks the second time a company has taken advantage of the flex space resource at the Center.

"Teijin was the first to use the space, but they did not need to install any equipment. However, E.A. Sween will be the first company to bring in their own equipment to create an actual production environment for training that is unique to them," said Rusty Denning, PTC assistant vice president for economic development and strategic partnerships.

Piedmont Technical College plays a key role in economic development in the region. We are working closely with the following companies that are opening new facilities or expanding in our service region.

## **GREENWOOD**

- E.A. Sween — \$38 million 300 new jobs
- Symrise Pet Food — \$65.5 million, 65 jobs expansion
- Mumford Industries, Inc. — \$2 million, 33 jobs expansion
- Flybar, Inc. — \$8 million, 36 new jobs

## **ABBEVILLE**

- Hira Industries — \$11.5 million, 50 new jobs

## **SALUDA**

- Palmetto Gourmet Foods, Inc. — \$11.6 million, 73 jobs expansion

## **LAURENS**

- Motor City Racks — \$26 million, 88 new jobs
- Europastry — \$23 million, 155 new jobs
- Sunny Days Entertainment — \$16 million, 80 new jobs
- Blue Diamond Industries — \$18 million, 90 new jobs





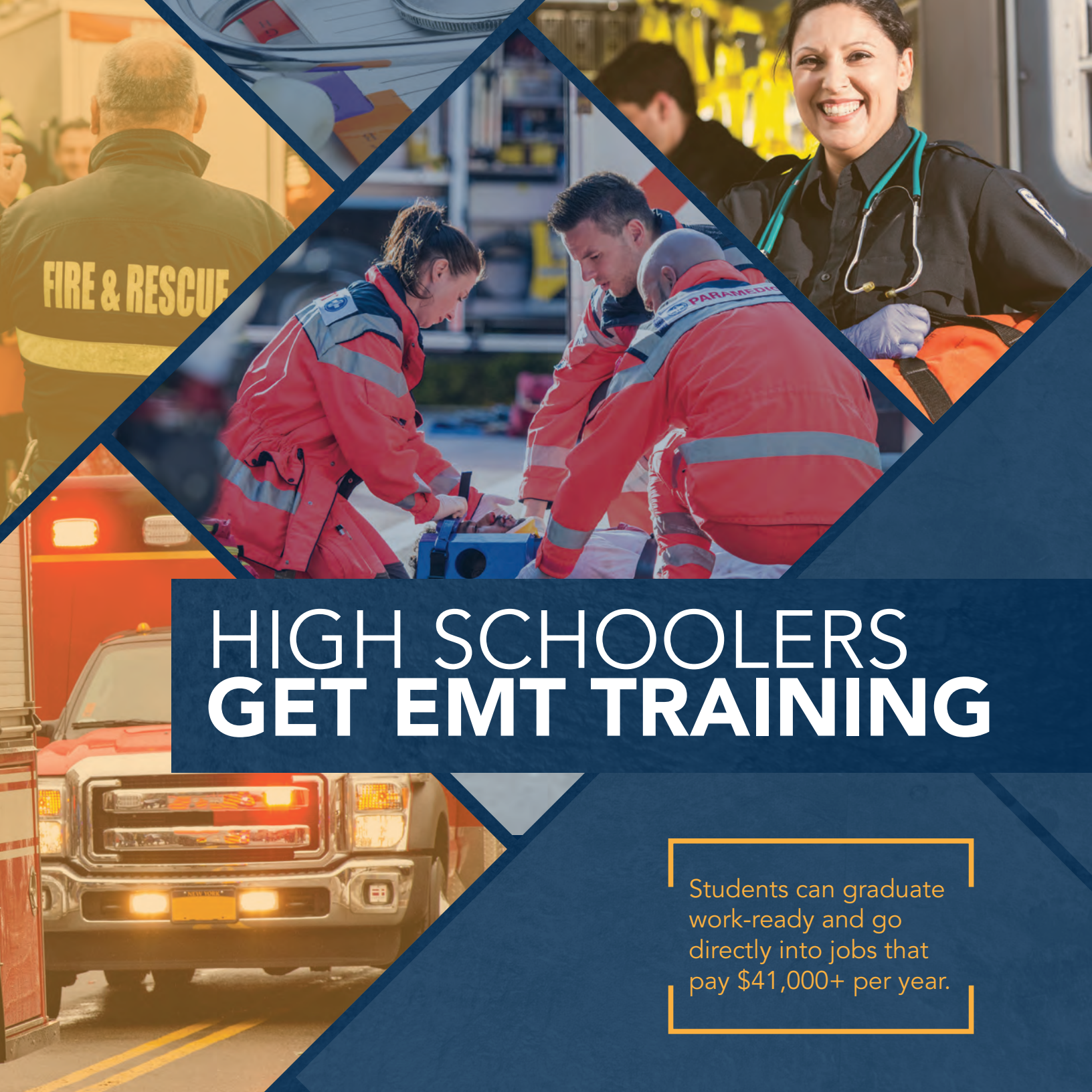
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*Welcome*  
TO PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**E.A. Sween**

 **PIEDMONT**





# HIGH SCHOOLERS GET EMT TRAINING

Students can graduate  
work-ready and go  
directly into jobs that  
pay \$41,000+ per year.



In March, officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Laurens District 55 High School's new Ambulance Trainer, a key tool in a training partnership with Piedmont Technical College. (The college also has a mobile ambulance trainer that can be transported to students wherever they are in the college's seven-county service area.) It's exciting news for an initiative first set in motion in 2021.

At the time, PTC Instructor Steve Hudson's Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class at Laurens High School was well underway, and students were on hand to help celebrate the ribbon-cutting. Announced in the fall of 2021, the dual enrollment partnership has a committed first class of seniors who are considering careers as first responders.

The brainchild of Superintendent Dr. Ameca Thomas, this program was established in response to strong community interest and the shortage of EMTs in the workforce. Perhaps a reflection of spreading regional concern, upstate-based TV network affiliate Fox Carolina News requested access to the class for a news story. The students, who on that day were receiving CPR training on adult and infant medical manikins, were poised and confident in front of the TV cameras.

Senior Heidi Ashmore seemed right at home under the broadcast light.

**Hudson noted that there are still nearly a thousand EMT vacancies in South Carolina. Students will complete this course prepared to take the EMT certification exam and graduate work-ready.**

"This is my third CPR class but the first that is so in-depth," she told reporter Jarvis Robinson. "I love being able to know that I can potentially save people's lives." Perhaps on impulse, she couldn't resist adding, "Go Raiders!"

For Dr. Thomas, watching the students perform chest compressions on the manikins was extremely meaningful.

"To see all of this in action, it's pretty exciting," she said.

Hudson noted that there are still nearly a thousand EMT vacancies in South Carolina. These students will complete this course prepared to take the EMT certification exam and graduate work-ready. "These students can go directly into jobs that pay \$41,000 per year," he said.

A first responder himself, Hudson praised his students for asking thoughtful, conscientious questions and demonstrating real-world professionalism while training.

"I am proud to lead this class and to help bring new EMT professionals to the field," he said. "It's an honor to work for PTC and to teach at Laurens District 55 High School. Dr. Thomas has been wonderful to work with, and the students are incredible!"





# TRANSFER AGREEMENTS IN 2022



Sometimes they are called “articulation agreements” or “memorandums of understanding,” but for the purposes of this report, we will collect all such contracts under the umbrella of “transfer agreement.” In higher education, transfer agreements establish a pathway for students to transfer course credits from one college (often a two-year institution) or high school dual enrollment program to another college or university. The contracted partners basically agree on specific programs in which they will accept and recognize credits from another, endorsing them as of equal academic value for transfer.



PTC continually maintains transfer or bridge agreements with more than a dozen four-year institutions. Each year, additional agreements are established for specific academic or dual enrollment programs. This year, PTC entered into the following new transfer agreements:

- With the **School District of Newberry County**, whereby PTC agrees to accept dual enrollment students from Newberry County and honor their credits completed.
- With **Presbyterian College** (PC), whereby PC agrees to accept PTC dual enrolled students from Laurens County who want to finish their final two years at PC, which will cover costs for the final two years after all the students' grants-in-aid have been expended.

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PTC is currently providing nearly

## 80 transfer pathways

to 38 colleges and universities.

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- With **Lander University**, whereby:
  - PTC Registered Nurse-licensed Associate Degree Nursing graduates can transfer into Lander's Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN) Program;
  - PTC students who graduate with an associate in applied science in criminal justice can continue their education by pursuing a bachelor of science in criminology at Lander;
  - PTC students who graduate with an associate in applied science in early care and education can continue their career preparation by pursuing a bachelor of science in early childhood education at Lander;
  - PTC students who graduate with an associate in applied science in human services can continue their education by pursuing a bachelor of science in human services at Lander;
- With **University of South Carolina**, whereby USC healthcare-track students needing cardiovascular clinical credits may transfer to PTC's Cardiovascular Technology Program — essentially a "reverse transfer" arrangement, to satisfy those requirements;
- With **Francis Marion University** (FMU), whereby eligible PTC Commercial Art associate in science graduates can transfer to FMU to pursue a bachelor's degree in Visual Arts for Graphic Design or Visual Arts for Photography; and
- With **Coastal Carolina University** (CCU), whereby eligible PTC Commercial Art associate in science graduates can transfer to CCU to pursue a bachelor's degree in Graphic Design.





  
Piedmont Technical College



# Growing Through **CULTURE**

What is a legacy? How do we want to be remembered? After instilling the life-changing skills and knowledge to achieve their career aspirations, PTC wants graduates to remember how much we care.

2022 began the movement toward a Culture of Caring at PTC. Not that it wasn't already there, but we wanted to be deliberate. We wanted to make it official policy.

Every decision taken by this college puts students first. From precisely updated curricula and faculty selection to equipment acquisitions and facility capital improvements, every upgrade is designed first to enrich the academic experience of our students.



# AMBITION DRIVES PIEDMONT TECH ALUM

It can be a little bit awkward when you climb the career ladder and eventually become the “boss” of your former co-workers. Piedmont Technical College (PTC) alumnus Ellis Belton can relate. After 24 years working at Sage Automotive Interiors, where he started in 1998 as a distribution worker in the warehouse, Belton today is a process improvement engineer at the company.

“I was working in the same facility where I worked for years. Now I had to adjust and separate those friendships from the past — with people that I used to hang out with on the floor — because now I was their boss,” he said. “That was the most challenging thing I faced day-to-day.”

The Abbeville native and his wife, Toni, are the parents of six children. When they were little, he wondered how he could possibly juggle his large, active family and a full-time job to attend college, but his strong drive to succeed made the decision for him. What followed was a long, steady academic journey.

Belton first enrolled at PTC in 2003, earning an associate in applied science in Electronic Engineering Technology

in 2005. He returned to PTC in 2013, earning two associate in applied science degrees, one in Industrial Electronics Technology and one in Mechatronics Technology, in 2015. That year, he also received an academic achievement award. Through a transfer program in engineering, he went on to earn his bachelor’s degree from SC State University in 2018.

“I was working straight third shift full time, raising six kids, going to school. My instructors understood. PTC was flexible. And the staff at PTC made it easy for me,” he said. “Piedmont Tech gives you the best opportunity at the most affordable price. ...The staff is very hands-on. The classes are smaller. You can get that extra help. PTC is where someone actually knows your name and not just your ID number.”

Always busy, Belton still finds time to serve as a mentor at Wright Middle School and football coach at Abbeville High School. “I try to be a role model to everyone that I am around,” he said.

From the time he started working in the textile industry, Belton said he knew he wanted more.

“I have always been ambitious my entire life. So just being at the bottom looking at the top, I wanted to be at the top, and to get there, I knew I needed more education,” he said. “Graduating from PTC opened plenty of doors for me. It enabled me to get a higher-paying job, in fact, the highest-paying job in our facility. It helped me make a better living for my family.”





# ELLIS

*"Graduating from PTC opened plenty of doors for me. It enabled me to get a higher-paying job. ... It helped me make a better living for my family."*



# CAPITAL PROJECTS MOVE CLOSER TO FRUITION

When PTC reached out to legislators at budget time, they did not disappoint. We are grateful for their incredibly positive response in the form of funding for several proposed capital initiatives.

## **HEALTHCARE EDUCATION FACILITIES**

SC legislators this year directed significant state funding toward the renovation and expansion of the college's aging healthcare education facilities. This project will exponentially increase our capacity to enroll record numbers of students seeking careers in healthcare. Preparation for this important construction work is underway and will result in the renovation and expansion of a modernized, state-of-the-art healthcare training space.

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY CAMPUS**

Our forward-thinking lawmakers also this year secured essential funding to help construct a new, 15,000-square-foot PTC advanced manufacturing center on our Edgefield County Campus. It will be a technological showplace and community resource comparable to the William H. "Billy" O'Dell Upstate Center for Manufacturing Excellence in Greenwood. The planned facility will help produce a ready pipeline

of skilled graduates in advanced manufacturing, allowing PTC to sufficiently meet the current and future workforce needs of Edgefield County and beyond.

## **A NEW CONFERENCE CENTER IN GREENWOOD**

When PTC expressed the shared need for a larger conference venue in the Greenwood community, our supporters listened and took action. With funding allocated by our SC lawmakers and support from the PTC Foundation, PTC will revamp existing space to provide an all-amenities banquet and conference center that includes an exhibit hall, a ballroom, and multiple breakout spaces. This facility, on our Greenwood campus, will keep venue dollars here in the Lakelands. It will provide PTC and the communities it serves a vital resource to assemble and participate in meaningful thought-sharing and consensus-building that will impact our region and the state of South Carolina as a whole.









I am BLESSED.

This semester is gonna be EPIC!

I am a ROLE MODEL

PIEDMONT  
TECHNICAL



# MENTAL WELLNESS CAMPAIGN INSPIRES STUDENTS TO 'BE KIND'

What tone do you take when you talk to yourself? One's inner voice is the narrative only they hear. It has a lot of power, and it is not always rational — or kind. For this reason, Piedmont Technical College officials launched the "Be Kind to Your Mind" campaign on the first day of fall classes this year.

"We really want to help raise awareness about mental wellness and the need for vigilance and self-care," PTC President Dr. Hope E. Rivers said. "We want students to know we all struggle sometimes, and they are not alone. The 'Be Kind to Your Mind' slogan draws attention to the way we address ourselves internally. We want to encourage mindfulness and help students redirect negative thoughts. We all need to remember that family and friends love us just the way we are."

The multi-campus initiative began on Aug. 22, with faculty and staff dressed in Be-Kind themed T-shirts personally greeting students with goodie bags, a card with suggested affirmations, and information about mental health resources. A video of faculty and staff introducing the campaign was played at the start of classes, and staff are undergoing special, self-paced training to help them support all students in being mentally well. The college also created a special website landing page ([www.ptc.edu/bekind](http://www.ptc.edu/bekind)) where students can go for more information.

As part of the welcome-back event, students on the Lex Walters Campus-Greenwood were invited to select from an assortment of positive statements printed on banners and express themselves with the banners while being photographed. The photo booth was a big hit. The most-selected sentiment was: "I Am Blessed."

"Community colleges are about meeting students where they are and helping

them map out a path to where they'd like to be," PTC Vice President for Student Affairs Josh Black said. "To do that, our instructors and our staff really get to know their students. This campaign helps reinforce the concept with students that we see them, we hear them, and we are here for them."

The campaign continued throughout the fall term.









# 2022 *Year in* REVIEW

As campus life continues at an ever-increasing pace, it's important to slow down for a moment and take stock of what we've accomplished over the past year. Here's a brief summary.





## FIRST QUARTER JANUARY-MARCH 2022

Providing an exciting start to the year, PTC joined with Lonza and Apprenticeship Carolina™ to launch a proactive strategy to address the ongoing workforce need for maintenance technicians. As a result, newly registered apprenticeships at Lonza's Greenwood facility provide a structured training program for critically important roles in maintenance, electronics, and a hybrid of mechanical and electrical disciplines.

At its Jan. 18 meeting the PTC Area Commission welcomed Dennis Lambries, Ph.D., as the college's new area commissioner representing Saluda County. Dr. Lambries is an instructor of political science at Newberry College.

In February, PTC received a \$1.6 million grant from the SC Department of Education to serve objectives of the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) legislation, which was designed to address the impact of COVID-19 on schools across the nation. Over three years, PTC will collaborate with area school districts to provide directed advisement and wraparound support services to high school students to help ensure success in their college dual enrollment journeys.

## SECOND QUARTER APRIL-JUNE 2022

On May 14, the PTC Foundation conducted its first fundraising walk/run, titled the Spring Forward 5K. More than 130 participated in the exercise, which featured a USA Track and Field-certified course around the Lex Walters Campus-Greenwood. The event raised approximately \$13,000 for the Foundation.

One welcome response to Greenwood County's recent shortage of qualified emergency medical technicians and other first responders has been a unique EMT training partnership with Laurens District 55 High School. Announced in fall 2021, the dual enrollment partnership's first class of seniors helped celebrate the March 29 ribbon-cutting for the high school's new mobile ambulance trainer. PTC also has a mobile ambulance trainer that can be transported to students wherever they are in the college's seven-county service area.

PTC's Automotive Technology Program hosted a Car Show on April 30 in the Medford Family Event Center parking lot in Greenwood. More than 70 registered exhibitors participated in the event to raise money for the education and training of Automotive Technology students at PTC.







## THIRD QUARTER JULY-SEPTEMBER 2022

Some 1,600 middle school students from throughout the region visited the PTC Greenwood Campus to learn about myriad future career opportunities from area employers who set up engaging displays and equipment in the O'Dell Center parking lot and the Medford Center in September. The career showcase was held in partnership with several agencies, including the Western Piedmont Education Consortium, SC Works, and Vision Greenwood. The event received front page coverage from the region's largest newspaper.

On the first day of classes for the fall term, PTC launched its "Be Kind to Your Mind" mental wellness awareness initiative across all of its campuses. Faculty and staff dressed in Be-Kind-themed T-shirts personally greeting students with goodie bags, printed cards listing suggested affirmations, and information about mental health resources. A video of faculty and staff introducing the campaign was played at the start of classes and on social media. Special, self-paced training was made available to help employees support all students in being mentally well. The college also created a special website landing page ([www.ptc.edu/bekind](http://www.ptc.edu/bekind)) where students can go for more information.

## FOURTH QUARTER OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022

In October, PTC announced it would extend its No Cost Tuition Option through the 2023 summer term. The college was able to offer the special option because of additional state, federal, county, PTC Foundation, and community-based funding.

The PTC Area Commission welcomed Anita M. Butler as a new commissioner representing Abbeville County. Retired from Spartanburg Regional Health Care System, Butler is the former Senior Vice President of Post-Acute Services and President of Spartanburg Restorative Care. She has held memberships in the American College of Healthcare Executives, the South Carolina Health Alliance, Sigma Theta Tau (the National Honor Society of Nursing), and National Association of Long-Term Hospitals.

PTC's flex space training facility at the O'Dell Center was pivotal among other incentives for national pre-packaged sandwich-maker E.A. Sween (EAS) to establish a \$38 million, 100,000-square-foot facility in a government-built speculative building in Greenwood County. It is the company's first expansion outside of Minnesota. EAS plans to hire 300 people over the next three years. While construction and upfitting are underway at the spec building in Hodges, employees will receive training on EAS-installed equipment at the O'Dell Center. The new EAS facility is slated to be fully online by the third quarter of 2023.





# PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Many of the students entering Piedmont Technical College are from low to moderate income households. Many are the first to attend college in their families. Some come from challenging circumstances — juggling family, jobs and college responsibilities.

Although more than 90 percent of the students at PTC receive some form of financial aid, for many it's not enough. The PTC Foundation assists these students through more than 90 scholarship opportunities. These scholarships help to retain the best and brightest talent for our local workforce and provide educational opportunities to those who otherwise may not have been able to attend college.

In 2022, the Piedmont Technical College Foundation awarded  
**153 scholarships**  
totaling **\$126,500.**

The PTC Foundation Board would like to thank its generous donors for making these scholarships available and for making the dreams of many of our students possible.

## Foundation Board Members

Mr. Lee Matthews, Abbeville

Mr. Jeff Wilson, Abbeville  
(Board Vice Chair)

Mr. Thomas H. Herlong, Sr., Edgefield  
(Board Treasurer)

Ms. Alicia Padgett, Edgefield

Mr. Christopher Brown, Greenwood

Mr. E.H. "Rocky" Dunkman, Greenwood

Mr. Travis Gunter, Greenwood

Mr. Dan Hobbs, Greenwood

Mr. Theo L. Lane, Greenwood

Dr. Matt Logan, Greenwood

Ms. Anna Marie McCarty, Greenwood

Mr. Jim Medford, Greenwood  
(Board Chair)

Mr. Jerry Stevens, Greenwood

Mr. David A. Tompkins, Greenwood

Mr. Michael Walters, Greenwood

The Honorable Diane Anderson, Laurens

Mr. Justin Benfield, Laurens  
(Executive Board Member)

Mr. Jeff Field, Laurens

Ms. Mamie Banks, McCormick

Mr. H. George Piersol, II, Newberry  
(Area Commissioner)

Mrs. Miriam B. Adams, Saluda

Mr. Earl Bradford Forrest, Saluda  
(Executive Board Member)

## Emeritus Members

Mr. Peter J. Manning, Greenwood  
(Emeritus) (Area Commissioner)

Mr. Steve O. White, Greenwood  
(Emeritus)

Mr. Charles R. Williams, Abbeville  
(Emeritus)



# PTC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

- A. J. Welch Memorial Scholarship
- Abbeville First Bank Endowed Scholarship
- Agape Senior OTA Scholarship
- Alfred and Miriam Adams Endowed Scholarship
- Allred Leadership Scholarships
- Annie Lee Swygert Scholarship
- Automotive Technology Scholarship
- Bailey Foundation Scholarships
- Brighter Futures Scholarship
- Building Construction Technology Scholarship
- C. Y. Thomason Sr. Memorial Scholarship
- Carl Brock VR Scholarship
- Casandra Cae Laster Memorial Scholarship
- Charles Baumeister Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Computer Consultants & Merchants, Inc. PTC Golf Classic Scholarship
- Countybank Foundation Scholarships
- David Sherer Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Derrick Scholars Scholarship
- Doris Suber Family Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Lorraine Angelino Scholarship
- Dr. Sandra Calliham McMullen Scholarship
- Emerald Ink & Stitches PTC Golf Classic Scholarship
- Ernest W. Prewett Alumni Association Scholarships
- First Citizens Scholarship
- Foundation Partners Group Scholarship
- Fran K. Wiley Endowed Foundation Scholarship
- Frank Wardlaw Memorial Scholarship
- G. B. Elledge Endowment Scholarship
- Game Changer Scholarship
- Gavin Lloyd Truelove Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Gavin Truelove Memorial Scholarship
- Greenwood Chamber of Commerce Community Scholarship
- Greenwood Corvette Club Scholarship
- Greenwood Rotary Club Scholarship
- Grey Hamlett Welding Scholarship
- Gwen and Gene Hancock Memorial Respiratory Care Scholarship
- H. Kelley Jones Scholarship
- Henry Blohm Leadership Scholarship
- Honeycutt Scholarship
- Human Services Scholarship
- Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship
- Jeanne C. Florence Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- John W. Drummond Endowed Scholarship
- John Heydel Cardiovascular Scholarship
- Judy Daulton Accounting Scholarship
- L. Ruple Harley, Sr. Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- La Puerta De Esperanza Scholarship
- "Lady Bug" Memorial Scholarship
- Lakelands Home Builders Association Scholarship
- Laurens County Chamber Cecil Davenport Memorial Scholarships
- Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission PTC Golf Classic Scholarships
- Lena Wood Warren Endowed Scholarship
- Lonza Endowed Scholarship
- Louise Rambo Nursing Scholarship
- Loutrelle Self Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Lucille Brooks Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Lula M. Smith Healthcare Endowed Scholarship
- Manning Family Endowed Scholarship
- Martha B. Williams Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Medford Family Foundation Scholarship
- MJA Endowed Scholarship
- Mr. "B" Automotive Technician Endowed Scholarship
- Nancy Taylor Hall Memorial Scholarship
- Newberry County Memorial Hospital Scholarship
- Newberry Electric Cooperative Scholarships
- Nora Wells Cooner Scholarship
- Olly and Ross Garrison Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Paul DeLoache Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- People That Care Scholarship
- PTC 50th Anniversary Scholarship
- PTC Foundation Board Scholarships
- PTC Golf Classic Endowed Scholarships
- Rad Tech Scholarship
- RMBE Lipford Endowed Scholarship
- Rosalie Stevenson Nursing Scholarship
- Scurry Foundation Scholarship
- South Carolina Green Industry Association Scholarship Fund
- Stephen Franklin Sherard III Endowed Scholarship
- Sterilite Corporation Endowed Scholarship
- Strom Thurmond Endowed Scholarship
- Sylvia MacFarlane Veterinary Technology Club Scholarship
- Taylor Foundation of Newberry Endowed Scholarships
- The 40 and 8 Nursing Scholarship
- The Charlie Foundation Scholarship
- The Links at Stoney Point PTC Golf Classic Scholarships
- The Links of Stoney Point Military Scholarship
- Veterinary Technician of Excellence Scholarship
- W. A. Klauber Memorial Scholarship
- West Fraser PTC Golf Classic Scholarship



# INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

## Fall 2021 Semester Headcount:

4,491 students



= 100 students

## Age of STUDENTS:

17 or under: **20%**

18-21: **32%**

22-34: **32%**

35-49: **13%**

50-59: **2%**

60+: **1%**

## Quick Facts: FALL SEMESTER 2021

**4,491** students enrolled in  
**41,817** credit hours.

The most common student age is **18**.

**66%** of students are part-time students.

**34%** are full-time (*taking 12 credits or more*).



**68%**  
of students  
are female.



**32%**  
of students  
are male.

## Top 7 areas OF STUDY:

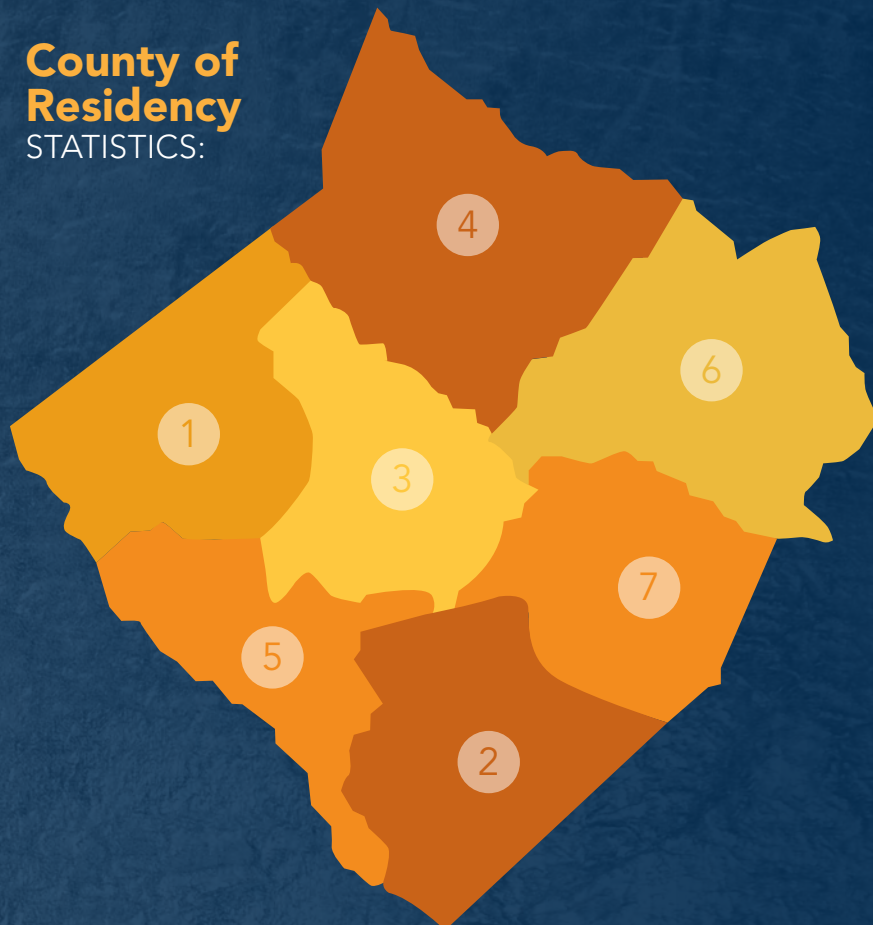
1. Healthcare
2. Business
3. AA/AS/Transfer
4. Industrial
5. Public Service
6. Nursing
7. Engineering

## placement rates BY CAREER CLUSTER\*:

Area of Study	GENERAL EDUCATION	INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY	HEALTH CARE	BUSINESS & PUBLIC SERVICE	GENERAL TECHNOLOGY	<b>TOTAL</b>
Number of Graduates	<b>287</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>2032</b>
Number Available	<b>287</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1993</b>
Working Related Field	<b>38</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>614</b>
Continuing Education	<b>245</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1249</b>
Working Non-Related Field	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>82</b>
Unemployed	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>
Placement Rate	<b>99%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>93%</b>



## County of Residency STATISTICS:



- 1 **Abbeville** Credit Curriculum: 8%; Continuing Education: 7%
- 2 **Edgefield** Credit Curriculum: 4%; Continuing Education: 3%
- 3 **Greenwood** Credit Curriculum: 31%; Continuing Education: 47%
- 4 **Laurens** Credit Curriculum: 15%; Continuing Education: 14%
- 5 **McCormick** Credit Curriculum: 2%; Continuing Education: 1%
- 6 **Newberry** Credit Curriculum: 12%; Continuing Education: 4%
- 7 **Saluda** Credit Curriculum: 6%; Continuing Education: 1%
- 8 **Out of region/state** Credit Curriculum: 22%; Continuing Education: 23%

## County Campus LOCATIONS:

- 1 **ABBEVILLE COUNTY CAMPUS**  
143 Hwy 72 W  
Abbeville, South Carolina  
(864) 446-8324
- 2 **EDGEFIELD COUNTY CAMPUS**  
506 Main Street  
Edgefield, South Carolina  
(803) 637-5388
- 3 **LEX WALTERS CAMPUS-GREENWOOD**  
620 N. Emerald Road  
Greenwood, South Carolina  
(800) 868-5528 • (864) 941-8324
- 4 **LAURENS COUNTY CAMPUS**  
663 Medical Ridge Road  
Clinton, South Carolina  
(864) 938-1505  
  
**CENTER FOR ADVANCED  
MANUFACTURING**  
109 Innovation Drive  
Laurens, South Carolina  
(864) 682-3702
- 5 **MCCORMICK COUNTY CAMPUS**  
1008 Kelly Street  
McCormick, South Carolina  
(864) 852-3191
- 6 **NEWBERRY COUNTY CAMPUS**  
1922 Wilson Road  
Newberry, South Carolina  
(803) 276-9000
- 7 **SALUDA COUNTY CAMPUS**  
701 Batesburg Highway  
Saluda, South Carolina  
(864) 445-3144

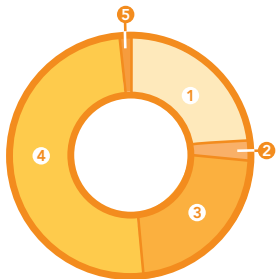


# INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

2021-2022 total budget: \$76 MILLION

## REVENUES

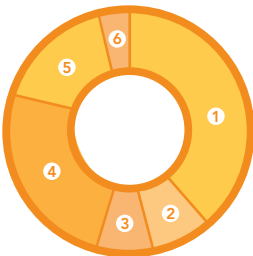
Tuition and Fees (Net of Scholarship Allowance)	\$8,837,214
County	2,715,255
State	10,449,818
Grants and Contracts	36,647,247
Other	2,135,801
<hr/>	
TOTAL REVENUES	\$60,785,335
<hr/>	
INCREASE IN NET POSITION	\$2,142,710



**REVENUES:**  
(1) Tuition and Fees: 15%,  
(2) County: 4%,  
(3) State: 17%,  
(4) Grants and Contracts: 59%,  
(5) Other: 4%

## EXPENSES

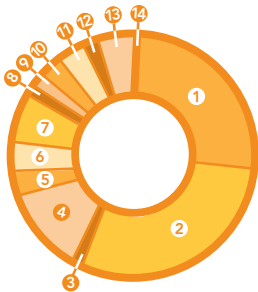
Instruction and Academic Support	\$22,382,712
Student Services	5,011,009
Physical Plant	3,932,931
Institutional Support	16,351,630
Scholarships (Net of Scholarship Allowance)	7,998,789
Depreciation and Amortization	2,965,554
<hr/>	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$58,642,625



**EXPENSES:**  
(1) Instruction and Academic Support: 38%,  
(2) Student Services: 9%,  
(3) Physical Plant: 7%,  
(4) Institutional Support: 28%,  
(5) Scholarships: 14%,  
(6) Depreciation and Amortization: 5%

Note: For complete audited financial statements, refer to the Piedmont Technical College website.

## TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID



**TYPES OF AID:**  
(1) Federal Grants: 28.75%, (2) Federal Loans: 31.45%,  
(3) Federal Work Study: 0.29%, (4) Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds: 14.26%, (5) State Grants: 2.59%,  
(6) State Life Scholarship: 4.13%, (7) State LTA: 8.29%,  
(8) National Guard: 0.03%, (9) Workforce Quickskills: 0.42%,  
(10) Workforce Scholarships and Grants: 2.08%,  
(11) Workforce Scholarships for the Future: 3.40%,  
(12) Promise Scholarships: 0.05%, (13) SC Wins: 4.22%,  
(14) State Apprenticeship Expansion and Youth Apprenticeship Grant: 0.03%

### Federal

	# of Students	Amount
Grants	3,404	\$11,495,551
Loans	1,675	12,577,765
Federal Work Study	58	116,721
Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds	5,304	5,702,460

### State

		Amount
Grants (SC Needs Based)	537	\$1,036,166
Life	406	1,650,228
LTA	2,864	3,316,900
National Guard	4	11,251
Workforce Quickskills	153	167,191
Workforce Scholarships and Grants	1,142	833,223
Workforce Scholarships for the Future	1,219	1,359,511
Promise Scholarships	32	20,777
SC Wins	1,826	1,686,096
State Apprenticeship Expansion and Youth Apprenticeship Grant	9	13,131

### TOTAL

\$39,986,973



# AREA COMMISSION



Y.J. Ahn  
*Greenwood*



Cherry Houston Brown  
*McCormick*



Anita Butler  
*Abbeville*



Richard Cain  
*Chair, Laurens*



Dr. George P. Cone, Jr.  
*Greenwood*



Blake Davis  
*Laurens*



Charles Graves  
*Greenwood*



Jane J. Herlong  
*Edgefield*



Dr. Dennis Lambries  
*Saluda*



Peter J. Manning  
*Vice Chair, Greenwood*



H. George Piersol, II  
*Newberry*



Thelma Woody  
*Secretary, Abbeville*

Members of the Area Commission are recommended by their legislative delegation and appointed by the governor for four-year terms. The Area Commission is the College's governing body.





**PIEDMONT**  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

[www.ptc.edu](http://www.ptc.edu)