Northeast Wisconsin Technical College is Leading the Way:
building the future workforce, developing future business leaders, and ensuring
a strong quality of life in Northeast Wisconsin. The 2014-2015 school year has
brought new career programs in IT-Software Development, Manufacturing
Operations Management, Construction Technology, Mechanical Systems,
Structural Systems, Fire Medic, Fire Science and Therapeutic Massage.
Students have filled the expanded health and wellness facility. The College
has received national recognition for its student success initiatives from the
American Association of Community Colleges and has been designated as a
Leader College by the national Achieving the Dream Initiative. Thanks to strong
and growing K-12 partnerships, middle and high school students are receiving
early career training and, in many cases, college credits that give them a
head start on a degree.

All that progress is driven by changes in the economy. The number of jobs
available to students straight out of high school continues to shrink, and by
2018, most U.S. jobs will require technical education beyond high school. NWTC graduates have higher salaries
than the national average, and nationwide, graduates with applied science associate degrees (like those awarded
by NWTC) have lower unemployment than nearly every other demographic group. Technical education keeps
Wisconsin’s economy strong, and we take seriously our responsibility to keep it going and growing.

After years of growth and success, several facilities now need to change with the times. NWTC is serving about
40 percent more full-time-equivalent students than we planned for during our last expansion. Our main campus
is delivering degrees in information technology and digital media in buildings constructed before most computer
technology existed. Our Marinette and Sturgeon Bay facilities were built before widespread automation occurred
in manufacturing, and before we had ever heard of a health care worker shortage. They were all built when we
thought college was for 18-year-olds, not for a lifetime.

In response, the College is proposing a facility expansion and retooling that would touch all three campuses. Some
changes are designed to help current students enroll easily and find the help they need to graduate with a valuable
credential. Some changes will allow NWTC to install technology similar to what’s being used in industry. Some
will simply help NWTC do a great deal more of the work we’re already doing, so that we can serve another 1,500
students per year and meet workforce needs.

The plan, which will be before voters in an April 7 referendum, calls for an investment from the community—a
levy increase of about $7.50 on a $150,000 home for 15 years. The total $66.5 million plan would result in 160,000
square feet of new space and 240,000 square feet of renovated space. It will help NWTC provide new economic
opportunities for community members and provide skilled workers to our high-tech employers.

The upgrades will target industries that are facing the most critical skilled worker shortages, and those that require
very different facilities now than they did in the 1970s. Main areas of focus will be trades and engineering, public
safety, information technology, digital media and communications technology, and rural health and wellness.
Details and updates are available on a new web site, www.NWTC.edu/LeadTheWay. I invite you to learn more.

We’re building the future with you, our friends and neighbors in Northeast Wisconsin. Whether you take classes,
teach, support the College financially, work with NWTC graduates or are yourself a graduate, you are sustaining
the skilled workforce that makes Wisconsin’s economy strong and making countless dreams come true. We invite
you to visit our web site, www.NWTC.edu, at any time to watch our progress. Thank you very much for your
support, and I sincerely hope you will join us at the polls April 7 to help our communities decide their future.

Sincerely,

Dr. H. Jeffrey Rafn
President
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
NWTC’s patented MobileModular™ trainers serve both students and industry

NWTC’s new MobileModular electro-mechanical trainers are so unusual, they are the subject of NWTC’s first patent in its 100-year history. But what’s important about them is not how unusual they could be, but how common.

Instructor Ed Kralovec has been working with the MobileModular trainers both on campus and in a customized trailer that travels the District. He says the trainers can be linked together to create motion projects, vary the speed or direction of a motor, create safety systems and build other industrial systems, but the technology can be used to enhance education in any career field.

“There are other programs, like nursing, if they have some kind of trainers they’re using, could apply the MobileModular concept to their equipment and they could get the same benefits we’re getting,” he said.

The trainers are relatively modest-looking, with standard industrial components affixed to metal plates, small enough to be carried from place to place. However, they can be connected together to simulate a wide variety of electro-mechanical systems.

Right now, Kralovec says he’s happy with the way the trainers have enhanced flexibility in NWTC’s Manufacturing Technology Center. In the center, students and employed workers can work self-paced at customized workstations using the same equipment and controls that are being adopted in industry. With the MobileModular design, students themselves are more mobile.

“I think they’re great!” Electro-Mechanical student Jonathan Schlies said. “What’s nice is that you can go anywhere and use the equipment. They used to be in hardwired cases and you had to wait for limited units. Now you can go anywhere.”

NWTC students and staff built the trainers so students from multiple degree programs could design, build and troubleshoot connected systems. The College also just completed a trailer customized to hold and power the trainers and serve as a classroom. With it, faculty can take the lab on the road to create career exploration demonstrations and college credit opportunities for students, and to provide on-site high-tech training for employers.

The trailer was taken to an employer site within days of being deployed, and the results were positive.

“They were just blown away by what a great teaching environment it is,” Kralovec said. “It’s a real classroom. The trainers, the actual hardware, is real industrial hardware. We were supposed to be there one day, but we spent three days. With this trailer, employers don’t have to have their own training facility. We can drop our own training facility right in their parking lot.”

He sees similar benefits for school districts. “This spring the trailer will be going all over the place. The big advantage for high schools is that when we’re in what I’ll call show mode, which we’re doing now, while students are registering for their classes, they can come through the trailer and see the hardware working and get excited about the technology. Our goal is to show up at basketball games and football games, so parents can get excited about their kids using them. Then we can bring very expensive trainers into a district and they can use that technology with their students and further their education, but the district doesn’t have to permanently purchase the hardware.”
Utilities Engineering Technology grad has the power to reach big dreams

If Utilities Engineering Technology grad Cody Rye sets a goal, nothing is likely to stand in his way—certainly not his wheelchair.

Rye was in a car accident at age five that left him paralyzed from the waist down. After rehabilitation and physical therapy, he was only paralyzed from the ankles down, still needing a wheelchair most of the time. But he never lost his dream of playing football, or of following his father into the energy field.

He got both wishes. Through hard training and teamwork at Ironwood High School in Upper Michigan, he did get to go out on the field with his classmates, the Red Devils. (To see ESPN’s great story about his football experience, search YouTube for “Cody Rye ESPN2.”)

And through hard studying and teamwork at NWTC, he is now a success in an industry dominated by power poles, remote rural equipment and weather emergencies—all of which could have stopped him. Except that it couldn’t—not even when he first interviewed for jobs.

“My dad works for a utility, and he thought I’d be judged not even when he first interviewed for jobs.

“My dad works for a utility, and he thought I’d be judged for being in this chair,” Rye said recently. “And he was right; sometimes I was judged, but then with my experience, when people understand how mobile I am, they see I’d be a perfect fit for their company. I’ve had people telling me it’s going to be hard getting a utility job, but I’ve had no problem.”

Rye’s program, Utilities Engineering Technology, prepares students for careers in every aspect of the utility industry, from power generation through transmission to distribution. Graduates work as utility system engineering technicians, designers, coordinators, planners, construction supervisors, project managers, estimators and equipment maintenance technicians, substation test (relay) technicians and more.

“...utilities engineers and equipment maintenance technicians, planners, construction supervisors, project managers, system engineering technicians, designers, coordinators, estimators and equipment maintenance technicians, substation test (relay) technicians and more.

Not only is the job potential varied, but job opportunities are more abundant in energy than in nearly any other industry. Rye said he applied for many jobs and got 15 interviews and six job offers in five months.

He now works at Wisconsin Public Service, designing electrical systems for substations, gas gates and utility generation. “I like seeing how everything works, how substations can be redesigned,” he said.

Like many students who are talented in math and science, when he graduated from high school he enrolled immediately at a university. After one semester, he wasn’t happy, so he came to NWTC, where he found his niche.

“I would rate my experience a 10 out of 10. It’s exceeded my expectations. I’m very glad I came here. People just don’t understand how many jobs there are when you’re coming from this program, how versatile it is. I’m very glad I came to this school, the experience I got, and I’ve met some great people doing it.”

He said instructor John Van Ess worked to help students overcome any major struggles in the program. “If you did have problems with homework or understanding a concept, my instructor would help you until you understood it.”

His program prepared him well for work after graduation, he said, but he misses his NWTC class.

“I had great teammates and classmates here. We would always go out for lunch and we’d hang out after school,” Rye said. “We were very socially interactive, and we always joke around. They were very helpful, and we were more like a team. I wish I could work with these guys after graduation, but we had to go our separate ways. It hurts, but we’ll all keep in touch.”

Right now, he’s just enjoying his life. When he’s not working, he enjoys hunting and fishing with family, and restoring old cars. He gets together with friends from high school and college. He’s living on his own, saving for a new truck, and eventually, a house.

“My degree has helped me be a success,” he said. “I have weekends and holidays off, I get to hang out with my friends, and having a degree helps you financially.”

“I’m still getting calls from other employers, but I want to stay here.”

NWTC shares in $20 million grant for health care training

Wisconsin’s health care employers and workers will benefit from a $20 million investment by the U.S. Department of Labor, which announced a grant to Wisconsin’s technical colleges to address emerging needs in the health care sector.

NWTC will receive $948,188 to develop and enhance curriculum for the MA and LPN Bridge programs, renovate and reconfigure existing simulation space, and hire additional academic coaching and support staff.

NWTC’s award is the fourth largest among the 16 colleges in the Wisconsin Technical College System. At NWTC, funds will be used to develop and enhance curriculum for the MA and LPN Bridge programs, renovate and reconfigure existing simulation space, and hire additional academic coaching and support staff.
CEO says cutting-edge NWTC talent needed to fill region’s IT jobs

Skyline Technologies chief calls for more workers in high-tech

Mitch Weckop sees a need throughout the Wisconsin business community. As CEO of Skyline Technologies, each day he witnesses his staff of 157 supply customers with advanced information technology solutions, from mobile apps to cloud solutions to websites. What has Weckop seen lately? A shortage of qualified workers with high-tech skills.

“Demand for IT jobs has been driven by the explosion of the Internet, social media, smart phone adoption, and the cloud,” Weckop said. “There is essentially zero unemployment for people that have built and maintained relevant technical skills.”

Dr. H. Jeffrey Rafn, NWTC president, has a similar view. “The needs are real. For the next 10-15 years, business and industry growth throughout Northeast Wisconsin will outpace qualified graduates by an average of 903 per year,” Rafn said.

That gap is driving the school’s request to borrow $66.5 million to upgrade the three NWTC campus locations – Green Bay, Marinette, and Sturgeon Bay.

“Half of all U.S. jobs will require high technology skills,” Rafn said. “We need to make changes to support industries demanding more supporting wages,” Rafn said. “We need to make training beyond high school to match 21st century industry innovations and provide family maintain relevant technical skills.”

“Half of all U.S. jobs will require high technology skills,” Rafn said. “We need to make changes to support industries demanding more supporting wages,” Rafn said. “We need to make training beyond high school to match 21st century industry innovations and provide family

Starting with a two-person staff in Green Bay 23 years ago, Skyline Technologies has grown into an award-winning IT firm providing consulting and custom technology development from offices in Green Bay, Appleton, and Pewaukee.

“At Skyline, we have hired 90 people in Wisconsin in the last four years. Our customers have similar needs for skilled resources, and they are hiring, too. A proliferation of devices, software, and services has exploded – and I don’t see this changing in the next 5-10 years,” Weckop said.

“Increasing the talent pool in Northeast Wisconsin will have a broad, positive impact,” Weckop concluded. NWTC has set up a website for residents who have questions about the referendum: www.NWTC.edu/LeadTheWay

A quick look at the numbers surrounding the April 7 referendum:

- Every $1 invested in NWTC returns $5.80 in added taxes and public sector savings for taxpayers
- 93% of 2013-14 NWTC graduates are employed, with 97% working in Wisconsin
- NWTC is one of 2014’s top 14 fastest-growing large 2-year colleges in the U.S.
- $66.5 million to be borrowed; increases the tax levy by $7.50 for a $150,000 house for 15 years
- NWTC expansion will create an additional 1,000 full-time equivalent students

Upgraded CNC lab expand opportunities for NWTC students

Students training for one of Northeast Wisconsin’s most high-demand careers will have more opportunities than ever, thanks to the recent opening of the expanded computer numerical control (CNC) machining lab at NWTC. The grand re-opening was celebrated with a news conference attended by Governor Scott Walker and leaders from the Northeast Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance (NEWMA) and Bay Area Workforce Development.

The 9300-square foot lab, newly configured to more accurately reflect modern manufacturing plants, will be used to train students in NWTC’s Machine Tool Operations and CNC Technician programs. The addition of 2650-square feet and more than a dozen pieces of new equipment will help students move through their programs – and into the workforce – faster than ever, says Jay Jochman, NWTC’s lean manufacturing coordinator.

“The equipment upgrades and lab expansion help eliminate machine wait times, which is a big deal for our students,” says Jochman. “We’re able to serve them more efficiently, moving them through their program and into jobs faster. By expanding our facilities, the lab is also much safer.”

At the same event, NEWMA chair Paul Rauscher unveiled a new sign and flag designating NWTC as a “World Class Manufacturing Center.” In annual surveys by NEWMA, employers list a shortage of skilled technicians like CNC machinists as one of the greatest barriers to their future growth. Meeting that need is one of NWTC’s highest priorities.

New lab equipment includes five mini-mills, seven manual lathes, two surface grinders, six knee mills, a horizontal machining center, and various saws and drill presses. Nine new computers with computer-aided-manufacturing (CAM) software were also added.

The remodeled lab comes as industry continues to look for more skilled CNC workers to fill vacant positions. Last year, more than 150 students enrolled in NWTC’s two programs, with another 123 graduating. That’s nearly double the number of graduates from 2011, when 66 completed their degree. The upgraded lab, says NWTC Trades and Technologies Dean Mark Weber, goes a long way towards increasing opportunities for students interested in manufacturing careers, and filling high-demand jobs.

“Demand for CNC Machinists is among the highest of any position in our region,” said Weber. “By providing more space for training, new equipment upgrades and through the adoption of new lean manufacturing processes, we’re able to be even more responsive to the needs of industry, and to the needs of our students.”

The CNC lab upgrade was made possible through a Department of Labor grant, with NWTC also allocating funds to retrofit a lab and add equipment.
Brooke Shefchek is having a great college career, and you would never have guessed she could do it a few years ago.

Shefchek was elected this year as national secretary/treasurer for Business Professionals of America, a career and technical organization for students pursuing careers in business and information technology. BPA has 43,000 members in over 2,300 chapters in 23 states.

She was driven to achieve at NWTC after realizing she hadn’t made the most of her opportunities as a student at Green Bay East High School.

“When I was in high school, I wasn’t what you would call a great student,” she says. “I struggled during my early years in high school, had no sense of direction, wasn’t sure what do why my life. I almost ended up not graduating. I had to do night school one semester, which means 14 hour days, four days a week. When I did graduate, I had a 1.8 cumulative GPA.”

After high school, she drifted into a few odd jobs “but it wasn’t what I wanted to do with my life.”

She enrolled in the Administrative Professional associate degree program at NWTC. “I love it. It’s definitely something I’ve always wanted to do. I’m lucky I have a really great set of instructors who really want to see students succeed and will go the extra mile to see they do.” And that’s when the transformation began.

“It started to hit me when I started to attend the College, with a little hard work and determination, you can accomplish everything,” she said. “No matter what your background is, you do have ample opportunities to succeed.”

Now she has a GPA above 3.5 and was named Outstanding Student Award Winner for her degree program in 2012 and 2013. At her job at Schneider National, she won the Van Truckload Peer-to-Peer Excellence Award for exceeding expectations and maintaining Schneider’s core values. In BPA, she won the national Post-Secondary Torch Ambassador of the Year Award, given to a small number of students nationally for exceeding levels of community service. She has won numerous awards in skill competitions at the state and national level, including national first place in Basic Office Systems and Procedures, fourth place in Interview Skills and Fundamental Word Processing Skills, and a National Officer Team Scholarship.

The difference, she says, is deciding to be fully engaged in whatever you’re doing.

“I’ve seen the benefits of making the most of your opportunities. It’s why I think BPA is such a great organization, and I want others to get involved—in any organization and in education in general.”

“I do have those days when I really don’t want to get out of bed in the morning. There were times last year when I thought I could throw in the towel, but doing what I love makes it that much easier. I’m a big quote person. ‘Find a job you love and you won’t ever have to work a day in your life.’ That’s how I feel not only about BPA but about NWTC.”

She plans to transfer to UW Stout in fall 2015, and has been told that all of her NWTC credits will transfer into a bachelor’s degree program in Career and Technical Education and Training. “Maybe a few years down the road, I’ll end up getting a job here at the College! Who knows?”

BPA has 43,000 members in over 2,300 chapters in 23 states.

Shefchek journeys from ho-hum high school career to college standout—and BPA national officer

High-achieving student has one word of advice for peers: Engage

The NWTC Financial Coach program has been honored for its impact on the financial knowledge and health of NWTC students.

The program was among 17 individuals, businesses and organizations named recipients of the 2014 Wisconsin Financial Literacy Award by the Governor’s Council on Financial Literacy.

“They are worthy individuals and organizations are making a difference by increasing the personal financial knowledge and skills of Wisconsinites of all ages,” said Governor Scott Walker. “By improving their financial capabilities, our citizens can improve their quality of life and, in the process, help strengthen the Wisconsin economy.”

NWTC’s Financial Coach program can help students build a budget, understand credit scores, balance a checkbook, understand student loans and more. Staff help participating students lower their Financial stress and become more fiscally fit in order to help students complete their education and achieve their goals. Services are confidential and free to students. They include financial aid budgeting, credit report assistance, debt management, monthly budgeting and referrals to other financial resources.

Architecture grad is state ‘success story’

Why design buildings for a living? Ask Architecture grad Adam Heindel, one of the “success stories” featured on the Wisconsin Technical College System web site. Heindel talks about his career and his program choice.

“I liked that we got right into the technical aspects of architecture, like how a building is put together,” Adam recalls. “It was exciting to see how all the systems work together.” He also found the support courses, like surveying, fascinating and says they helped him understand site plans and civil engineering.

After completing the associate degree, Adam took a job in a cabinet shop where he honed his drafting skills. His next career step gave him a chance to design buildings. During his 18 year career, he has worked in both traditional architecture firms and design building construction companies and has developed a true passion for design and construction. A registered architect since 2003, Consolidated Construction Company recently hired him as an architect.

See more at: http://www.wisotechcolleges.org/explore-career/student-success-stories

Architecture grad is state ‘success story’

With a little hard work and determination, you can accomplish everything.

NWTC Financial Coach program wins state award

The NWTC Financial Coach program has been honored for its impact on the financial knowledge and health of NWTC students.

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Program proudly funded by a grant from The Basic Needs Giving Partnership of the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation, including the U.S. Venture Open Fund for Basic Needs, the J.J. Keller Foundation, and other donors.

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Referendum: Closing Gaps and Opening Opportunities

NWTC’s construction plans focus on industries that already show significant gaps between the number of high-tech jobs waiting for the right applicant and the number of graduates available in those areas.

The proposed construction—160,000 square feet of new space and 240,000 square feet of renovated space—will increase capacity by an additional 1,000 full-time equivalent students. The facilities would increase NWTC’s capacity to meet employers’ needs, growing and strengthening those industries here in Northeast Wisconsin. And, because 95 percent of NWTC graduates remain in Wisconsin to work, local economies benefit for years to come.

These are the industries that are targeted by NWTC’s construction and renovation plans, growth areas in those industries, current number of job openings and the current yearly number of related graduates.

Digital Arts and Communication
- Broadcasting
- Marketing Graphics
- Social Media
- Website Development and Maintenance
- Annual openings: 187
- Yearly graduates: 71

Energy
- Distribution
- Management
- Production
- Sustainability
- Annual openings: 169
- Yearly graduates: 39

Commercial Construction
- Electrical & Data Systems
- Structural Systems
- Mechanical Systems
- Annual openings: 238
- Yearly graduates: 37

Health and Wellness
- Disease Management
- Restorative and Rehabilitative
- Wellness and Prevention
- Responding to growing demand in rural areas

Information Technology
- Infrastructure and Machine Repair
- Networking and Security
- Software Development and Maintenance
- Annual openings: 164
- Yearly graduates: 50 excluding software

Manufacturing
- Additive
- Applied Engineering
- Automation and Robotics
- Electro-Mechanical
- New Materials
- Annual openings: 713
- Yearly graduates: 253

Transportation
- Alternative Fuels – Hydrogen, CNG, Clean Diesel, Electric
- Automotive
- Marine
- Trucking and Heavy Equipment
- Annual openings: 136
- Yearly graduates: 49

Please vote April 7, 2015. Thank you for voting!

www.NWTC.edu/LeadTheWay

Make a Difference. Lead the Way.
Schulz, along with other N.E.W. opportunity.”
company would be a huge wasted the talent so to just sit back as a the schools that are providing “You have to stay connected with to listen to what we’re looking only better their students but that is really partnering with us to not “What I like the most is that NWTC place to thrive once they graduate.”

This is particularly true when it comes to NWTC’s partnership with N.E.W. Plastics in Luxemburg and the man who leads the charge, Thomas Schulz.
Schulz is N.E.W. Plastics’ senior human resources leader who, a few years ago, recognized the relationship between the company and the college could be beneficial for all involved.

“Thomas Schulz, right, stands with two of the Luxemburg-Casco High School students who built a display case for N.E.W. Plastics, a company that works closely with the local K-12 system to show how rewarding manufacturing careers can be.”

Schulz’s leadership has been crucial in building strong relationships between NWTC and local companies. Schulz has helped design cooperative programs with local companies, allowing students to gain hands-on experience while still attending high school.

Schulz said, “A lot of students aren’t aware that you can work while you go to school. NWTC offers co-op programs that allow students to work alongside professionals in the field.”

Among his numerous efforts, Schulz has helped design programs that allow students to earn college credits while still in high school. These programs have been instrumental in helping students launch their careers.

Schulz is committed to promoting manufacturing as a viable career path. He said, “I think there is an image that working in manufacturing is not a legitimate, innovative, and potentially exciting place to work, and that needs to be broken.”

Schulz is adamant that the interns who work for N.E.W. aren’t just there to watch but that they actually have a say in important company processes and become part of the working team.

“When we get people through the co-op program, these folks are doing work, not projects,” he said. “They’re working side by side with veterans and we’re saying come learn with us and help us grow while you grow.”

And Schulz is proud of the accomplishments of his interns. “The dedication, persistence, and patience these students have shown over the last three years is amazing, and we are very proud of all that they have accomplished,” said instructor Karla Sampselle on behalf of the Career Pathways Bridge Medical Assistant Team.

Career Pathways Bridge program graduates Medical Assistant professionals

NWTC celebrated the graduation of the second cohort of Career Pathways Bridge Medical Assistant diploma students. The students enjoyed a ceremony at the end of their five-week clinical practicum.

The program is a three-year technical diploma. Several of the students were already employed in the health care field by graduation, and two started work to complete their Health Care Business Services associate degree.

Career Pathways Bridge combines instruction in a technical field, like Medical Assistant, with instruction in Basic Ed, ELL, or HSED. Students make progress toward multiple academic goals at once.

“The dedication, persistence, and patience these students have shown over the last three years is amazing, and we are very proud of all that they have accomplished,” said instructor Karla Sampselle on behalf of the Career Pathways Bridge Medical Assistant Team.

“Career Pathways Bridge connects with companies to help them find a place to thrive once they graduate.”

The dedication, persistence, and patience these students have shown over the last three years is amazing, and we are very proud of all that they have accomplished,” said instructor Karla Sampselle on behalf of the Career Pathways Bridge Medical Assistant Team.

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“We want to create very specific career ladders for students to move through,” said Rafn. “The pathways are flexible so students can move through them and find their passion.”

This partnership will prepare students to be industry-ready employees who can meet the demand for a skilled workforce in Northeast Wisconsin.

“NWTC has demonstrated creativity, and that’s the partnership we want,” said Thompson. “We are trying to help students to discover what their strengths and interests are before they move on to higher education.”
2013-2014 Graduate Success Information

93% of grads are employed within six months of graduation. Median salary of associate degree grads: $39,517 six months after graduation.

**WHY GRADUATES CHOOSE NWTC**

MAKE A CAREER CHANGE 25%

IMPROVE EXISTING JOB SKILLS 12%

EMPLOYMENT-RELATED REASONS 40%

PREPARE FOR FURTHER EDUCATION 14%

PERSONAL INTEREST 6%

OTHER REASONS 3%

**LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT**

Employed graduates, degree related

71% EMPLOYED IN THE NWTC DISTRICT

97% EMPLOYED IN WISCONSIN

3% EMPLOYED OUT-OF-STATE

Employed graduates available for employment, all jobs: 93% of 2013-2014 graduates available for employment were employed six months after graduation, and 80% of those had jobs in their field of study.

PERCENT EMPLOYED

Employed 93%

Seeking Employment 7%

97% OF NWTC GRADUATES SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH TRAINING

Very Satisfied — 58%

Satisfied — 39%

Unsatisfied or Very Unsatisfied — 3%

LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Employed graduates, degree related

Foster pride. Promote. Serve.

Join the ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!

We have a new alumni engagement specialist here in the NWTC Alumni Office!

Ashley Noel will be working to keep alumni engaged with the College and each other through networking events, volunteer opportunities and much more. Please reach out to her if you have any questions or comments on alumni opportunities.

www.nwtc.com/alumni

**Upcoming Opportunities**

- Mentor a current student
- Commencement rose sale
- Scholarship reading
- Distinguished Alumni committee
- Alumni Board elections — leadership positions available

**Upcoming Events**

- NWTC Future Faculty Career Fair April 8
- Networking social at Titletown Brewery April 23

Follow us on:

@NWTCAlumni

NWTC Alumni Association

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College Alumni

Brian Andrews, ‘88
Sundown Entertainment
DJ & Photography

Jan Born, ‘87
North Shore Bank

Michelle Guth, ‘12
KI

Char Meier, ‘03
Village of Lena

Evelyn Malik, ’10
Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin

Jilayne Robinson, ’99
Retired, Humana

Jennifer Ross, ’14
US Army National Guard
Paper Converting Machine Co.

Tonya Schumacher, ‘11
21 Wholesale

Nancy Smith, ‘84
Schneider National

Becca Tassane-Kinziger, ‘03
Lin.Liebmann, LLC

Barb Van De Hei, ’87
Bay Cities Radio

Dan Wallin, ’76
PCH Credit Union

Learn more at www.nwtc.edu/alumni

Contact Ashley Noel
920-498-5713 — ashley.noel@nwtc.edu
A Good Match
Giving back through the Alumni Mentor Program

Launched in 2014, the Alumni Mentor Program aims to improve completion rates for all associate degree students and reduce the completion gap for minority students. What’s it like to be part of the program as a mentor or mentee? Learn from two past participants, Lisa Francour and Fernanda Almanza.

Lisa Francour - Alumni Mentor
Lisa is a Marketing program grad and is currently manager of the Corporate Training and Economic Development department at NWTC.

What is the most rewarding aspect of being an alumni mentor?
The most rewarding aspect of mentoring is to watch Fernanda’s confidence grow every time we meet, and then to know she already met her ultimate goal by getting a job in her area of study.

Q: What made you want to become an alumni mentor?
I felt I had something to offer students. I, like Fernanda, returned to college as an adult with work and family obligations so I felt I could relate to her and many students. My career journey was also a factor in my decision to mentor because I enjoy watching my direct reports develop, grow and live up to their potential in the workplace. I also guided and mentored my three adult daughters through college and career planning so mentoring NWTC students is an extension of this. Mentoring is allowing me to give back in a small way.

Q: What did you gain from your first semester in the program that you were not expecting?
I found out I enjoyed mentoring more than I thought. I especially enjoy hearing about Fernanda’s day/week and how I might be able to help her.

Q: What was it like meeting for the first time?
It was a good first meeting, but our second meeting went even better because I was able to get to know Fernanda and then we were able to focus on her goals and areas of growth.

Fernanda Almanza - Student Mentee
Fernanda is a 2014 Medical Assistant program grad and is currently working as a medical assistant at Bellin Health.

What’s the most important thing you’ve learned from each other?
Fernanda and I are more similar than I thought. Fernanda is goal oriented, focused and takes initiative. She values my opinions and ideas, and I value hers. I knew we were a good match from the moment I met her, plus her beautiful smile is contagious.

Q: How has your alumni mentor helped you?
My mentor has helped me achieve so many things. From showing me how to be professional, to inspiring my life, making me want to try harder.

Q: Would you recommend the Alumni Mentor Program to your classmates and why?
I would definitely recommend the mentoring program to my classmates. It is an awesome program that not only offers you the help you need to achieve your goals or overcome obstacles but also gives you a “friend,” a “buddy” that is there to help you as well as to listen to your needs.

Q: What’s the most important thing you’ve learned from each other?
I believe that the most important thing I have learned from Lisa is to never give up and always give your max and put your heart into everything that you do.

Q: How will you apply what you have learned in the Alumni Mentor Program to your future?
I will apply everything I have learned by being responsible, friendly, kind and professional. I am sure these traits will lead me to success and will be a good fit in every part of my life.

Become a Mentor
Want to make a difference in a student’s life by giving your time and knowledge? Become a mentor! You’ll help guide a student through the college experience and into a career. Over the course of two semesters, you’ll meet with your mentee at least 8-12 times to do a variety of professional activities. Training will be provided.

To become a mentor,
please contact Ashley Noel.
ashley.noel@nwtc.edu ■ 920-498-5713

It’s nomination time!
22nd Annual NWTC Distinguished Alumni Award

Since 1993, the NWTC Alumni Association has honored outstanding graduates throughout the district for their accomplishments and contributions to the community. The NWTC Alumni Association is currently seeking nominations for the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award.

To nominate an NWTC alum, please email the following to Ashley Noel at ashley.noel@nwtc.edu:
■ His or her name
■ Job Title
■ Company
■ Any relevant contact information

Nominees will be considered based on their professional achievements, community service, and contributions to technical education. Nominations will be accepted through 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 15, 2015.
The best way we can honor them

Tyndalls’ memory carried on through endowment scholarship

The Tyndalls suffered a great loss and wanted to find a way to truly honor their children’s memories. They found a way by establishing the Jim and Laura Tyndall Memorial Scholarship (Endowment).

Jim was a graduate of the Automotive Technician program and Laura graduated from the Certified Nursing Assistant program. They attended NWTC because it was affordable, close to home, and offered the career paths they wanted to pursue.

Jeff is also an NWTC alumnus and says that a career in the trades was in Jim’s blood. “I graduated from NWTC (1977) and when Jim decided to go there, it was a great fit for him,” Jeff said. “Jim was usually a quiet guy, but he was a born ‘gear head’ and loved cars and motorcycles. Jim had mentioned that the program was tough, but I believe it challenged him and he learned a great deal.”

Jeff’s employer, Paper Converting Machine Company, suggested establishing a scholarship in Jim’s and Laura’s names. “Soon after the accident, I was presented with the idea by Bob Chapman, chairman of the board and CEO of Barry Wehmiller (PCMC’s parent company),” Cheryl said. “Cheryl and I agreed that this was a great way to honor them,” Jeff said.

To get the scholarship started, PCMC held a successful fundraiser that collected $7,000 from Jeff’s fellow employees. Chapman matched that amount for a total of $14,000.

After the initial donation, it became a family tradition to donate every year.

“My brother, David Meade and my sister, Marilyn Meade, Jim’s godparents, started contributing right away regarding the annual donation,” Cheryl said.

The total endowment balance is now over $80,000. The interest from the endowment, along with the donations, funds the scholarships each year.

Jeff has attended every NWTC scholarship banquet except one since the scholarship was established. Management personnel from PCMC have accompanied him in past years. Cheryl’s brother, David, attended the most recent banquet.

Jeff’s attendance at the banquets allows him to see the good that is being done through the scholarship program.

“It’s important to meet the recipients face-to-face and get to know them a little,” Jeff said. “They are real ‘go-getters’, looking forward to success.”

The recipients are chosen based on grades, determination and financial need.

The Tyndalls and Meades are pleased and honored to have the opportunity to help deserving students in memory of Jim and Laura. They said even though all the career programs at NWTC are great, they requested that scholarships be awarded, if possible, to the students pursuing automotive or nursing degrees.

Cheryl hasn’t attended any of the banquets but knows that the scholarship is one of the only things they can do to carry on the family name.

“It is difficult for me to see young people, because it reminds me of Jim and Laura and what their lives should have been,” she said. “Keeping Jim and Laura’s memories alive through this scholarship is very meaningful to me.”

Jeff and Cheryl have to live with the loss of Jim and Laura every day. Helping others in their time of need and being a positive influence fit right in with why they continue to donate annually.

“Keeping Jim and Laura’s memories alive through this scholarship is being done through the best way we can honor them. The Tyndalls would like to thank Bob Chapman, the employees of PCMC, David and Marilyn Meade, and others for remembering and honoring Jim and Laura with their generous contributions to this scholarship. So many scholarships are awarded every year at NWTC. Jeff and Cheryl believe that it is a wonderful way to honor and pay tribute to our loved ones and they encourage others to do the same.”

NWTC employees donate more than $97,000 to support students

Employees at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College donated more than $97,000 to the NWTC Educational Foundation during the College’s 2014 Employee Giving Campaign. For the third year in a row, more than three quarters of employees participated, with 86 percent pledging support in 2014.

During the campaign, 623 NWTC employees donated $97,427 to the NWTC Foundation, which supports scholarships, programs such as the student emergency fund, and educational initiatives across the College.

“NWTC employees care deeply about our students and they believe in the transformative power of education,” said NWTC Educational Foundation Director Crystal Harrison. “That 86 percent gave back to our students and the College is a testament not only to their generosity, but to their commitment to transform, strengthen and inspire our students and the community.”

The percentage of NWTC employees who give back remains significantly higher than the national average. According to the Council for Support and Advancement of Education (CASE), the median employee giving participation rate at community colleges nationally is 53 percent. Since 2005, NWTC employees have given over $537,000 to the NWTC Educational Foundation.
Scholarship makes college possible for future nurse

There is one thing Marie Tallman knows for sure. “I am meant to be a nurse,” said Tallman, “I will be a great nurse.”

When Tallman was 12, her mother suffered a stroke and aneurism – and Tallman had to grow up fast. College was never a subject that was brought up, but that didn’t stop Tallman from dreaming of becoming like the nurses who had cared for her mother. “When I saw what a difference they made in my mom’s life, I said, I want to do that.”

Now, at age 29, Tallman is pursuing her dream at NWTC as a student in the Nursing Associate Degree program, and a scholarship is helping make it happen. Thanks to the NWTC Educational Foundation Scholarship, Tallman is able to focus on her studies, even when financial hardships happen.

“I received this scholarship, and it has helped keep me in school,” Tallman said. “My finances are so tight right now. My car has had a lot of issues in just the last two months! Unexpected financial obligations pop up all the time and you just can’t plan for all of them.”

Instructors and staff are also a great motivator for Tallman. “You come to class every day, and you get motivated by their passion,” she said. “It’s walking into class every day knowing someone there is thrilled to teach you what they know. They go above and beyond their job duties to inspire you and fill you with the knowledge you will need once you walk out the door.”

Tallman is excited about her future in nursing. The empathy and compassion she gained from seeing her mom’s health struggles – and from experiencing her own obstacles as a cancer survivor – are sure to be an asset in her career.

“I want to go to work every day knowing I’m going to have a positive impact in someone’s life,” Tallman said. “I’m going to be that smile when they are feeling down. I could help motivate someone who is experiencing their own obstacles. I will love going to work every day because I know I am meant to be a nurse.”

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Changing Lives.

Our graduates. Your workforce.

You can help NWTC close the talent gap in Northeast Wisconsin. By contributing to the 2015 Changing Lives Campaign, you’re helping to develop the highly-skilled workforce needed to make area companies successful. Plus, you’re partnering with NWTC to change lives – earning a college credential is a proven pathway to a family-supporting wage.

Why your support matters

- Only 34 percent of NWTC students attend college full-time; many attend part-time for financial reasons.
- About two-thirds of the population 25 years or older in the region have an educational attainment level below an associate degree.

The possibility of a better life begins with higher education. Yet each year more students are struggling to make ends meet. Affordability has become a growing barrier to student success. Textbooks, supplies, housing, transportation, child care, and health care costs weigh heavily on our students. Every day, NWTC students are forced to abandon their pursuit of higher education because of financial hardships.

You can help more students graduate and become part of a highly-skilled workforce. Give to the Changing Lives Campaign today.

THANK YOU

I wish to contribute $ ____________________________
Business: ____________________________
Contact Name: ____________________________
Are you a graduate? o Yes o No
Address: ____________________________
City: ______________ State: _____ Zip: ______________
Phone: (___) ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

Please mail check and contribution form to:
NWTC Foundation
2470 W. Mason St. P.O. Box 19042
Green Bay, WI 54307-9042

Method of payment:
- Check (payable to NWTC Foundation)
- Online giving (credit cards accepted, go to: www.nwtc.edu/foundation

I wish to support:
- NWTC Fund – where it is needed most
- Named Scholarship
- For Example: ABC Company scholarship ($500 minimum contribution)
- I wish to remain anonymous

The NWTC Educational Foundation thanks you for supporting technical education!
NWTC is one of the top 14 fastest-growing large 2-year colleges in the United States.
—Community College Week magazine, Dec. 19, 2014

NWTC is 1 of only 16 community colleges in the United States to receive the Achieving the Dream Leader College designation in 2014.

NWTC appreciates the support of residents and businesses as we provide high-tech, 21st century skills to students so they can “Start here. Go anywhere.”

The referendum is on the ballot April 7, 2015. Thank you for voting!