



## **Gaston College and Lincoln High School of Technology Collaboration**

Students participating in and completing the Advanced Manufacturing Curriculum through the Career and Technical Education program at the Lincoln High School of Technology are prepared to transition into the programs that will be delivered in the Center for Advanced Manufacturing. These programs include Mechatronics Engineering Technology, Manufacturing Technology, Industrial Systems Technology and Nuclear Technology as examples.

### **Gaston College Apprenticeship 321**

Apprenticeship 321 is a flexible education and training program sponsored by Gaston College in collaboration with regional advanced manufacturers to cultivate highly skilled workers for large and small manufacturers within Lincoln and Gaston Counties North Carolina.

- In June 2015, Gaston College was approved by NCWorks/NC Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of Labor as the registered program sponsor – a first in North Carolina.
- Rather than individually registered apprenticeships, companies participating as members of the consortia act as advisors to the College in the development and scheduling of courses as well as advising on the development of additional occupations as may be needed by existing or new members.
- Gaston College in collaboration with the NCWorks Apprenticeship Office provides support to the consortia members including a success coach and program coordinator, as well as the development and submission of required reports to the NCWorks Apprenticeship Office, U.S. Veterans' Administration and the U.S. Department of Labor.
- The College has established a collaborative partnership with nine local industry partners who are sponsoring skilled trade apprentices in on-the-job training assignments and company-funded community college courses this fall. These companies are: STEAG-SCR Tech, Rockwood Lithium, CTL Packaging USA, Firestone Fibers & Textiles, LanXess, Wix Filters, Kaco, Aptar, and Daimler Trucks North America.
- Companies joining the collaborative for classes beginning 2016 include Rochling Plastics U.S., Timken, Dixon Quick Couplings, Chemtura, and U.S. Leisure.
- Current occupations include:
  - Chemical Operator – 1,408 hrs. related instruction/6,000 total training hrs.
  - Industrial Maintenance Mechanic – 1,200 hrs. related instruction/4,000 total training hrs.
  - Machine Set-Up Operator – 1,200 hrs. related instruction/4,000 total training hrs.
  - Tool Set-Up Operator - 1,408 hrs. related instruction/6,000 total training hrs.
- Additional occupations in Mechatronics Technician and Tool and Die Maker are currently being added to the program.

- To accommodate the apprenticeship program and align it with an academic credential, the College also added a Manufacturing Technology A.A.S. that can be tailored to different jobs through a common core of courses and several technical electives.
- Upon successful completion, apprentices will qualify for nationally recognized certifications as Journeyworkers, receive an academic credential from Gaston College and a National Career Readiness Certificate – a nationally recognized portable work skills credential.

### **North Carolina Customized Training Project**

The Customized Training Program at Gaston College provides assistance to support full-time production and direct customer service positions that are created in NC and enhances the growth potential of these companies while also preparing the state's workforce with the skills essential for successful employment in emerging industries.

Business and industries eligible for support through the Customized Training Program include:

- Manufacturing
- Technology Intensive Businesses like Information
- Technology and Life Sciences
- Regional or National Warehousing and Distribution Centers
- National Headquarters with operations outside North Carolina

To receive assistance, eligible businesses and industries must demonstrate two or more of the following criteria:

- Make an appreciable capital investment
- Deploy new technology
- Currently creating jobs, expanding an existing workforce, or enhancing the productivity and profitability of the operations within the State
- Desire to enhance workers' skills by participation in this program

For more Information on any of initiatives included in this document contact:

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