



## **Arkansans Trained for High-Demand Jobs Through ACC Grant**

Arkansas Community Colleges received \$3,500,000 in 2021 from the Governor's Emergency Education and Relief fund to support workforce training programs across the state. Over the 18-month funding period, ACC member colleges trained 1,239 Arkansans in high-demand occupations such as transportation, healthcare, information technology, industry, and construction.

Workforce training highlights included:

### **Transportation and Logistics**

- Four community colleges pooled resources to create the Arkansas Trucking Academy to help meet the state's demand for truck drivers.
- Three additional CDL programs were created in unserved regions across the state.
- A forklift training program was expanded to meet the labor demands of employers.

### **Healthcare**

- An accelerated Registered Nursing track was expanded to train more nurses in less time, and a new partnership with a local hospital system was created to provide work experience for students.
- New programs for Patient Care Technician and Diagnostic Sonography were created to train healthcare workers for rural hospitals in the state.
- The expansion of emergency technician and patient care technician programs to provide a workforce pipeline for frontline healthcare jobs.

### **Information Technology**

- A Cisco Academy was expanded to train more IT technicians to create and maintain secure network environments.

### **Industry**

- A partnership between community colleges provided Programmable Logic Controller training around the state through the sharing of resources and instructors.
- An expanded Non-Destructive Testing program increased the number of trained workers for the defense industry and other manufacturing companies.
- The expanded H-Volt Academy provided well-trained high voltage lineman workers for Arkansas' energy sector.
- The expansion of training programs for welding, machining, mechatronics, process operators, and outdoor and marine equipment maintenance upskilled workers for available jobs in their regions.

### **Construction**

- An expanded construction training program was taught in the evening to accommodate both unemployed and under-employed students. Program completers received tools and PPE required to work in the industry.