**Responding To Fire Service Industry Needs**

A leader in the state in firefighter education, Bates Technical College is in the pre-design stage for a new Fire Service Training Center, responding to industry needs. The college’s Fire Service program proudly partners with area fire organizations and local and federal governments to ensure the needs of our state and community are being met. To continue providing comprehensive, quality fire service training, a larger, updated facility accurately modeling the needs of the field is greatly needed. A modernized educational building will feature technology-rich classrooms and collaborative environments, computer labs, fire station apparatus mock-up facilities and more.

**Dental Lab Technology Program Helps Industry Meet New Requirements**

The only dental lab technician education program in the Pacific Northwest and one of few nationwide featuring digital dentistry CAD/CAM, Bates Technical College’s Dental Lab Technician program is well situated to help labs in Washington state meet new requirements signed into law in 2019. Among other things, the law requires dental labs in Washington state to register with the state Department of Health and have at least one lab technician who is a certified dental technician or who completes 12 hours of continuing education each year. When the Center for Allied Health Education building is complete in 2021, the program, along with the college’s other allied health programs and community health clinics, will begin teaching in high-tech and much-needed educational facilities.

**Seattle Area Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Partnership**

Bates Technical College recently joined the Seattle Area Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Partnership to create employment-ready mechanics in the piping industry. Apprentices learn skills in a real work environment while earning money and meeting the needs of employers. Bates Technical College jointly promotes the apprenticeship, provides instructor training, and offers courses that apply toward both the apprenticeship and a certificate or degree. This partnership is projected to yield 239 FTE in the 2019-20 school year.