



WASHINGTON STATE CENTERS *of* EXCELLENCE

Fall 2025

**Free curriculum resources developed with industry
Convenings with employers
Faculty professional development funding
...and more from your Centers of Excellence**

CAREERS IN EDUCATION

Host College: Green River College | **Director:** Jamie Wells, jrwells@greenriver.edu

Project: EDUC& Curriculum Updates, Workforce Deans Academy, and Prof/Tech Faculty Bootcamps

We are launching a statewide review process for EDUC& common courses, which in many cases have not been updated since 2018 or earlier. This work will bring faculty together across the system to refresh curriculum, address discrepancies, and ensure consistency for students.

In addition, applications were recently opened for the next Workforce Deans Academy cohort — a milestone year marking the Academy's 20th anniversary. Registration is also open for two Basic Boot Camps for Professional/Technical Faculty, a system resource for more than a decade. These three-day intensive trainings support new faculty with practical tools and strategies for teaching success.

CLEAN ENERGY

Host College: Centralia College | **Director:** Monica Brummer, monica.brummer@centralia.edu

Project: Free Energy Curriculum for Educators

The Center of Excellence for Clean Energy is involved in three projects that have created free curriculum for educators, as well as pathways from high school to college programs. The curriculum, which includes basic fundamentals of energy, electric vehicle and hydrogen, will be presented during the next Energy Educators' Association (EEA) virtual meeting, which will be held November 6, 3 – 4:30 pm. The EEA is free for deans, faculty and directors who are involved with/teach energy-related programs. To be included, please contact monica.brummer@centralia.edu.

INFORMATION & COMPUTING TECHNOLOGY

Host College: Bellevue College | **Director:** Brianna Rockenstire, brianna.rockenstire@bellevuecollege.edu

Project: Apply for Information Technology Professional Development Funds

The Center of Excellence for Information & Computing Technology is accepting applications for its annual faculty professional development program. Full- and part-time faculty in any technology program may apply for up to \$2,500 per person for participation in courses, conferences, trainings, and certifications that support their work as an IT instructor.

Apply today at <https://coeforict.org/resources/professional-development/>



CYBERSECURITY

Host College: Whatcom Community College | **Director:** Brent Lundstrom, blundstrom@whatcom.edu

Project: Apply for Cybersecurity Professional Development Funds

The Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (CCoE) is offering professional development stipends, up to \$2,500 per individual, for Washington's community and technical college employees looking to boost their cybersecurity teaching skills.

Apply for funding to attend a course, workshop, or conference that enhances your ability to educate the cybersecurity workforce of tomorrow. Funds are limited, so don't wait!

Apply today: <https://coecyber.io/professional-development-funds-for-faculty>

ALLIED HEALTH

Host College: Yakima Valley College | **Director:** Dan Ferguson, dferguson@yvcc.edu

Project: Public Health and Behavioral Health Workforce Convening

The Allied Health Center of Excellence will be hosting the Washington Public Health Academic Learning Collaborative (PHALCO) meeting in Yakima on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at Yakima Valley College, with the theme: "Defining the Future of Public Health." This meeting will highlight public health workforce status and emerging trends, challenges and opportunities, and close with a panel discussion with experts in the field. AHCOE staff will then be joining public health colleagues at the Washington State Public Health Association (WSPHA) Conference.

The AHCOE is proud to be a planning partner on the Washington Behavioral Health Pathways Convening November 4, 2025, with SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Multi-Employer Training Fund and the Health Care Apprenticeship Consortium. This event will take place at the Museum of Flight, Seattle, WA. The convening will discuss solutions to the behavioral health crisis, public policy updates, youth initiatives, and innovation.

Please contact dferguson@yvcc.edu or chansen@yvcc.edu for more information.

CONSTRUCTION

Host College: Renton Technical College | **Director:** Christina Rupp, clrupp@rtc.edu

Project: Save the Date - Enlighten Women's Forum 2026

The Construction Center of Excellence is hosting the 2026 Enlighten Women's Forum at Clover Park Technical College on March 11. The Enlighten Women's Forum is a one-day, in-person event designed to empower, connect, and celebrate women in the construction, manufacturing, and skilled trades sectors. This forum brings together apprentices, journey-level workers, educators, union leaders, and industry professionals from across the region.

This year's theme, "Rooted and Rising," honors the deep foundation women have built in the trades while embracing growth, leadership, and the future of the industry. We aim to spotlight the strength that comes from being grounded in community, skill, and purpose—while continuing to rise into new opportunities, innovations, and positions of influence.

Visit <https://www.constructioncenterofexcellence.com/> for event updates.



MARINE MANUFACTURING & TECHNOLOGY

Host College: Skagit Valley College | **Director:** Ann Avary, ann.avary@skagit.edu

Project: Launch of MAC Welding and Fabrication Model Frameworks and [TeachWelding.org](https://teachwelding.org)

The Center of Excellence for Marine Manufacturing & Technology supports the expansion of high-quality welding education in Washington State through the MAC Welding and Fabrication Model Frameworks, recently approved by OSPI. The Framework includes welding technology curriculum, faculty professional development, expanded pathways from K12 to community and technical colleges, and expanded adult learner pathways.

View the framework and additional resources at [TeachWelding.org](https://teachwelding.org)

AEROSPACE & ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Host College: Everett Community College | **Director:** Jill Thornton, jthornton@everettcc.edu

Project: Future in Flight - Aerospace & Advanced Manufacturing Career Expo

Join over 25 industry partners to showcase the air and space and advanced manufacturing opportunities in the Kent Valley. In addition to learning from hands-on opportunities, high school students will want to know how they can access the industry's jobs via education programs, pathways, and credentials. Sign-up today!

Date: October 30th, 2025 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm | Location: Accesso ShoWare Center in Kent

<https://www.kentwa.gov/departments/econ-community-dev/careerexpo-employers-form>

GLOBAL TRADE & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Host College: Highline College | **Director:** Sam Kaplan, sakaplan@highline.edu

Project: Follow the Supply Chain Study Abroad Program

We recently completed the 2025 Follow the Supply Chain Study Abroad program where students from seven community and technical colleges got an up-close look at supply chains by following products to and from Vietnam. Already one of our students, Braun Bushong, from Columbia Basin College, has seen his career boosted from his participation in our study abroad program. Like most community college students, he is working while going to school—in his case for a logistics organization. His company, so impressed by his participation in the Follow the Supply Chain Study Abroad program and what he is learning, promoted him from a dispatch position to a purchasing agent position.

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCE

Host College: Walla Walla Community College | **Director:** Ceana Pacheco, interim director, ceana.pacheco@wwcc.edu

Project: Pathways to Excellence Program Guide

The Agriculture & Natural Resource Center of Excellence will be updating and revamping our Pathways to Excellence Program Guide through the fall – this is an effort to keep the most up to date clearing house of programs that serve these sectors, and provide additional exposure for each of our CTCs. We will be reaching out to Deans and Instructors to verify program details and contact information. You can view our current Pathways to Excellence Program Guide here: <https://agcenterofexcellence.com/program-guide/>



SEMICONDUCTOR & ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING

Host College: Clark College | **Director:** Carl Douglas, cdouglas@clark.edu

Project: Launch of Industrial Technician Cohort at the Advanced Manufacturing Center

The Director for the Semiconductor and Electronics Center of Excellence is actively engaged in hands-on work at Clark College to support the Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) at Boschma Farms in Ridgefield, WA, while recruitment for key staff continues. Since late July, interim management has involved preparing manufacturing facilities, installing equipment, and coordinating with contractors to ensure the center is ready for the arrival of the inaugural Industrial Technician cohort, which began their program on September 22, 2025. This role involves just-in-time planning and execution to address critical learning equipment needs, facilitating seamless equipment start-up and launching successful training for new students in advanced manufacturing during the first and second quarters.

HOMELAND SECURITY-EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Host College: Pierce College | **Director:** Kyle Winslow, interim director, kwinslow@pierce.ctc.edu

Project: Follow the Supply Chain Study Abroad Program

The Homeland Security-Emergency Management Center of Excellence partnered with the Center of Excellence for Global Trade & Supply Chain Management to support Washington students in the Supply Chain Study Abroad Program, which included site visits in Washington State and Vietnam. Students explored the critical role of supply chains in disaster preparedness and recovery, visiting orchards, ports, and international distribution centers to see how disruptions are managed locally and globally. This hands-on learning emphasized the importance of resilient supply chains to homeland security and emergency management, preparing students to lead in safeguarding communities against future disruptions.

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