



Launching and growing a career in today's knowledge economy requires skills training and ongoing education. For some students, a skilled training program is the key to a more prosperous and fulfilling career.

That is why St. Louis Community College (STLCC) is helping meet the demands of the St. Louis economy through a number of workforce training initiatives. Our vision is to increase access to training and careers for students who do not have the ability to obtain a traditional degree or certificate.

STLCC is collaborating with area employers to expand workforce training partnership programs and provide attractive learning opportunities for both employers and students. Ongoing collaboration with business partners, government, community organizations and others allows STLCC to assess continually the workforce landscape and respond by creating tailored educational offerings that meet current and future needs.

## Current State of the Regional Workforce

In 2020, when asked about the skill level required to meet shortages, the most frequent response was for the middle-skill employees.

- **60% of companies** reported shortage of skilled trade employees.

## STLCC Workforce Solutions

- **Accelerated Programs** – Short and medium-term non-credit training programs. These programs range from five weeks, such as our commercial truck driving program, to 30 weeks for our medical assistant program. The purpose of these programs is to accelerate student access to jobs.
- **In-Demand Programs** – Training programs targeting in-demand sectors such as healthcare, manufacturing, information technology (IT), logistics and transportation.
- **Partnered Programs** – Closely integrated with employers and strategic community partners designed to create job training opportunities for residents and provide a talent pipeline for employers. STLCC Corporate Services is one of the largest providers of training and consulting services in the St. Louis region, advancing over 10,000 employees from over 100 companies each year.

## Current STLCC Workforce Training Snapshot

- Non-credit training programs served **21,871 individuals** in the St. Louis region.
- **75% of accelerated program students** were successfully placed into jobs upon completion.
- Programs helped students and businesses offset **\$3.1 million in tuition and training fees.**

## COVID-19 Rapid Response Retraining Program

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a huge unemployment crisis in our region. With so many individuals losing jobs or being furloughed, the College is responding to this crisis by offering innovative short-term credentials to retrain displaced workers for jobs in high-demand sectors. We are offering non-credit training, Certificates of Specialization and Proficiency, that are stackable to align with longer term degrees and to offer a career pathway.

## Featured Partner

**BJC HealthCare's** Institute for Learning and Development has partnered with STLCC Corporate Services to customize workforce training for a mutually beneficial experience for employers, employees and the community.

**BJC HealthCare** is one of the largest nonprofit healthcare organizations in the United States and employs more than 32,000 individuals throughout the greater St. Louis, southern Illinois and mid-Missouri regions. The partnership started in April 2019 as an effort to recruit and train students with an interest in healthcare for Patient Care Technician (PCT) and Medical Assistant (MA) opportunities at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Christian Hospital and St. Louis Children's Hospital.

For many individuals interested in transitioning to a healthcare career, having to leave a job while learning the skills necessary can be a daunting barrier. Students in this program have an opportunity to earn while they learn, and upon satisfactory completion, continue employment with BJC.

For **BJC HealthCare**, the benefits are tailor-made. Not only can the company address a growing need for skilled individuals in a specific role, but the employer has an opportunity to see the student at work in employer's specific environment.

During the first year, the program enrolled 76 students through five cohorts, each typically consisting of eight to 16 individuals. The program currently boasts a 91% job placement rate. Additionally, **BJC HealthCare** is now exploring partnership with STLCC Corporate Services to train industrial mechanics to service the boilers and chillers throughout multiple campuses.



**Through the *Opportunity for All Campaign***, our goal is to raise \$4 million for Workforce Training. Funding will support strategic initiatives that allow STLCC to be nimble and flexible in meeting the region's workforce needs, as well as investments in our already successful Workforce Solutions and Accelerated Training Programs. Companies can partner with STLCC by providing students with the latest in equipment and new technology or scholarships targeting workforce training to reduce the financial barriers for students.