

**NEW MOBILE LABS** bring training directly to employers, like Jack Link's, to upskill workforce

**NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED PROGRAMS**

Broadband Academy

Gerontology

IT-Cybersecurity



**SNEAK PEEK**  
NEW Medical Laboratory  
Education Center

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Do you have news or information about an alumni, program or event at Northwood Tech? Email [media@NorthwoodTech.edu](mailto:media@NorthwoodTech.edu)

# Northwood Tech Impact

is published for the community, alumni and friends of Northwood Technical College.

Northwood Tech is part of the Wisconsin Technical College System, with four campus locations (Ashland, New Richmond, Rice Lake and Superior), three outreach centers (Balsam Lake, Hayward and Ladysmith) and a Health Education Center in Shell Lake.

Visit our website at [NorthwoodTech.edu](http://NorthwoodTech.edu)



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## Message from **President John Will**

### *Greetings,*

Did you know more than 14,000 students take advantage of Northwood Technical College (Northwood Tech) programming on an annual basis?

While many people are familiar with the traditional programming offered at one of our campuses, what may be less familiar is programming that occurs in communities throughout our service area that don't have a campus. For example, in the most recent academic year Northwood Tech collaborated with more than 75 fire departments, most often delivering instruction at fire stations or other, similar locations in the community. Or you may have seen a Northwood Tech mobile training trailer on its way to an off-campus destination to provide programming in a wide range

of occupational areas, including welding, manufacturing, and construction. Of course, many of our students also take advantage of numerous virtual learning opportunities that require no campus at all. We value the opportunity to serve the region in a variety of ways with the belief that each student success story makes the community stronger.

Of course, the learning environment at our campuses remains one of our strengths. In this edition of Impact, you will see examples partnerships, collaborative efforts, and, most importantly, student success in many forms and in many places. It is my hope that you have your own student success story, or at least know of one in your community. If not, I hope you'll find one that is meaningful

in the following pages, and know that we are working diligently to make communities stronger through our students' success. Because regardless of where they learn, we know Northwood Tech students are the people you see every day meeting your needs in healthcare, business and finance, hospitality, construction, manufacturing, government, law enforcement and more.

Best regards,

Dr. John Will, President

## ACCOLADES

### College



### Employer





# Growth in Mobile Training Labs to Better Serve Students and Community

One of Northwood Tech's strengths is the ability to quickly adapt to changing conditions in the economy and local community needs with high-quality programming.

Our service area encompasses more than 10,500 square miles including 11 counties and a population of about 320,000 people. The region is mostly rural and sparsely populated with many students driving 40 miles or more to get to campus. To better serve students and organizations with transportation challenges, the College has invested in innovative mobile, hands-on training labs.

Mobile training labs support courses and short-term credentials in programs like welding, construction and advanced manufacturing. Employers in small, rural communities often have family-sustaining jobs for people who have these skills, however, the option of running a college-level program on a continuous basis is often challenging. The solution is making the infrastructure mobile, so it can serve multiple communities on an intermittent basis.



Welding grad aids hands-on experience

**"The welding program gave a chance for someone like me, who works full-time and lives too far away from any college, to learn a new skill. I now can help my tribe in my [current] job or help me in a new welding job."**

—Jeff, mobile welding graduate

## NEW - Mobile Welding Lab

This new, state-of-the-art welding lab, purchased with funding through the Workforce Innovation Grant program, became operational in April 2023. The lab contains eight welding stalls and has already been in service in two tribal communities. It is scheduled to support incumbent worker training at multiple private employers and will be used in high school academies in school districts that do not have comparable welding lab space. The lab can run off of shore power or a generator.



Learn more about the mobile lab



Take a virtual tour of the mobile lab



## NEW - Mobile Advanced Manufacturing – Industry 4.0 Lab

Another example of mobile training reflects a continued move by manufacturers toward automation. Employees now need higher-level skills for a manufacturing career. By utilizing a box truck to deliver high-tech, hands-on mobile equipment, the College can teach content areas ranging from basic electricity to robotics and machining. Mobile training recently helped a local, rural manufacturer that is investing in automation to “upskill” 13 of its existing employees.

## Mobile Emergency Services Training

Rural communities also need training and education to support firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) workers. Northwood Tech delivers these services in various communities so that students, who are often volunteers or part-time employees, don't have the added barrier of needing to travel a long distance for training. For example, Northwood Tech uses a customized semi-trailer that simulates a live burn environment, which improves convenience and is safer than the older model of instruction. Trailers are also used to move equipment like high-tech mannequins throughout the service area to support training in the community where services will ultimately be provided.



## Northwood Tech cut the ribbon on a new mechatronics lab at the Rice Lake Campus.

The advanced manufacturing lab is fitted with state-of-the-art Amatrol machinery and equipment for hands-on experience to prepare students for a successful career. The new lab is funded in part by the Housing Opportunity and Mobile Education Solutions (HOMES) Workforce Innovation Grant initiative with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.

**NEW**

## Mechatronics Lab





# First students graduate with nationally-recognized digital badges

offered through

the apprenticeship-like

## broadband program

**Fast internet connections are increasingly important to provide opportunities for communities in rural America.**

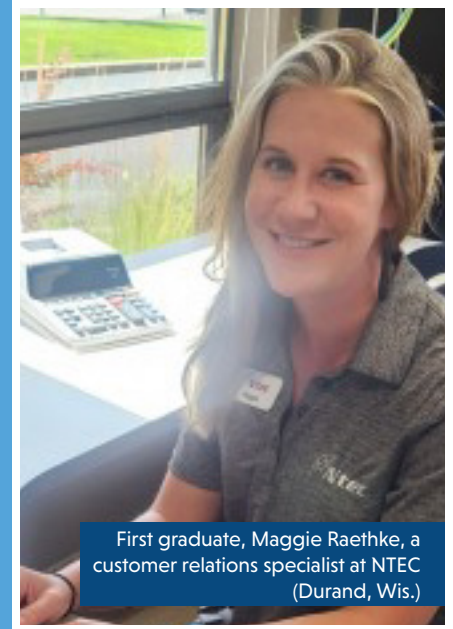
Northwood Tech and NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association created a unique partnership to provide apprenticeship-like training and coursework to help ensure a strong broadband workforce through newly expanded and advanced training opportunities. This new effort was recognized by the White House in November 2022 as part of the Talent Pipeline Challenge, a call to action for employers, education and training providers to support equitable workforce development in critical infrastructure sectors. The partnership program saw its first graduates starting in the summer of 2023.

Students, typically existing or new employees in NTCA member broadband-related companies across the nation, have opportunities to upskill and train through online programming paired with apprenticeship-like training through their employer.

Students get online access to the College's broadband academy courses and digital badging program, in which students may enroll in courses on an individual course-by-course basis or complete the full program. The training is offered in two levels with four options for micro-credentials within each badge to better meet specific employer or student needs.

Digital badges are a growing, verified credential recognized by employers for skill attainment and employment, giving the graduate the opportunity to prove training in key areas needed in industry. Students can enhance their resume and personal

brand by posting earned badges on social media networks for other professionals to see, such as on LinkedIn. This enhances their opportunities and showcases how employers invest in their employees as lifelong learners. For employers, it's a way to upskill and engage employees and improve retention.



First graduate, Maggie Raethke, a customer relations specialist at NTEC (Durand, Wis.)

**"We are celebrating Maggie's success as the first student to earn a Broadband digital badge! We will continue to work with NTCA and member companies to enhance the program to meet the needs of both students and employers."**

—Aliesha Crowe, Northwood Tech vice president of academic affairs



NTCA CEO Shirley Bloomfield and Northwood Tech President John Will at the White House event

### Currently broadband academy badges:

- Broadband Customer Service Specialist
- Broadband Installer

Learn more about digital badging at [NorthwoodTech.edu/digital-badging](https://NorthwoodTech.edu/digital-badging)



Learn more at [NorthwoodTech.edu/broadband-academy](https://NorthwoodTech.edu/broadband-academy)



# Matt Hoff claims back-to-back victories at nationals for BPA

Graduate Matt Hoff, a Business Professionals of America (BPA) club member at Northwood Tech, earned consecutive first-place victories at the 2022 and 2023 BPA National Leadership Conference.



Matt accepting National award

Graduate Matt Hoff, a Business Professionals of America (BPA) club member at Northwood Tech, earned consecutive first-place victories at the 2022 and 2023 BPA National Leadership Conference. The first year he clinched a win in college accounting. In his second year, he placed first in three categories—advanced college accounting, payroll accounting and managerial accounting.

"Winning in my first year was a double-edged sword. On [the] one hand, it provided me with a much-needed confidence boost. On the other hand, it caused me to put a lot of pressure on myself to back it up. I'm a super competitive person, so I would have been disappointed in myself had I not done well. Thankfully, it all worked out," said Hoff about his experience.

Hoff navigated the pressure of maintaining his winning streak, crediting his success to a solid support system, including guidance from BPA advisor Brenda Kretzschmar and retired accounting instructor Linda Richie. He also gained career readiness and learned about networking and professional skills through his involvement at the BPA conferences.

**"Competition is a good thing and helps prepare students for the competitive world that is the workforce. I will be forever grateful for the two years I got to spend in BPA."**

## First students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa honor society, highlighting academic success

The College recently introduced the prestigious Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honor society as the Northwood Tech Beta Omega Delta chapter, enriching campus offerings while recognizing the academic success of students.

Membership in PTK is exclusive for students with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above. There were 183 members inducted in the first academic year ceremony.

"It was a great honor to be recognized for all of the hard work that I put into my school life on top of being a full-time working mom and wife. To be able to be inducted into PTK made me feel like I was doing something great for myself and I was very proud of the accomplishments that I had received," said 2023 Northwood Tech graduate and employee Jessica Kidd. "At that moment, it wasn't about the future, it was about the feeling it gave me, the feeling of success!"

PTK, tailored for two-year institutions, connects students nationally to transfer and career resources, offering significant scholarship and leadership opportunities, and enhancing their recognition in competitive academic and employment searches.



PTK spring 2022 induction ceremony

**Northwood Tech's commitment to prioritize the student experience is evident by providing new opportunities for student involvement on campus.**



# Feature Q&A

## Ambitious 26-year-old Called to Funeral Directing



Farrah Welch's dream job wasn't the response you'd expect to hear from a high school senior: Funeral Director. Now, as the owner of two funeral homes and a crematory at only 26 years old, she's using her experiences and education to help her community when dealing with loss.

### **Q:** What inspired you to pursue a career as a funeral home director?

**A:** From the time I was born I visited the local nursing home where a lot of my family worked. I was 3 years old in scrubs my grandma had made for me, riding in the bottom of the snack cart passing out snacks to residents. I would see residents decline in health, and eventually pass away. Me being a kid I wondered what happened to my friends after they passed, and worried about how well they were being taken care of. I became familiar with death at a very young age and had an early understanding that death is a part of life.

Fast forward to me being 16 and a junior at Luck High School, I was still going to the nursing home regularly as a volunteer and an employee, and I babysat for my home ec

teacher, Renee Gavinski (Mrs. G), who lived next door to Rowe Funeral Home. When Mrs. G. asked us for topics we'd like to learn about in personal finance, I brought up a field trip to the funeral home. I knew people complained that funerals were expensive, and I was just curious what all went into a funeral that made it that way. She was able to set up a field trip to Rowe Funeral Home.

This is where I first met Bruce Rowe. I was surprised how much work went into making a funeral happen, and some of the processes he talked about like embalming and cremation were interesting to me.

Later that year I was in FCCLA. One of the competitions categories was presenting a job. I was still curious about the funeral home, so I picked Funeral Directing with two classmates. We met with Bruce and got a tour of the funeral home as well as the crematory. He went more in depth on the job, and even

let us use an old casket book and urn for our presentation. We ended up placing second in the state.

During the summer between junior and senior year, I was able to meet with Bruce again. Unfortunately, this time it was for the passing of my maternal grandfather. My parents let me go to the funeral arrangements. I felt like Bruce really met our family's needs and dealt with questions very well. I also felt more prepared on what to expect. That stuck with me.

Fast forward to spring 2015 - I was getting my graduation invitations ready to send out and wanted to invite Bruce. I decided to walk to the funeral home after school to deliver the invitation and took this opportunity to ask if he needed any help around the funeral home. He said yes, and I started working with him on June 8, 2015.



**Q: Why did you choose to start your journey at Northwood Tech?**

**A:** I worked at the funeral home for a few months and decided I wanted to continue in the field which would require a year of college before getting an apprenticeship. I knew that if I did continue with funeral services as a career, a Business Management education would make me more qualified for a higher position in a funeral home. I also wanted to get a degree that I could fall back on in case I changed my mind after the apprenticeship, where I would be involved with embalming and picking up decedents alone. This is a job where you can see some bad things, and I was still 18 and wasn't sure how I would handle it.

In the Business Management program, most of the homework and projects allowed us to pick topics of our choice. This was extremely helpful for me in the long run. I did everything based off working at, owning, and managing a funeral home. Dr. Alex Birkholz was an amazing instructor and advisor when it came to feedback on my work, and when questions came up, he was willing to sit, listen and ask questions to better understand how to help me. I am very grateful to him for that.

**Q: Tell us about your experience as a transfer student.**

**A:** I wanted to continue my education at the Funeral Service program at Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC). At the time, a lot of prerequisite classes were needed with no clear way of obtaining them, but I sat down with someone at Northwood Tech and helped me figure out how to use my vocational classes to meet the requirements.

Once graduation came, I transferred to MATC. I was super happy that all of my Northwood Tech credits transferred, and I was able to start funeral school in the fall of 2019. The funeral service program is an associate degree, but by the time I graduated in 2020 I had 4 1/2 years of schooling with 110 credits.

Since then, a lot of work has been done to make it much easier to enter the program. Northwood Tech has a transfer agreement with MATC so students can do the first year of the associate degree at Northwood Tech and the second year at MATC.

It was hard but I am happy I pushed through, and I can't express in words how happy I am that Northwood Tech has allowed this program to help future funeral directors get into this job so much easier. The funeral industry needs this.

**Q: Can you share how your experiences in student life and/or student senate prepared you for the challenges you've encountered in your career?**

I've always been a social and chatty person, but I lacked confidence in myself and feared getting out of my comfort zone. A previous student life coordinator, Jill Fox, was the reason I ended up joining. She helped me get outside my comfort zone and try new things. In these groups I learned to work as a team on a more professional level than I had previously experienced, and gained my own confidence by doing things I didn't think I was capable of. I really valued the leadership retreats. The topics were always helpful to me. I kept books and printouts from these trips and still refer to them.

**Q: Funeral directing was considered a non-traditional occupation for women. Can you speak to your experience as a young female funeral director?**

**A:** Traditionally, this is a male dominated industry passed down from fathers to sons. Even in the funeral home I purchased the previous owner, Bruce, is a 4th generation funeral director. It is not a job for everybody and can be a hard one to get into if you do not have connections.

I remember a few instances back when I was 18 or 19, where people would comment that it didn't seem like a good fit for a "young girl". Over time the comments went away, but one thing that has stuck around is "young girl". I understand I got into this young, and even though I am now 26 I am still the "young girl at the funeral home". I don't feel like people mean harm by it, and I've been told by many that they are impressed that someone so young and a girl is able to do the job I do.

Not only are people used to it being a man's job, but they were used to always seeing Bruce. He has been doing this job since the 80's and his dad since the 60's. Countless families have been using Rowe Funeral Home for years and are used to seeing these two and have trusted them for decades with their loved ones. It took some time, with people being hesitant about me and my age, but I understood I needed to establish myself and gain their trust, to know that I can care for them and their loved ones.

Now-a-days, it is more common to see a woman outweights men now when it comes to graduating and entering this field. I only had 3 men in my class the rest were women.

**Q: What advice would you offer to students aspiring to enter this field in the coming years?**

**A:** My biggest piece of advice is finding someone in the funeral industry to talk to. Whether it's your local funeral home or elsewhere, go see if they need any help. A lot of small-town funeral homes may only have a few employees, and when things get busy extra help is always appreciated, event offers to help set up a service to cleaning up afterwards. If you can build a relationship with someone to mentor you through your journey it will help greatly, especially during your apprenticeship. This job can be hard and sometimes you see things that are hard to process, or the emotions can weigh heavily on you. Having someone to talk to that understands what is going on is extremely helpful. Think of the community you want to do this job for and just learn from the experiences around you. It will be worth it in the end.

Another thing is understanding this is more of a lifestyle than a job. Just because office hours are 9 to 5 doesn't mean you are done with work. People pass at all hours of the day and night which means someone needs to take them into their care. In smaller communities, people know you and what you are up to so be mindful of that.

This job is very rewarding. You are helping people through a difficult time in their life, and being able to ease their pain or worries even a little bit is a great feeling. Being able to create a memorable funeral for someone is a humbling feeling. This job has allowed me to know and help so many members of my community.





# New Program and Medical Laboratory Education Center

A creative solution to alleviate a workforce shortage and provide a new opportunity for students

Coming

SOON!



Westfields and the College are completing fundraising for Phase I. Please consider donating to help with Phase II.

[Foundation@NorthwoodTech.edu](mailto:Foundation@NorthwoodTech.edu)

## Project Overview

The Medical Lab Technician profession is currently facing a workforce shortage. To address this issue, Westfields Hospital, Northwood Tech and their respective foundations created a groundbreaking partnership to turn a donated Westfields' property into a renovated, state-of-the-art Medical Laboratory Education Center. The facility, in New Richmond, will train the next generation of medical lab technicians. Westfields Hospital will have access to a large multi-purpose room within the same building for support groups, workforce development and other meetings to benefit the community.







## Medical Laboratory Technician program students start Fall 2024

The medical laboratory technician program, accredited by the NAACLS, is now taking students for the fall 2024 term. The first class of students will graduate in 2026 and will be eligible to take the national certification exam through ASCP.



## Capital Campaign

This project will come together in two phases, the first of which is renovating the inside of a building donated by Westfields Hospital to create a modern lab, instructional and community spaces. The second phase includes external building upgrades and aesthetics. The total cost of the project is \$4.75 million and comes from a mix of property donation, college financing and private donations.





## Gerontology program earns national accreditation as a **model program**

**The Gerontology – Aging Services Professional program at Northwood Tech is now the second associate degree program in the United States to achieve national accreditation through the Accreditation for Gerontology Education Council (AGEC).**

The program has been trailblazing with innovative, hands-on curriculum and flexible delivery since its launch in 2015. As the population ages at a rapid pace, having a well-trained workforce in age, aging and older adulthood is a critical community need.

Being accredited proves the program has aligned with occupational and educational standards of the profession. The curriculum assesses competencies on the biological, psychological and social aspects of aging. Accreditation also requires coursework on ethics, communication, arts and humanities and academic research.

"After four years of dedicated work on this project, we are thrilled to achieve the first step in being nationally recognized for our unique-in-the-state program at Northwood Tech," said Jennifer Ellis, gerontology – aging services professional program director and instructor. "We dedicate our work to older adults, families and our aging services workforce."

Accreditation evaluators met with faculty and leaders at Northwood Tech, students and graduates, advisory committee members and fieldwork site supervisors. They noted faculty are world-class networkers and the program demonstrates national leadership in post-secondary gerontology education, serving as a model for other colleges to follow.

**"We are especially proud to partner with students on an innovative, interdisciplinary journey to meet the changing needs of an aging world."**

—Jennifer Ellis,  
gerontology – aging  
services professional  
program director  
and instructor





# New opportunity for savvy students to save time and money on their way to a fulfilling career

Three years

to a BACHELOR'S

Teaching Degree



## Wisconsin has a teacher shortage,

according to the Department of Public Instruction annual report, noting that while the State has more students enrolled in education preparation programs than its neighbors, fewer Wisconsin students are completing the programs. Northwood Tech and University of Wisconsin-Superior (UW-Superior) have created a cost-effective, fast-track to becoming a teacher. In hopes of reducing barriers to becoming an educator, students can earn an Elementary Education Bachelor's degree within three years post high school.

## FREE credits while in high school

A student can save on tuition towards their education by starting college while in high school. Students can begin to take college-level general education courses like "Introduction to Sociology" or "Human Biology" through Start College Now. These courses are offered in online formats removing the need to be on campus. Students may also earn credits through Northwood Tech or UW-Superior courses offered at their high school through dual credit courses that are taught by high school instructors on site.

## First year after high school

Students can enroll in courses through Northwood Tech and/or UW-Superior to round out their general education requirements

## Second and third year after high school

Students enroll in UW-Superior courses to complete core courses required for an Elementary Education Bachelor's degree.

This is one of many transfer options for Northwood Tech students to earn credit towards a four-year degree.

See where you can take your Northwood Tech credits.

[NorthwoodTech.edu/transfer](https://NorthwoodTech.edu/transfer)

Offered in partnership with





# IT-Cybersecurity Specialist Program Earns Federal Recognition

Center of

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



**Northwood Technical College's information technology – cybersecurity specialist program is now recognized as a top-choice training program by the U.S. government after earning the designation through the Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense (CAE-CD) program.**



IT-cybersecurity specialist instructors



## In today's rapidly evolving digital

**landscape,** cybersecurity has become more important than ever. As cyber threats continue to advance in sophistication, it is paramount to stay ahead of the curve to protect organizations and individuals. The CAE-CD designation is designed to recognize and honor the dedication, continuous curriculum improvements, and high level of expertise and knowledge that our IT professionals possess in the field of cybersecurity.

The CAE-CD program focuses on educating a cybersecurity workforce to meet the needs of the nation, government, industry and

academia. This federal recognition ensures the College's cybersecurity students can be confident they are learning the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed in the cybersecurity workforce.

"Students entering the program learn fundamental IT skills like operating systems and networking, and they will also learn extensive cybersecurity operational skills to build a successful career in the high-demand field for both the private and governmental sectors," described IT-cybersecurity specialist instructor Greg Brodt. "The CAE-CD designation opens opportunities for students like grants, scholarships, and of

course employment opportunities. Students graduating from the Cybersecurity program will receive a special indication on their transcript from Northwood Technical College."

Northwood Tech's IT-cybersecurity specialist program is a two-year associate degree. Students protect and defend systems, networks and programs from digital attacks by learning how to secure an organization's desktops, servers, networks and applications through hands-on experience in networking, virtualization and security. Students study attacks and security practices to protect data as they configure security settings and test and monitor configurations.





20<sup>th</sup>  
year



2023 Construction and Cabinetmaking students and instructors

## Construction and Cabinetmaking students build homes in the community

### Northwood Tech construction and cabinetmaking program celebrated 20 years of students constructing a home in the community as part of their hands-on learning.

The College commemorated the event at the annual open house where students gave tours and discussed the craftsmanship, layout and design with attendees.

"It was very rewarding to see the students take pride in their work as they were giving personal tours of the house," said instructor Scott Theilig. "The students were very proud of their work and it showed in their enthusiasm and excitement as they talked about what they did in the house."

Each year the College has worked with a local contractor to secure a home project. Students do the work from framing to cabinetry and finishing work. Other professionals are brought in to help with plumbing and electrical work.

For more information about the construction and cabinetmaking program and apprenticeships at Northwood Tech, visit [NorthwoodTech.edu](http://NorthwoodTech.edu).



2003-04 House Project



2023 House Project



2019 House Project

**"Having 20 student-built houses in our community is really a testament to the quality of Northwood Tech's construction and cabinetmaking program,"**

—Deb Kutrieb,  
dean of skilled trades

Scan the QR-code to view time lapses of past home builds.





# GRADUATING COLLEGE

## before high school

YES,

it's possible.



Brock Titus

### For high school junior Brock Titus, achieving a technical diploma while in high school hadn't occurred to him

until Julie Thompson-Czub, Hayward high school business and information technology instructor and lead teacher for the Financial Services Customer Representative (FSCR) dual enrollment academy, approached him with the opportunity. Six of the seven academy classes are taught by Ms. Thompson-Czub through Hayward's dual enrollment academy partnership with Northwood Tech, while the final class is provided Online Live through Northwood Tech instructor Hugh Harris. With Brock's genuine interest in business and finance, learning he was just two classes away from completing the requirements of the academy prompted him enroll. Not only did Brock's classes count toward his high school diploma, he was earning a Northwood

"I would have never thought that something like this could be done and I am so happy I did it. It was very intriguing to me to walk on that [college commencement] stage before I graduated high school. It was truly a fantastic experience and I would do it all over again."

—Brock Titus



2023 FSCR academy students and instructors

Tech technical diploma at the same time. This gave Brock the jump start on continuing his educational journey beyond high school, even with another year still ahead of him.

Brock's achievement was also exciting for his parents, Brian and Jennifer Titus, who were very encouraging throughout the entire experience. Brock also credits his success to Julie Thompson-Czub and Hugh Harris, as well as the partnership between Northwood Tech and Hayward High School. "I truly recommend taking the dual enrollment academy because it allows you to expand your knowledge further than most high school business curricula allow. It was truly a fantastic experience, and I would do it all over again to have another class with Hugh Harris," said Brock.

Northwood Tech partners with several local high schools to give students like Brock a head start on achieving their career goals. Students attending high schools that do not offer academies can enroll in Northwood Tech programs via Start College Now.

Northwood Tech dual enrollment academies:

- CNC Technician
- Construction Essentials
- Financial Services Customer Representative
- Mechatronics Basics
- Welding

Since May 2020

**174** high school students have earned



**231** technical diplomas saving over

**\$311,000**

Check your high school for college credit offerings.



Learn more

[NorthwoodTech.edu/careerprep](https://NorthwoodTech.edu/careerprep)



# Did you know?

## Northwood Tech works to improve prospect of success of those serving time through **GED/HSED** services

**Obtaining a high school diploma opens doors for individuals, from employment opportunities and military enlistment to post-secondary education, significantly enhancing their earning potential.**

Northwood Tech offers a General Education Diploma (GED) and High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) through its adult education program. The GED requires passing five tests in science, social studies, mathematical reasoning, reasoning through language arts and civics. The HSED offers five pathways to completion, including testing, credit for prior learning and competency-based programming.

In collaboration with local jails, Northwood Tech extends GED/HSED services to justice-involved individuals in eight counties, including Ashland, Bayfield, Sawyer, Douglas, Rusk, Barron, Polk and St. Croix. The credential gives released individuals better prospects for finding a job or enrolling in post-secondary programming to create a better path for themselves as they navigate re-entering society.

In the 2022-23 academic year, the College had 13 students complete the GED program and 209 complete the HSED program, 43 of which were incarcerated individuals. The GED/HSED staff and faculty focus on personalized support, including learning styles inventories, career awareness assessments and employability skills, highlighting students' areas of interest guiding them toward success.



[Learn more](#)

[NorthwoodTech.edu/GED-HSED](https://NorthwoodTech.edu/GED-HSED)



# YOUR

# Investment

# THEIR future

**THE NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOUNDATION** provides support to promote, develop and expand quality education and services of Northwood Technical College. Your gift may be the one thing that makes college a possibility for a student.

➤ **Scan the QR code to donate today!**



"Thank you for the extra support with a [\$25] gas card. This is such a helpful resource and a huge blessing for someone like me with limited income on social security disability. This took stress off of me driving 89 miles round trip for school. I wish I could do more than just a thank you, truly.

—Rochelle  
Fall 2023 Student Assistance Recipient

"Thank you for the generous scholarship. I am very appreciative to know I was selected as the recipient of this award. Let me tell you about myself. I am currently going to Northwood Tech for Welding. I plan to pursue this career when I'm done with school with a long-term goal of becoming a welder at a decent workplace that I can stay at. I will graduate from welding in May of 2024. Thanks to your generous scholarship, I'm one step closer to my goals.

By awarding me this scholarship, you have reduced my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on my work and [welding] shop time and not worry as much as how I'm going to be paying for it all. One day I hope to be able to do the same and help struggling students lift their financial burdens as well, just as you helped me. Thank you so much for your generosity."



—Amelia  
Fall 2023 scholarship recipient,  
Robyn Lulich Memorial

"I have just finished my first year at Northwood Technical College. This scholarship will help me to focus more on my education and not feel as stressed over having to work full-time on top of going to school full-time, to pay for classes each semester. The last couple semesters I have been working almost 40 hours a week so it will be nice to be able to cut down on work hours and have more study time. I am going for an associate degree in criminal justice. Once I graduate, I plan to go to police academy to be trained for my future career in law enforcement. If all goes well, in about two years' time I will be working at a local county Sheriff's department.

Again, thank you for the scholarship. It means a lot to me and is a big help to me getting the education I want. "



—Daniel  
Spring 2023 scholarship recipient,  
Onan Family Foundation



**NorthwoodTech.edu/Foundation**  
Foundation@NorthwoodTech.edu | 715.731.1265



# Northwood Tech Foundation

## Donors Change Lives

# 45

Years of Impact

Every gift makes a difference.

Established in 1978, the Foundation depends on donors to help our students at Northwood Tech achieve their dreams.

Together, we help make college possible for hundreds of students.

**768**

Scholarship applications

**388**

Scholarships awarded

Student assistance grants

**\$5,522**

Seven emergency loans totaling

**\$1,323**

**\$181,369**

in total scholarship disbursements

Average scholarship awarded

**\$467**

Gas & grocery cards, GED exam fees, books, misc. support

**\$32,018**

College, program and club support

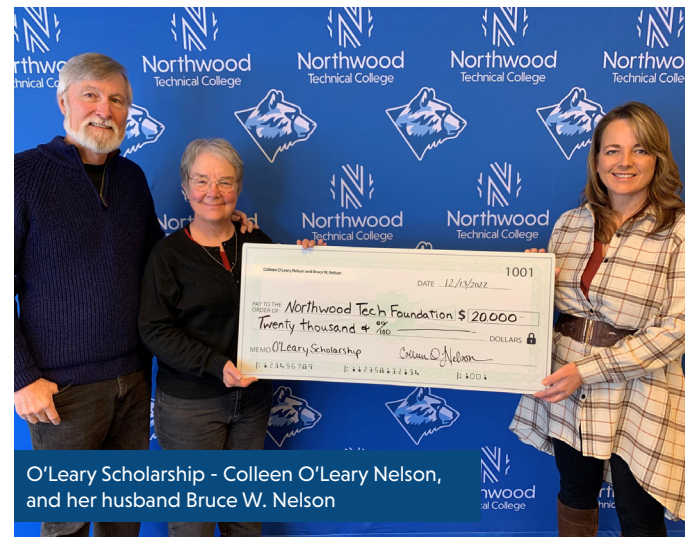
**\$37,413**

FY2023 Student & College Support Statistics

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

	Audited 2023	Audited 2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$505,096	\$360,538
Accounts receivable	\$3,601	\$4,099
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$508,697</b>	<b>\$364,637</b>
Investments	\$5,334,958	\$5,068,755
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$5,843,655</b>	<b>\$5,433,392</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$56,251	\$45,941
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Without donor restrictions	\$206,465	\$187,961
With donor restrictions	\$5,580,939	\$5,199,490
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$5,843,655</b>	<b>\$5,433,392</b>





**Northwood Technical College**  
1900 College Drive, Rice Lake, WI 54868



# 60+ career areas. Countless possibilities.

- Accounting
- Accounting Assistant
- Administrative Professional
- Advanced EMT
- Agricultural Power & Equipment Technician
- Architectural Commercial Design
- Architectural Woodworking/Cabinetmaking
- Automated Packaging Systems Technician
- Automation for Industrial Systems
- Automotive Service Technician
- Automotive Technician
- Billing and Posting Clerk
- Business Management
- Community-Based Residential Facility Caregiver
- Construction and Cabinetmaking
- Construction Essentials
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice - Law Enforcement 720 Academy
- Criminal Justice Studies
- Customer Service Manager
- Dental Assistant
- Diesel Equipment Technician
- Drafting Technician
- E-Connect - Child Care Services
- Early Childhood Education
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic
- Farm Operation
- Financial Services
- Financial Services Customer Representative
- **NEW!** Funeral Service
- Gerontology - Aging Services Professional
- Health Information Technology
- Health Office Professional
- Healthcare Receptionist
- HVAC/R
- Hospitality Foundations
- Human Resource Management
- Human Resources and Payroll Generalist
- Human Services Associate
- HVAC Installation Technician
- Industrial Maintenance Technician
- Industrial Systems Specialist
- IT - Cybersecurity Specialist
- IT - Systems Administration Specialist
- IT - Web & Software Developer
- Leadership Development
- Leadership Essentials
- Machine Tool Operation
- Machine Tool Operation-CNC
- Machine Tool Technician
- Machine Tooling Technics
- Marine Repair Technician
- Mechatronics Basics
- Medical Administrative Professional
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Billing Specialist
- Medical Coding Specialist
- **NEW!** Medical Laboratory Technician
- Microsoft Office
- Nonprofit Leadership
- Nonprofit Professional
- Nursing - Associate Degree
- Nursing Assistant
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Office Support Specialist
- Office Technology Assistant
- Paramedic Technician
- Power Sports Technician
- Refrigeration Essentials
- Substance Abuse Counselor Education
- Technical Studies - Journey Worker
- Truck Driving
- University Transfer Degree - Associate of Arts
- University Transfer Degree - Associate of Science
- Utility Construction Technician
- Veterinary Technician
- Welding/Maintenance & Fabrication

**Blaze**  
your own  
**trail.**

Grads earn an average starting salary of  
**\$51,781**

**94%**  
of our graduates are employed within six months



**Transfer**  
Start at Northwood Tech & Continue Your Education  
**ALL associate degrees** have transfer options to four-year institutions