

SOUTHEAST TECH

CAREER SERVICES

NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2017

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Build Dakota Scholarship Match Event

Southeast Tech is hosting a Build Dakota Match Event on April 7, 2017 and would like to invite you! The Build Dakota Scholarship Match event would allow you to sponsor a student to complete their education and commit to work for you after graduation! This program is a great way to leverage Build Dakota funds to grow your company's workforce.

Companies can use this program to "grow their own" by up-skilling their current workforce or using their network of employees to identify a student that they would be willing to sponsor to enroll at Southeast Tech. Industry partners have the option to offer the student an employment agreement in exchange for their investment into the student's education. **If your company hires students from one of these programs:**

Agriculture/Construction Diesel

Automotive Technician

Civil Engineering Technician

Collision Repair & Refinish Tech

Computer Network Security

Computer Programming

Computer Technician

Construction Management

Diesel Technician

Electrician

Electronics

HVAC/R Technician

Land Surveying Science

Mechanical Engineering Tech

Mechatronics

Network Administrator

Plumbing/Mechanical Systems

Welding

Software Support Specialist

System Administrator



Then, we would like to invite you to a **Build Dakota Match Event on April 7, 2017** where you can meet prospective students from these programs that are interested in connecting with a sponsor. At this event your company can meet and interview potential students that are enrolled to attend Southeast Tech in the fall and are interested in securing a Build Dakota scholarship by making a commitment to a sponsoring company. To register, please fill out the registration form online at <https://southeasttech-csm.symplicity.com/surveys/BuildDakotaMatchFair>.

There will be an informational meeting for companies starting at 11:30. Table set up will begin at 12:00 with the match event starting at 12:30. The event will be conducted similar to a job fair where the students will rotate through the company tables. Interview rooms will be available if needed. Please register for this event no later than March 24, 2017.

Southeast Tech Automotive Expansion

Southeast Tech expanded its automotive programs in the Fall of 2016. The 100,000 square foot expansion included state of the art equipment. An Automotive Lab Specialist from Southeast Technical Institute, Terry Prouty, said "A lot of the dealerships in town are expanding and or changing locations and are looking for technicians." "The demand for us has been pretty high," said Prouty. Southeast Technical Institute said they've seen up to a 30% increase in enrollment in their automotive programs since the new expansion. See the entire news story at

<http://www.kdlt.com/2017/03/14/southeast-technical-institute-bigger-better-things/>

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Sector Breakfasts with Industry Professionals

Workforce shortage, the labor crisis, and the skills gap are becoming a top priority on a national level and at the local level. Many companies, legislators and post-secondary institutions are coming together to find workable solutions to workforce shortages. Southeast Tech is committed to working with local and regional partners to find innovative solutions to workforce challenges. We are hosting a series of sector breakfast events that invites industry leaders to engage in high level discussions about the current workforce issues and discover together how Southeast Tech can be a resource for local industry partners.



The first sector breakfast held on January 27th focused on healthcare. Healthcare experts including Bob Sutton, Avera Health; Lyn Serbus, Good Samaritan Society; Jon Crow, Sioux Falls Specialty Hospital and Karla Haugan, Sanford Health opened the discussion while Representative Mark Mickelson facilitated questions from over 51 employers in attendance. The Southeast Tech Foundation Event Committee has set the dates for the next two sector breakfast events: Transportation will be held on March 24 and Construction on April 5. Southeast Tech will hold several more that focus on Information Technology, Business and Diversity.

Southeast Tech Student Activities

Ticket Tuesday

March 28, and April 18: 6-7pm

Monthly campus event where students can sign up for free tickets to area attractions (West Mall 7 movie theatre, Thunder Road, Stampede Hockey) and get free pizza/pop

Student Clubs and Organizations

Student Clubs and Organizations will be setting up their meeting times when school resumes and getting those posted in the campus weekly announcements

Spring Picnic

April 2017 Free picnic lunch and activities

Diversity Fair

April 26, 2017

Cultural groups will be on campus sharing their music, dance, and other activities to help provide diversity education to ensure work place preparedness for students.

Southeast Tech is always looking at enhancing the student experience. If you are interesting in sponsoring a student activity, please complete the following information form at <https://southeasttech-csm.symplicity.com/surveys/sponsorship>.

Soft Skills Presentation



Southeast Tech faculty and staff collaborated to provide a Soft Skills presentation and present to the area schools. The group has presented to the Dell Rapids middle and high school instructors and at the CTE Convention last year. There are plans to present in Freeman, Spearfish, the South Dakota Math conference in Huron, and at the CTE Convention at SDSU in July. The presentation covers areas such as communication, professionalism, critical thinking, problem solving and networking. The participants receive valuable handouts and participate in applied learning with group projects and tangible outcomes. Experts estimate that 15% of a person's workplace/career success comes from their technical skills and knowledge, while 85% comes from their ability to get along with people.

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Child Play Camp

The Early Childhood program held a camp on February 3 for interested area high school students. The students had the opportunity to tour the Scarbrough Center, take part in a creative art experiences, as well as learn the importance of language and literacy in early childhood development. The camp was a huge success! They had 81 high school students from 15 different high schools attend, as well as four teachers/counselors. They will also be holding a camp for the SFSD high school Child development classes during the spring semester.

Southeast Tech Hosts Women in Science Event

Nearly 800 8th grade girls and their teachers gathered for a Women in Science event at Southeast Tech on Wednesday, March 8 from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm. 30 exhibitors presented technical career paths as well as 29 presenters (in science related occupations) who made 1/2 hour presentations. The day was structured so that each girl had the opportunity to hear at least five of the presentations and visit the exhibit room.

The Women in Science Conference is designed to promote a positive image and to stimulate interest in science and technology careers for young women. Women are historically underrepresented in science and math related fields. While women account for roughly half of the workforce, they hold less than 25% of jobs in these technological areas. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness of the wide variety of jobs available in the math, science and technology fields. When seeds are planted, dreams are born, and goals can be established. By stimulating interest and providing local role models as mentors, incentive is added to continue taking the math and science courses that are necessary to prepare for careers in higher paying non-traditional fields.

IRS VITA Tax Training

Southeast Tech is pleased to announce that it hosted and collaborated with an IRS tax consultant to offer “Train the Trainer” VITA Tax Training. Southeast Tech Accounting instructor Georgina Cavin shares, “I team up with Thomas Vogel, Tax Consultant of W & I SPEC of the IRS, and we review tax law and practice entering tax returns on the software. This year’s training brought more attendees because the IRS has contracted with Tax Slayer as its official tax software for the VITA program, so this was all new to us. Tom and I began meeting in late August and I participated in four weeks of training webinars during the month of September.” Cavin continues, “The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is using a new software program, so we had the largest group to take part ever! 26 Participants traveled from Watertown, Madison, Rapid City, Eagle Butte, Pine Ridge, and Vermillion to name a few. I have been part of VITA for eight years as a volunteer and a Site Coordinator and have trained for the past two years.”

According to Southeast Tech President Robert Griggs, “Providing community resources through services like VITA are extremely important for Southeast Tech. The ability to give back to our community is paramount to our mission and we are happy to be able to provide the facilities and the expertise to do that.”

Carpentry Apprenticeship

Southeast Tech, in partnership with the Homebuilders Association of the Sioux Empire, has been awarded a South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation Grant in the amount of \$50,000. The Homebuilders of the Sioux Empire are also awarding \$50,000 in matching funds for the Apprenticeship Grant. This brings the total for this project to \$100,000. The purpose of this grant is to expand the number of registered apprenticeships in South Dakota as well as increase the awareness of the availability and benefit of apprenticeship programs. Southeast Tech and the HBA will be establishing a Carpentry Apprenticeship in an effort to bring more people into the construction industry and to help support people interested in starting a career in the construction field. The first Carpentry Apprenticeship class is scheduled to start during the Fall of 2017.

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