



May 2024 \\\ Board of Technical Education Report

LATC Strategic Direction

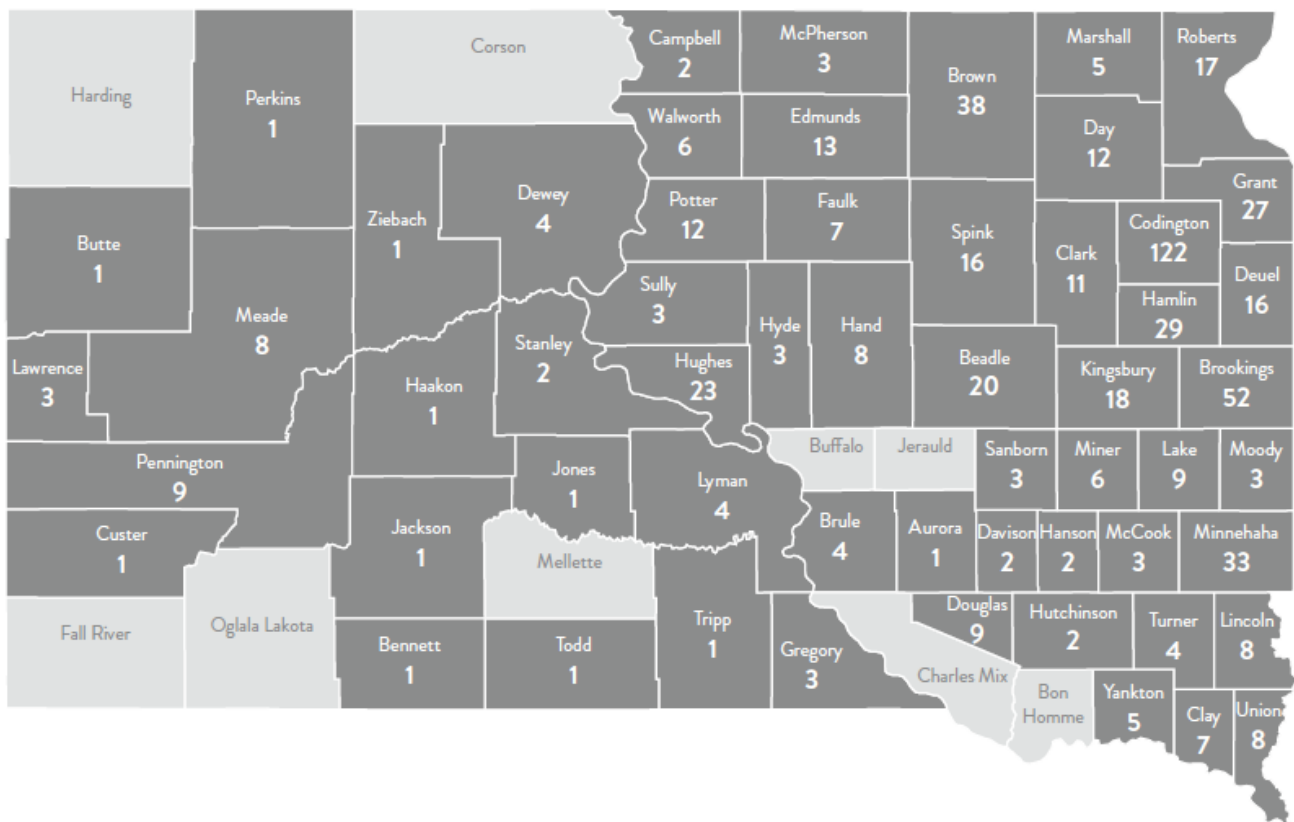
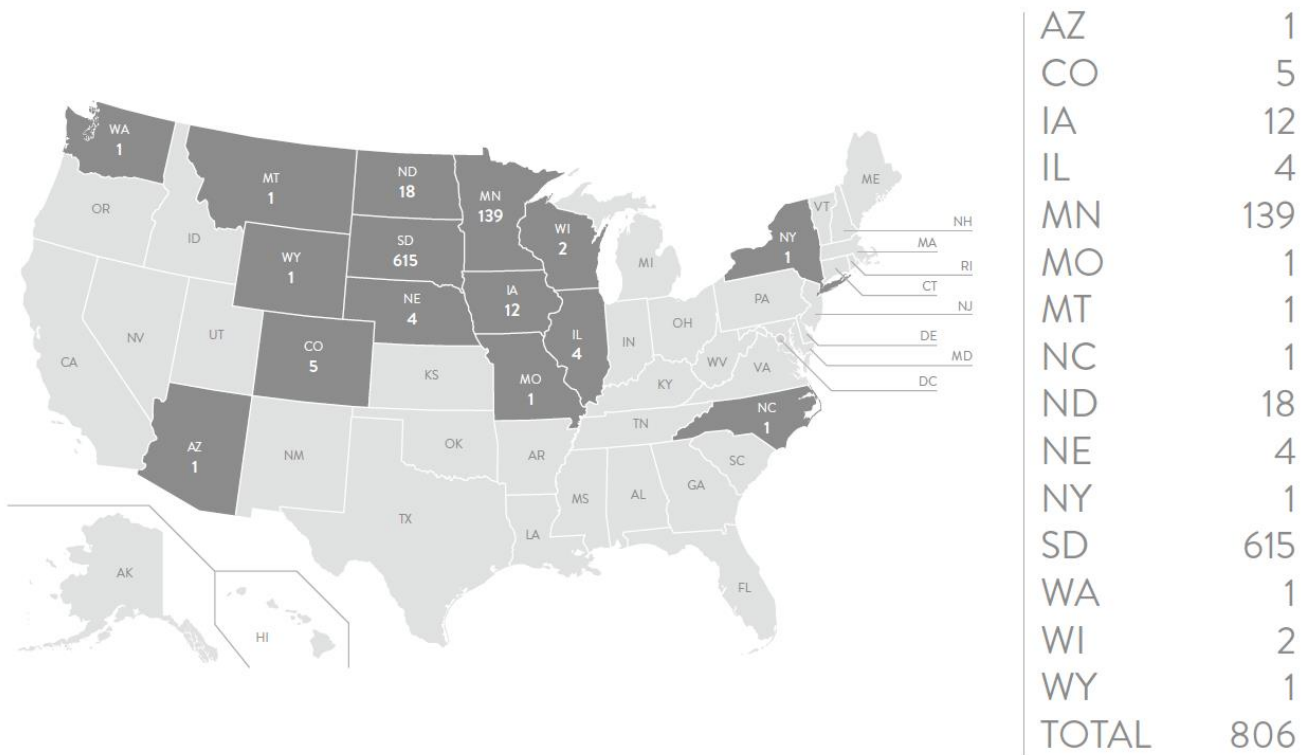


GRADUATES HONORED: The Lake Area Technical College Class of 2024 was honored for its achievements on Friday, May 10th. The event marked the college's 57th Commencement and recognized 806 graduates.

Characteristics of note from the class:

- 19% First generation graduates
- 17 Veterans and 76 military-connected graduates
- 76% were from South Dakota, 24% from out-of-state
- Represented 3 countries, 15 states, and 174 SD communities (61 of 66 SD counties).
- 75% worked while attending school, 40% working 20+ hours per week

LATC Class of 2024:



LATC Programs



LATC STUDENTS TAKE HOME GOLD AT STATE SKILLS USA

CONFERENCE: Students from the Lake Area Technical College SkillsUSA Chapter recently competed in the South Dakota State Leadership and Skills Conference competition. Students worked against the clock and each other in various trade and leadership skills. Placing first in state events were Isabelle Johnson in Law Enforcement, Nick Litterick in Automotive Refinishing, and Nicolas Taylor in Welding Individual.

All first-place recipients are eligible to advance to the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference June 24-28 in Atlanta, Georgia, where more than 6,000 career and technical education students will compete.

LATC ESPORTS TEAM GEARS UP: When students return to campus in the fall, the Esports team will be ready for competition following spring recruiting efforts. With core varsity players returning, the LATC team is poised to make their mark when the season kicks off on September 29th. As members of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), Lake Area Tech looks to be a strong competitor in Region 13, encompassing fifteen colleges across six states.



ROBOT GAMES PUTS LEARNING INTO PRACTICE: Seventeen 2nd year Robotics students hosted Robot Games in April, putting all their learned skills to the test. Students designed a robot to complete six challenges, requiring the robot to climb, descend, shoot, putt, follow patterns, pick and place objects, and twist a nut onto a bolt. The capstone project creates a real-life challenge and is deadline driven.

In addition, 270 middle and high school students were on campus to see the robots in action. They also had the opportunity to spend time in The Lab working with 3D printers, cobots, and programming.



LATC in the Community

LATC STUDENTS GIVE BACK: Throughout the 2023-24 school year, Lake Area Tech students provided service to the community, investing 103,977 hours in education, clinical practice, and community service.



Year-End Activity

Graduation

A record-tying 513 students graduated from Mitchell Tech's 38 programs during three ceremonies Fri., May 10 at The World's Only Corn Palace. Student speakers from the cross section of graduates were chosen to represent their peers speak during the ceremonies. This second-annual tradition has been well-received by students and their guests.



Eagle Feather Ceremony

Fourteen graduating students were honored during Mitchell Tech's Eagle Feather Ceremony, held Thurs., May 9. Honorees included members of seven of South Dakota's Native American tribes, including representatives from the Yankton, Rosebud, Crow Creek, Oglala, Lower Brule, Cheyenne River and Sisseton Sioux Tribes, as well as the Oklahoma Choctaw. The ceremony was led by Jeshua Estes. Each honoree was presented with a star quilt beautifully crafted in Mitchell Tech colors. Afterward, approximately 200 people celebrated with Indian tacos.



Featured Graduates



COMMUNITY

Mitchell Technical College's Stacy Two Eagle celebrates graduation from diesel program

Non-traditional student, single mother of four faces down challenges to earn degree

2d ago · By Erik Kaufman

Stacy Two Eagle, an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and single mother of four children, was featured by The Mitchell Republic on graduation day. Stacy had enrolled in college at Black Hills State University as a traditional student more two decades ago and taken college classes off and on while juggling family responsibilities. She said she found her calling in the Diesel Power Technology program, where she completed her degree in two years. Read more at mitchellrepublic.com/community/mitchell-technical-colleges-stacy-two-eagle-celebrates-graduation-from-diesel-program

LOCAL NEWS

Mitchell Tech graduate follows family tradition

Posted: May 10, 2024 / 10:18 PM CDT
Updated: May 10, 2024 / 10:31 PM CDT



Keloland News featured Power Line Construction & Maintenance graduate Ty Coss, who is the third brother in the family who has followed in the footsteps of their father, Kevin Coss, by graduating from the program and pursuing a powerline career. See that story at keloland.com/news/local-news/mitchell-tech-graduate-follows-family-tradition

Build Dakota Update

As of May 13, 2024, 135 Double-Edge Scholarships have been awarded, with employer/partner contributions totaling \$1,086,000 toward the \$2.7 million total scholarship value. One additional student entering Cohort 10 will receive a full Build Dakota Scholarship. Licensed Practical Nursing and Electrical Construction and Maintenance are the biggest programmatic benefactors of the Build Dakota at Mitchell Tech this year, with 22 incoming students receiving scholarships for each of those programs. Four students are sponsored by the Yankton Sioux Tribe -- the most who have benefited with Mitchell Tech's partnership with the tribe in the partnership's four-year history.

South Dakota SkillsUSA



April 11-12, more than 350 high school and college students and their advisors visited Mitchell Tech to compete for the opportunity to advance to the state SkillsUSA contests in Atlanta, Ga., this summer, as well as trade-specific tools donated by industry partners from across the state. Mitchell Technical College and Mitchell Career and Technical Education Academy chapter members had a strong showing at the state competition, with members advancing to nationals. Read more at mitchellrepublic.com/news/skillsusa-state-conference-converges-on-mitchell-technical-college

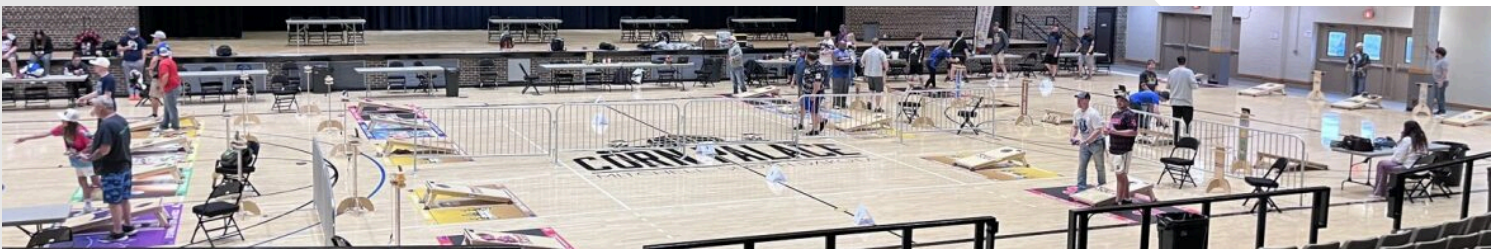
South Dakota Board of Nursing



Dr. Carena Jarding, director of the Nursing program at Mitchell Tech, was appointed to the South Dakota Board of Nursing. She serves on the board's two-member nursing education committee, putting her 24 years of nursing experience -- 15 of them as a nurse educator -- to use in the strategic planning for future nurse education across the state. Read more at mitchelltech.edu/news/mtcs-jarding-appointed-to-state-board-of-nursing

1st Annual Alumni Cornhole Tournament

April 26, the Mitchell Technical College Foundation raised more than \$35,000 for the Legacy Scholarship, which provides \$500 for students whose parent, grandparent or sibling graduated from Mitchell Tech, at the first annual Alumni Cornhole Tournament. Read more about this event at mitchellrepublic.com/news/local/mitchell-tech-launches-cornhole-fundraiser-tourney.



May 2024

Board of Technical Education
Robert Griggs, STC President



Graduation By the Numbers: 999 Students Graduate from STC in 2023-2024

Southeast Technical College granted nearly 1,000 associate degrees, diplomas and certificates during the 2023-24 academic year. During the fall graduation ceremony, 179 students graduated. For the spring ceremony, 820 awards were given to spring and summer graduates.

STC Opens Healthcare Simulation Center

Southeast Technical College officially opened its newest building – the Healthcare Simulation Center – with a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house event, held April 11, 2024.

The facility includes a simulated emergency room, intensive care units, clinical exam rooms, surgical suites, hospital patient rooms and medical laboratory facilities. Students will be learning alongside students of other disciplines and learn to clarify roles, communicate effectively, mutually respect, and be in tune to situational awareness with one another and various care settings.

SOUTHEAST Technical College

The Healthcare Simulation Center facility was made possible with financial support of industry community partnerships, including Avera Health, Sanford Health, Forward Sioux Falls and the State of South Dakota.



MEDIA COVERAGE

- **Argus Leader** – <https://www.argusleader.com/story/news/education/2024/04/12/healthcare-simulation-center-officially-open-at-southeast-technical-college-avera-sanford/73221751007/>
- **Sioux Falls Live** – <https://www.siouxfallslive.com/news/sioux-falls/mini-hospital-training-center-at-southeast-tech-gives-provides-real-life-simulations>
- **Sioux Falls Simplified** – <https://www.sfsimplified.com/get-a-look-at-southeast-techs-new-healthcare-simulation-center/amp/>
- **keloland** – <https://www.keloland.com/news/your-money-matters/meeting-growing-workforce-needs-with-southeast-techs-new-health-care-simulation-center/>
- **Pigeon605** – <https://pigeon605.com/step-inside-the-mini-hospital-where-sioux-falls-students-now-are-training/>





STC Signs New Articulation Agreements

Southeast Technical College recently signed articulation agreements with the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSM&T) in Rapid City and Dakota Wesleyan University (DWU) in Mitchell.

The agreement with SDSM&T provides a bachelor pathway for graduates of STC's Civil Engineering Technology program and was finalized with a signing ceremony at STC on April 12. This is the first articulation agreement SDSM&T has finalized with a technical college in South Dakota.

The agreement with DWU provides a transfer pathway for LPN students interested in pursuing a B.S. in Nursing.

- <https://www.southeasttech.edu/news/2024/stc-signs-new-articulation-with-dwu.php>
- <https://www.southeasttech.edu/news/2024/sdsmt-stc-sign-engineering-articulation.php>

Southeast Tech Publishes First Literary Magazine

Southeast Technical College students have established a new outlet for their creative talents. "Our Story," Southeast Tech's first literary magazine, was recently published on the STC website. The magazine features creative works like stories, photographs and art submitted and edited by students.

- <https://www.southeasttech.edu/news/2024/our-story-spring-2024.php>



Plant Sale Sees Record Turnout

The Southeast Technical College Horticulture program saw record turnout at its annual plant sale. Students say they sold more plants in half a day in 2024 than they did in two days during previous years. 2024 marks the 37th year of the annual sale.

- <https://www.southeasttech.edu/news/2024/plant-sale-sees-record-turnout.php>



May 2024

S.D. Board of Technical
Education Report

Ann Bolman, Ed.D.
WDTC President

WESTERN
DAKOTA
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Learn. Do. Now



President's Report to the South Dakota Board of Technical Education



May 2024

Dear Board of Technical Education members:

This past weekend our 56th annual commencement ceremony took place and we celebrated nearly 300 graduates. We are very proud of our graduates and are excited for their bright futures. We are looking forward to new and continued partnerships and opportunities to carry out our mission:

Western Dakota Technical College prepares students to be highly-skilled professionals through accessible, career-focused programs to improve their lives, while adapting to community workforce needs and positively impacting our economy.

Thank you!

Ann Bolman, Ed.D.
President, Western Dakota Technical College
Rapid City, S.D.

WDTC's 56th Commencement Ceremony Celebrates Graduates

Western Dakota Technical College (WDTC) had its 56th Commencement Ceremony on May 11. The event took place before a packed audience of enthusiastic loved ones and friends, of the nearly 300 graduates, in The Monument Ice Arena. About 42 students received two or more credentials.

WDTC alumni and local business owners Weston and Tenise Chapman, were the Commencement Speakers. The WDTC Board of Trustees Chair provided the Address on behalf of the Board. Jonathan McCoy, Foundation Chair, gave the Foundation Address.

WDTC President Ann Bolman, Ed.D., provided the following statistics during her speech:

- Fifty-one percent of the students in the class of 2024, or 152 students, are first-generation college students.
- Students graduating with Associate degrees will earn more in South Dakota, on average, than will their peers graduating with Bachelor's degrees from universities.
- Those receiving Associate degrees are likely to see a 225% return on their educational investment in just the next five years.
- and... throughout the next 10 years, all graduates combined will earn more than \$35 million more than they would have had they ended their education with high school.



Outstanding Graduates Banquet Recognizes Top Students



On May 3, Western Dakota Technical College (WDTc) hosted the Outstanding Graduates Banquet to honor one student as the Outstanding Graduate, from almost all academic programs. WDTc has hosted this event since 2002, and this year we had approximately 100 guests join to honor and celebrate graduates.



Native American Students Honored During Ceremony



On May 10, Western Dakota Technical College (WDTc) hosted the Native American Honoring Ceremony to celebrate graduating indigenous students. WDTc has hosted this ceremony for approximately 30 years, and this year we had approximately 130 guests join. All South Dakota tribal flags are represented during the ceremony and participating students chose what they would like their ceremony to include.

Practical and Registered Nurse Pinning Ceremony Celebrates Graduates

Western Dakota Technical College (WDTc) continues to contribute to the great need for more nurses. Thirty-two Practical Nursing (PN) graduates, and 24 Registered Nursing (RN) graduates, received pins upon their graduation from the college during a special ceremony on May 9. During the ceremony, student speakers from the college's Rapid City and Whitewood PN programs spoke as did a representative for the RN class. Awards were also presented to PN and RN outstanding graduates.



WDTC Annual Earth Day Expo Brings Community to Campus



On April 20, WDTC hosted the annual Earth Day Expo, where numerous organizations from around Rapid City came together to educate and engage with the public on various sustainability programs through activities. An estimated 1,000 visitors attended the six-hour event. EchoWorks, a subsidiary of Black Hills Works and partner of WDTC, offered free electronics recycling with many residents taking advantage of this great opportunity.



College Announces New Practical Nursing Program at New Satellite Campus Site in Hot Springs

We are excited for our Hot Springs off-site Practical Nursing program cohort to start in Fall 2024. On April 30, we hosted a community announcement, at the new satellite program site in the Michael J. Fitzmaurice S.D. State Veteran's Home, to officially share the exciting news. This off-site program will help meet local workforce needs.



CHUCK JOHNSON
Superintendent of the
Michael J. Fitzmaurice
S.D. State Veteran's Home

CHRISINA ZWEBER
Practical Nursing Offsite
Coordinator/Instructor

KRISTEN HYBERTSON
Director of WDTC
Nursing

ANN BOLMAN, Ed.D.
WDTC President

ANDREA POWERS
WDTC Board of
Trustees Member and
Executive Director
of the Southern Hills
Economic Development
Corp

JEREMY SCHULTES
CEO/Administrator
of Fall River Health
Services

Nursing Program Reports Impressive NCLEX Nursing Pass Rates



Our Nursing Program is pleased to share that all Practical Nursing and Registered Nursing students who took the NCLEX exam in December passed on their first attempt. This is a significant accomplishment for our program and our students.

WDTC Students Earn Medals in Several SkillsUSA S.D. Competitions

Thirty-five WDTC students attended SkillsUSA in Mitchell, in April, and they placed in eight skill competitions. WDTC students received six gold medals and swept the three top medals in Plumbing. We are proud of our students for demonstrating their high-level skills and thankful to our faculty, adjuncts, and staff for their commitment to excellence and helping students to prepare students for the competition. WDTC students placed in the following categories: Automotive Service Technology; Cyber Security; Heating, Ventilation, AC and Refrigeration (HVAC-R); Information Technology Services; Internetworking; Plumbing; Welding Team Fabrication; and Individual Welding.



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