



MEDIA RELEASE

Jobs are Alaska's Future



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Commissioner Click Bishop

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AVTEC's Graduates Entering Alaska's Workforce

JUNEAU – The roughly 160 students who will be graduating from the Alaska Vocational Technical Center long-term training programs in the next few months are benefiting from AVTEC's active and successful relationships with employers throughout the state.

“AVTEC graduates have a 95-percent training-related job placement rate with some of the best companies in Alaska, enjoying great pay and benefits,” said Fred Esposito, the school's director.

Numerous employers contact AVTEC every day this time of year, looking for AVTEC students to fill their positions. Skilled cooks, mechanics, construction workers, information technology and office personnel are all in demand; nearly all AVTEC students get multiple job offers, Esposito said.

Several graduates of the Certified Nurse Assistant program, located at AVTEC's Anchorage campus, are now working Providence Health System's Mary Conrad Center. Lithia Motors is actively recruiting Automotive Technology graduates. Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology students have employment opportunities with NC Machinery in Anchorage and Wasilla.

Recent Culinary Arts graduates are working at remote camps and for the Alaska Marine Highway System.

Many students in the Construction, Maintenance, Welding, Mechanics and Electrical programs are applying for trade and construction apprenticeships, which give them continued training and employment opportunities as they work toward journeyman-level status in their trade.

“These graduates are just part of our ongoing efforts to train Alaskans for terrific jobs,” said Click Bishop, Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, which runs AVTEC. “I'm glad to see companies work with educational programs, like AVTEC, to achieve 90-percent Alaska hire.”

AVTEC offers 16 long-term training programs ranging from six weeks to 11 months and roughly 60 short-term training programs that take from a week to six weeks to complete. Information is available online at www.avtec.edu; click on the “Training Programs/Courses” link. Or call (800) 478-5389.

AVTEC's main campus is in Seward; classes for the school's Allied Health program are held in Anchorage. Remote-site and distance-delivery classes in nearly all AVTEC's training programs are available to people statewide.

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