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## Buckeye Career Center and Coshocton County Career Center Collaborate to Bring Adult Education Opportunities to Coshocton

Coshocton, OH (January 3, 3024) – Buckeye Career Center (BCC) and the Coshocton County Career Center (CCCC) are collaborating to offer adult education in the Coshocton County community. The two programs, Welding Technology and Introduction to Business and Marketing, begin January 16, 2024, at the Coshocton County Career Center campus and will be open to any adult hoping to gain skilled training in these fields. Both programs are also part of Ohio's Adult Diploma Program (ADP), which allows Ohioans ages 18 and older to enroll for free and earn a high school diploma and industry-recognized credentials. While any adult can register for either program, those hoping to obtain a high school diploma can register as an ADP student. ADP allows students to complete the program through a competency-based approach that is self-paced.

This joint effort reflects a shared commitment between the two career centers to empower individuals by providing high-quality adult education programming. "We've been trying to find ways that we could serve the community of Coshocton, and the Adult Diploma Program is one of those options," said BCC Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Adult Education, Mr. Frank Polen.

Matt Colvin, CCCC Superintendent, agrees, as the partnership leverages the strengths of both institutions, combining resources to offer comprehensive training and skill development opportunities. "Over 14% of our Coshocton community, ages 18 and older, do not have a high school diploma or equivalency," he said. "That is a staggering statistic, so this is a seamless option for us to give hope to the Coshocton community," commented Colvin.

Both programs will be instructed by CCCC staff and held at CCCC in Coshocton on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for three hours a night. The Welding course is a total of 80 hours, and students will take the ACT WorkKeys test and work to earn the American Welding Society's (AWS) Certified Welder Code AWS D1.1 certification. The cost is \$1,265 for those who already hold a high school diploma and free for those who enroll in ADP. Intro to Business and Marketing students will also take the ACT WorkKeys test and work to earn the NRF Foundation's Rise Up – Retail Industry Fundamentals and Rise Up – Customer Services & Sales certifications. The cost is \$250 for those with a high school diploma and free for ADP enrollees.

Self-pay students may qualify for financial aid and grant funding, including the Talent Ready Grant, which could pay for all or part of the cost.

Informational sessions about both programs will be held from 4-4:30pm on January 9, 10, and 11, 2024, at the Coshocton County Career Center. Enrollment will follow those sessions from 4:30-6pm. Those applying should bring a valid Ohio Driver's license (or similar form of Ohio identification) and have access to their email account to complete the registration process. Again, both programs are being offered for free to area residents needing a high school diploma, but anyone can register for the classes.

Additionally, these ADP programs and several others are offered at the BCC campus in New Philadelphia. Other program options include Auto Tech, Basic Construction/Carpentry, Drone Operator, Level 1 and Level 2 Firefighter, Manufacturing & Warehousing Associate, Nail Tech, Ohio Pest Control Technician, Office Professional, Phlebotomy, Public Safety Communicator, and STNA.

For more information, please contact BCC Adult Education Assistant Director, Mr. Steve Rippeth, at 330.339.2288 or email him at srippeth@buckeyecareercenter.org.

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