

# STUDENT NEWSLETTER



**BlueRidge**

COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**NOVEMBER 2020**



# MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

## Mission Statement

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College provides our diverse student population with life-changing education, training, and services that drive economic development within the communities we serve.

## Our Vision

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College is the first choice for higher education that drives career growth and economic development in our region and surrounding communities.



*Just like every piece is  
important to make a puzzle  
complete, every person  
is important to the mission!*

## Core Values

### Stewardship:

- Put student access, learning, and success first
- Support a safe, collaborating, and engaging environment for employees and students
- Provide an optimum learning environment for students
- Use College resources responsibly
- Demonstrate care for facilities

### Civility:

- Communicate with respect, trust, and care
- Respect differences
- Listen actively
- Be aware of your impact on others
- Discuss differences and resolve conflicts

### Integrity:

- Engage and actively contribute to the overall success of the College
- Think creatively and develop solutions
- Act honestly and ethically
- Provide accurate and thorough information
- Be courageous to be even better

### Entrepreneurship:

- Embrace our business partners
- Think proactively and innovatively
- Be adaptable and flexible for shifting priorities
- Identify areas for continuous improvement
- OWN enrollment
- Take calculated risks wisely

## Nondiscrimination Statement

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College provides opportunity to all prospective and current members of the student body, faculty, and staff on the basis of individual qualifications and merit without regard to race, color, sex, sexual preference, religion, age, national origin, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, familial status, veteran status, or disability. This advertisement is for informational purposes only. Printed and/or electronic documents produced by the College do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between an applicant or student. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo)

### On the Cover:

*Chef Steve Weiss, Halloween Wars Season 10*

*Little Free Food Pantry*

*Halloween Pumpkins, Trick-Or-Treat 2019*

*Bruin Express Food Truck*

## Locations

Main Campus

13650 Apple Harvest Dr.  
Martinsburg, WV 25403

Technology Center

5550 Winchester Ave.  
Martinsburg, WV 25405

Morgan County Center

Located at the Pines Opportunity Center  
109 War Memorial Dr.  
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

## Contact Information

[www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu](http://www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu)

304.260.4380



## **On October 1, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opened for next school year.**

Filling out the FAFSA early is a good idea if you plan to attend college during the 2021-2022 academic year. Some funds are reserved on a first come-first serve basis. There are also varying deadlines for state funding, and if the FAFSA is not submitted on time the funds will not be available to you.

To apply for the FAFSA, visit [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) and log on using your username and password. If this is your first time applying, you will need to create an FSA ID (username and password) before starting the FAFSA. If you are a dependent student your parents will also need to create an FSA ID.

### **The FAFSA requires the following information:**

- Demographic information
- Series of questions to determine your dependency status
- Tax information for student from 2019, and parent if student is dependent
- The number of people in a student's household, as defined by the FAFSA
- Electronic signature(s) from student, and parent if student is dependent



If there are significant changes to your tax information since 2019, input that information as requested and once you submit your FAFSA, follow up with the Financial Aid Office. Financial Aid will let you know what information is needed in order to correctly determine your amount of financial aid for the upcoming year.

### **Contact Information for Financial Aid:**

Email: [finaid@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:finaid@blueridgectc.edu)

Phone: 304-260-4380

Text: 304-470-4558

Or chat with us on the website!



*IS ENGLISH YOUR SECOND, THIRD,  
OR EVEN FOURTH LANGUAGE?*

# ELL WORKSHOP

**FRIDAYS, 12PM - 2PM**

**START BY EMAILING AND FOLLOW UP BY PHONING**

**FREE** individualized instruction and weekly phone calls are available to all English Language Learners! Join Dr. Muller to receive customized assistance each Friday from 12-2pm. Up to 2 elective credit hours can be earned with regular work on writing improvement, reading, and speaking in all subjects.

***FOR MORE INFORMATION:***

Dr. Katherina Muller

TESOL-certified instructor

[kmuller@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:kmuller@blueridgectc.edu)

Or Visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu](http://www.blueridgectc.edu)



## You Have an Academic Advisor!

### How can your academic advisor help you?

Did you know that you were assigned a faculty academic advisor as soon as you were admitted as a new student? Each degree program at Blue Ridge CTC is unique, and your faculty advisor is the expert in your program of study. Your advisor knows exactly when classes that count toward your degree will be offered each semester. He or she will help you create error-free class schedules until your graduation day. Your advisor is also a mentor who will discuss your future career or transfer goals with you. Advisors have real-life work experience in your chosen field of study.

For example, Challice LaRose (Human Services Program Coordinator) has worked as a social worker at an emergency children's shelter. Craig Smith (Criminal Justice Program Coordinator) worked for the Winchester Police Department for 26 years. Joshua Rider (Education Program Coordinator) was an elementary school teacher and library media specialist for 8 years prior to coming to Blue Ridge CTC.

### Who is my academic advisor?

### How do I make an appointment?

Each Blue Ridge CTC division (Professional Studies and University Transfer, Allied Health, and Workforce and Engineering Technologies) offers advisement options. If you have not scheduled an appointment to create a Spring course schedule, it's not too late! All advisors have scheduling tools (such as Calendly) that you can use to make an appointment.

*"Your advisor is a mentor who will discuss your future career or transfer goals with you."*

To find out who your advisor is, first log on to BRIDGE, then click Student Services, Student Records, and Degree Works. Look up your advisor's e-mail address by using the Directory at the top of the BRCTC website. Send your advisor an e-mail today, and ask how you can make an appointment!

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## CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA: @BLUERIDGECTC

Blue Ridge CTC has expanded their presence on social media and encourages all faculty, staff, alumni and students to connect and stay up to date on our events, deadlines, programs, jobs, and more.



# **LEARNING SUPPORT**



## **BRAINFUSE**

Virtual 24/7 Tutoring



## **EMAIL**

Enhanced responses with  
personalized video tutorials

[ellearn@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:ellearn@blueridgectc.edu)



## **OFFICE PRODUCTS**

Free access with your  
Office 365 account



## **ONLINE RESEARCH DATABASES:**

Aid in project and paper research



## **PHONE ASSISTANCE**

Call to connect to our eLearning team:  
304.260.4380 ext. 2349



## **VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS**

Assistance with completing  
online coursework.

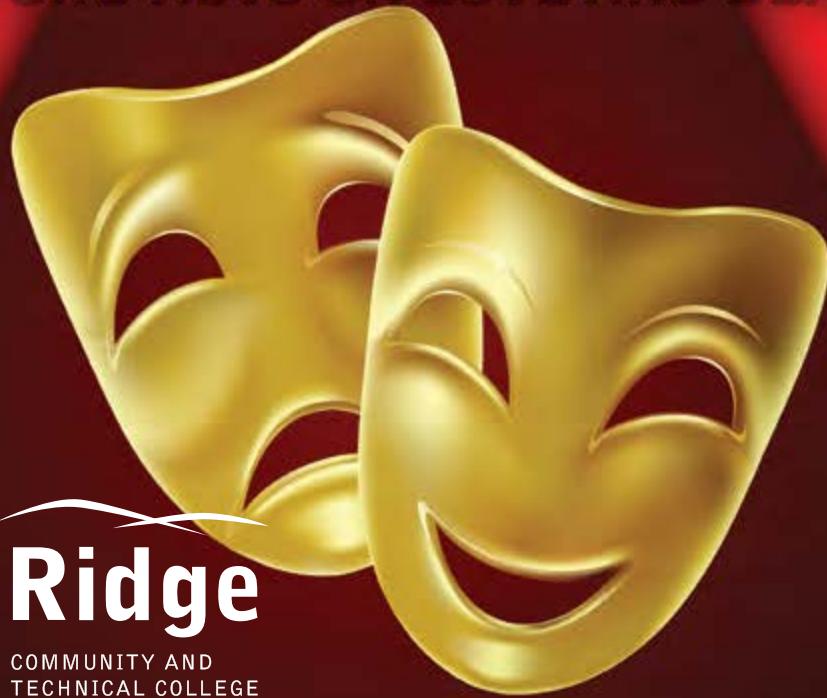


## **YOUTUBE**

Helpful how-to videos

# BATTLE OF THE SEXES

## FIVE ONE-ACTS ON LOVE AND DEATH



## BlueRidge

COMMUNITY AND  
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**Blue Ridge CTC Drama Club's annual play production is scheduled for March 2021 at the Apollo Civic Theatre.**

The 2021 production is "Battle of the Sexes: Four One-Acts on Love and Death". The One Act plays are "Trifles", "Home Burial", "Poof!", and "Hello, Out There". The club has begun casting with a few wonderful actors, but is still looking for more. Please consider trying out or simply attending the plays to show support for the club and actors.

The first Drama Club meeting is scheduled for October 20 at 6:30pm via Zoom. The meeting focus is on the election of Drama Club officers, brainstorming play promotion ideas, and directors' discussion with Jim Ralston and Kathy Cox. For questions or to receive the Zoom link to attend the meeting, contact: [Kathy Cox, kcox@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:kcox@blueridgectc.edu).



*Rehearsal of "Trifles" with  
Amanda Alford and Makenzie Francis.*

# P&G AND BLUE RIDGE CTC PARTNER TO TRAIN LAB TECHNICIANS

## P&G and Blue Ridge CTC Partner to Train Lab Technicians.

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College and Procter & Gamble (P&G) continue to partner in training of laboratory technicians moving into the workforce!

After discussions began in July of 2020, Blue Ridge CTC Applied Laboratory Technician Program Coordinator, Elizabeth Spring, traveled to Cincinnati in August 2020 and completed training at the P&G facility. By participating in the training, Spring became better equipped to incorporate specific testing techniques into the existing quality assurance curriculum at Blue Ridge CTC.



Upon returning to campus, Spring was excited to launch the first round of training for four P&G Technicians during September 2020. In addition, Blue Ridge CTC received grant funding that supported the purchase of new instrumentation equipment required for this training. As new lab technicians begin the onboarding process with P&G, the College continues to add additional sessions to accommodate training needs.

**For more information about the Applied Laboratory  
Technician program, or to enroll, contact**

[admissions@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:admissions@blueridgectc.edu) or 304.260.4380 ext. 2000.

**For more information about  
Careers at P&G, visit:**

<http://www.pgcareers.com>

### Timeline of Training Development Between BRCTC & P&G

#### JULY 2020

P&G Reaches out to BRCTC Applied Laboratory Technician Program

#### AUGUST 2020

BRCTC Applied Laboratory Technical Program Manager, Elizabeth Spring, receives training at P&G Technology Centers in Cincinnati

#### SEPTEMBER 2020

P&G sends four technicians to Basic Skills Training Session at BRCTC

#### OCTOBER 2020

BRCTC holds second Basic Skills Training Session

#### DECEMBER 2020

Instrumentation Training Sessions should begin, pending equipment arrival

## Careers in Unmanned Aerial Systems

BRCTC Applied Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Technologies students master the operation of professional small unmanned aircraft systems. Students learn aerial photography, videography, and photogrammetry, which enables the creation of high-resolution three-dimensional models.

There are careers opportunities in the Martinsburg area using drone technology and skills. Careers in data science and the application of geographic information systems software are used to analyze crop nutrients, determine environmental impacts, and map wetland areas. Aerial photo, video, and photogrammetry are used for: infrastructure inspection, construction earthwork calculation, and crime scene reconstruction.

Is a career in applied remote sensing and data analytics in your future? The UAS program is now accepting enrollment for Spring 2021, and space is limited.



**For additional  
information,  
please email:  
[drones@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:drones@blueridgectc.edu)**



## Need a Tutor? Zoom Sessions Available!

Blue Ridge CTC is offering free Zoom tutoring every Friday, with Dr. Lisa Wood by appointment. Tutoring is available for the following skills to assist in studying and paper writing:

- Study skills and note-taking
- MLA and APA style citations
- Writing assignments (in any subject)
- Reading assignments (in any subject)
- Help for English language learners
- Assistance with online course content and assignments

**Schedule an Appointment:  
[lwood@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:lwood@blueridgectc.edu)**

# JOIN US FOR THE **FALL 2020** VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

**Friday, November 13, 2020**  
**1pm - 3pm, Via Zoom**



**Are you seeking employment opportunities in a changing job market?**

**Maximize your time and job search by joining us for the Virtual Career Fair!**

**All meeting sessions are private, 10 minute appointments between the job seeker and employer. Participants must register in advance for employer time slots.**

**THIS IS A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!  
REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE:**

[www.blueridgectc.edu/virtualcareerfair](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/virtualcareerfair)

**Meet professionals from a broad range of companies seeking:**

- Clerical/Administrative
- Customer Service & Hospitality
- Education/ Training & Development
- Entry level and mid-level
- Financial
- Government
- Professional/ Management
- Sales/ Marketing
- Various other industries

**REGISTER EARLY**  
**to secure meetings with your preferred employers!**

**For more information, contact Office of Career Services**

304-260-4380 ext. 3335 or [CareerServices@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:CareerServices@blueridgectc.edu)

**Main Campus: 13650 Apple Harvest Dr, Martinsburg, WV 25403**

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College provides opportunity to all prospective and current members of the student body, faculty, and staff on the basis of individual qualifications and merit without regard to race, color, sex, sexual preference, religion, age, national origin, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, familial status, veteran status, or disability. This advertisement is for informational purposes only. Printed and/or electronic documents produced by the College do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between an applicant or student. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo)

**Sponsored by:**



## Meet Donovan Zook: Ascending the Ridge

Donovan Zook is a first-semester freshman at BRCTC who is double majoring in Environmental Science Technician and Applied Laboratory Technician programs. When he is not working on his school work he spends his time with his 7 siblings in nature, usually hiking or swimming.

Zook's love of the great outdoors has made him "deeply passionate about life itself and all the science that is attributed to it", which made choosing a career path more difficult. Zook ultimately decided to double major to give him the broadest set of skills and background knowledge for his future. He sees a "fair difference" in courses he is taking at BRCTC saying his current classes "truly relate directly to the real world and are on topics that I am interested in." He also notes that he is "thankful for the care and passion my teachers have for their field and their students."

*"Zook is part of BRCTC's  
Accelerating Student  
Completion: Encouraging New  
Dreams (ASCEND) program"*

The ASCEND program provides students with financial, academic, and personal support. Benefits of the ASCEND program include: financial assistance for tuition and mandatory fees, a stipend for groceries and/or gas, textbook assistance, comprehensive and personal advisement, and career counseling. The goal of the ASCEND program is to help students graduate in 3 years from their associate degree programs.



**Ascend**   
Accelerating Student Completion;  
Encouraging New Dreams

**For more information about ASCEND contact:**

Lisha Burks, [Ascend@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:Ascend@blueridgectc.edu)  
or visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/ascend](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/ascend).

# FILL<sup>the</sup>CAN

## FOOD DRIVE



### TAKE WHAT YOU NEED

Blue Ridge CTC students have access to the Free Food Pantry located at the Main Campus and the Technology Center. The Pantry is open access and available to students during normal campus operation hours. No permission is necessary to obtain items.

### GIVE WHAT YOU CAN

Support the Blue Ridge CTC Food Pantry! Donations are regularly accepted for non-perishable food items. Drop off donations at the Main Campus Welcome Desk anytime during regular business hours. Look for the big blue bin with the Food Pantry Logo.

#### Main Campus Pantry Location:

13650 Apple Harvest Dr., Martinsburg, WV 25403, Room 1400

#### Tech Center Pantry Location:

5550 Winchester Ave., Martinsburg, WV 25405, Culinary Arts Hallway

### SUGGESTED DONATIONS

- 100 calorie snack packs
- Applesauce cup
- Bottled Water
- Cake Mixes
- Canned & Boxed Food Items
- Canned Meats
- Canned or Dry Soups
- Cereal snack size cups
- Chef Boyardee
- Coffee
- Crackers
- Fruit in a cup
- Granola Bars
- Hot and Cold Cereals
- Juice boxes/Capri Sun
- Mac-n-cheese
- Packaged Pasta
- Peanut Butter
- Rice
- Syrup
- Tea Bags
- Trail mix
- Tuna cracker sets
- Variety pack of chips

**Contact Sara Gordon for more info: 304.260.4380 ext 2120 // [sgordon@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:sgordon@blueridgectc.edu) // Text: 304.907.1131**

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# Cutest PET Contest

  
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## **Congratulations, Charlie!**

Over the summer, BRCTC Student Activities held a Cutest Pet Contest that had over 30 entrants. Students, faculty, staff and community members casted votes on over 30 different pictures! With over 103 votes, Charlie was crowned the winner of the Cutest Pet Contest. Congratulations to Charlie and his fur-mom Rebecca Issler.

## Virtual Fall Events and Workshops

The Office of Career Services is excited to offer Employer-Student Networking Events and Career Education Workshops on Zoom this semester. All students, graduates, and community members are invited to participate! To register for any of the following events or workshops please visit [www.Blueridgectc.edu/CSEvent](http://www.Blueridgectc.edu/CSEvent)



**BlueRidge** OFFICE OF  
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# NAVIGATING USAJOBS.GOV

**ZOOM WORKSHOP**  
**November 10**  
**2pm - 3:15pm**



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# DISABILITIES & EMPLOYMENT ROUNDTABLE

**November 19**  
**1pm - 12:30pm**



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# MOCK INTERVIEWS

**Session 2:**  
**November 20**  
**10am - 12pm**

**Session 3:**  
**December 8**  
**2pm - 4pm**



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TECHNICAL COLLEGE SERVICES

# DRESS FOR INTERVIEWING SUCCESS

**DELIVERED  
VIA ZOOM**

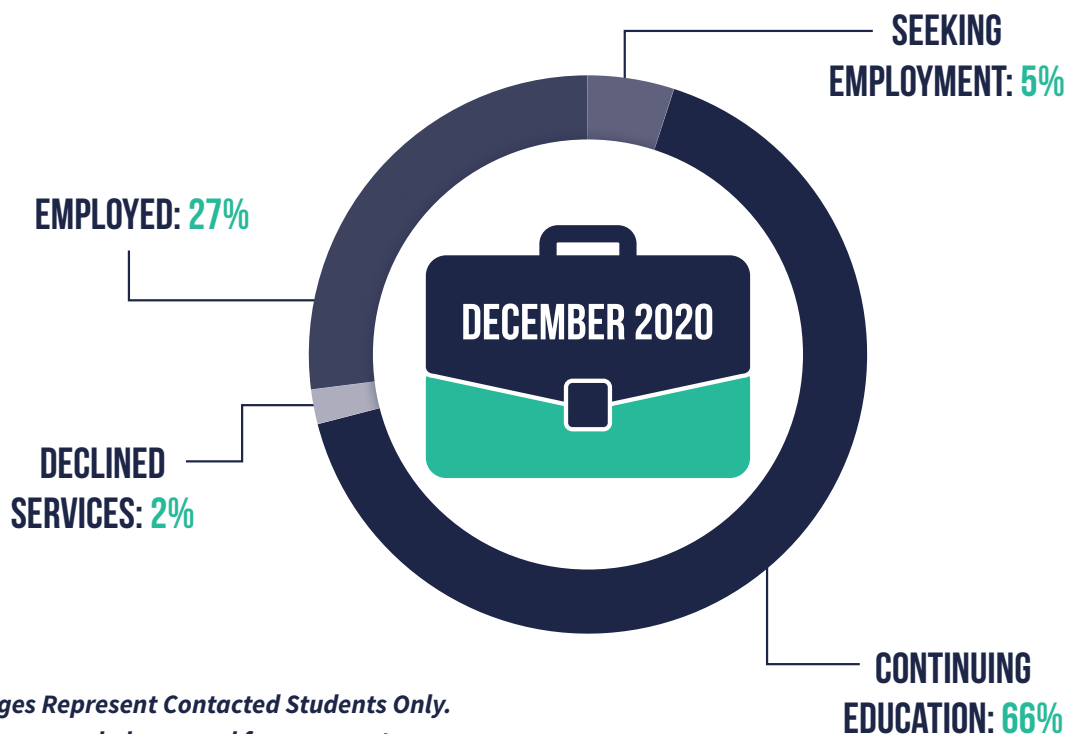
**DECEMBER 9**  
**9AM - 10:15PM**

## Survey for December Graduates

The Office of Career Services would like to remind current students and soon-to-be graduates about the upcoming Graduate Survey. Any student or graduate that obtains a new academic certificate or degree, will receive a brief 3-5 minute survey. The Graduate Survey is used to collect data from graduates who are transferring to another institution, continuing their education at BRCTC, or entering the workforce.

**VIEW ONLINE  
GRADUATE REPORTS**

Students and graduates are encouraged to view previous Graduate Reports online to learn more about Blue Ridge CTC alumni. [Graduate reports](#) are available for view on the BRCTC Website.



*Chart Percentages Represent Contacted Students Only.  
Unknown never responded removed from percentages.*

## NEW: Online Career Services Resource Center

Career Services has a new Student Resource Center on Blackboard. This new resource center gives students 24/7 access to career guides, videos, documents, and recommended websites.

The new Career Services Resource Center allows students to access important documents and modules virtually at any time. The Center is designed to support students from enrollment through graduation.

### This support includes:

- Career Exploration Activities
- Career Search Development Resources
- Interviewing support
- Resume Writing Assistance
- And more!

To access the online Career Services Resource Center students must self-enroll through Blackboard. Contact e-Earning for more information about enrolling:  
[ellearn@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:ellearn@blueridgectc.edu)

### How to Self-Enroll in the Career Services Resource Center on Blackboard:

1. Log in to your Blackboard account:  
<https://ilearn-brctc.wvnet.edu/>
2. Click the Community tab at the top of the screen.
3. Type "Career" in the Organization Search field at the left of your screen and click Go.
4. The Career Services Resource Center will appear in the list.
5. Click the downward-facing arrow next to the Organization ID CLUB-007 and select Enroll.

After enrolling, you will find the Career Services Resource Center under the Community tab in your My Organizations list. Click the link for the site to access materials.

### For More Information, contact:

**Siona Escoto,**

### Outreach and Placement Specialist:

[sescoto@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:sescoto@blueridgectc.edu)

Phone: 304.260.4380 ext. 3335

Text: 304.470.4756





**Find your Future CAREER!**

Connect with regional employers through  
the Career Services online **Job Board**.

**[www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu/Jobs](http://www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu/Jobs)**

## Online Job Board

Did you know that the Office of Career Services maintains an online job board with regional employment opportunities? Community employers submit job positions on a regular basis for current students and graduates. Connect with the Office of Career Services to update your resume and learn how to write a cover letter for your job search. View the online Career Services job board by visiting: [www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu/JOBS](http://www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu/JOBS)