



Reynolds
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

City of Richmond & Reynolds Community College

March 10, 2025

**Paula Pando, Ed.D.
President**

THANK YOU!

Reynolds College Board Members



Peter Blake



Dr. Brenda Drew



Kathy Graziano



Paul Logan



Dr. Emmy Smith Ready

Enrollment is Booming



Outpacing our Peers

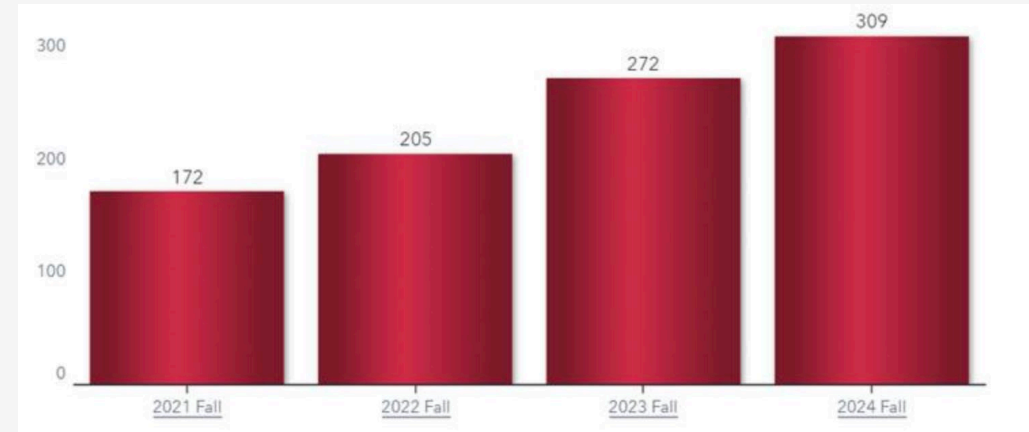
SPRING ENROLLMENT

+15%
FTE

+11%
Headcount



English as a Second Language (ESL)



+80% in 3 Years



*Retention Rates
Trending UP and
HIGHEST SINCE 2017*

*Retention is the
most difficult, and
most important,
needle to move...*



CREDENTIALS

+34%

Spring 2024

869 Graduates Awarded

1,196 credentials 

Spring 2023

814 Graduates Awarded

890 credentials 

Point of Pride



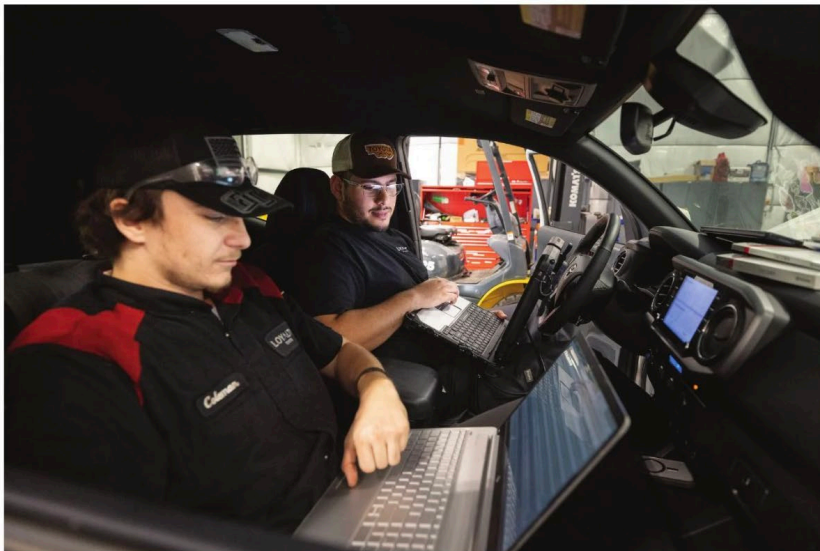
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

richmond.com • \$3

MOBILE NEWSROOM



MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH

Reynolds Community College students Coleman Blom, left, and Luis Aguilar work on a vehicle in the new automotive technology building on Monday. "You've got to let the car talk to you," Blom said of diagnosing car problems.

TECH BEHIND THE WHEEL

Reynolds revamps its auto program, offers new options

DAVE RESS
Richmond Times-Dispatch

They started, as usual, at 7 a.m. with a lecture on airbags.

The students gathered in a circle outside Reynolds Community College's new automotive technology building to swap stories about airbag malfunctions. They wrapped up with a quick word from auto program director Tonia Haney, who reminded them that

stamping hard on the brake doesn't make an airbag go off.

Instead, she explained to the 14 second-year students in college's new T-TEN program for Toyota automobile technicians that it's the complicated sensor-triggered electronics that recognize a sudden deceleration — "you know, like when you're about to hit a brick wall," as she explained later — that they'll have to understand and fix.

It's very hands-on, just like Reynolds' general auto tech program. At the other end of the new auto tech building, instructor Chris

ON THE MOVE The Times-Dispatch Mobile Newsroom

This is part of a series of stories produced from our Mobile Newsroom, which travels to different communities each month. Where should we go next? Have a story to share? Tell us about it at go.richmond.com/mobilenewsroomsurvey

Verdicchio had set his class the challenge of figuring out why the check engine light on a car he'd monkeyed with

was on.

They figured it out: two bum intake valves.

Then, Verdicchio had them plunging deep into the engine, working with gauges, screwdrivers and wrenches to readjust the erring valves — and to check and adjust the other 12 intake

Please see **NEWSROOM**, Page A19

WATCH: Coleman Blom discusses his classes at Reynolds. Point your cellphone camera at the QR code and click the link. **NEWSVU**

Newsroom

From A1

and 12 exhaust valves, since that's the usual practice at most.

"They're sharp," Verdicchio said. "I'll have them working on different faults, pulling engines out, fixing and rebuilding them."

'Let the car talk to you'

There's a lot more to know than when he went through the auto technician program at Reynolds 18 years ago: keyless locks and ignitions, navigation systems, the cameras and sensors that replaced craning your neck around to check what's behind you when backing up.

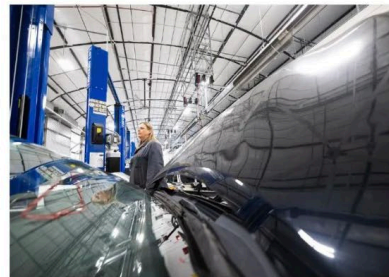
At the other end of the auto tech building, meanwhile the T-TEN students are deep into a lot of that.

They're working through the one five-week unit in the two-year program that they tend to like least: advanced electrical systems.

"It's the most complicated, especially the communications," said Andrew Makar, connecting a rolling charger to the battery of a black Camry that he, Matt Mohr and Gage Nuhn had run down as they reviewed their lab work diagnosing faults in airbag systems.

Communications, Mohr explained, means figuring out why minicomputers in a car might not be sending data and control signals to the engine, electrical, mechanical and other systems that make a car go.

"You've got to let the car talk to you," said Coleman Blom as he and Luis Aguilar worked on the lab for communications, tracking down faults and writing up "R.O.'s — repair orders — for problems they found on



MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH

Tonia Haney, the auto program director at Reynolds Community College, works in the automotive technology building on Monday.

the Toyota Tacoma pickup they were assigned.

That means thinking about the many ways a car's sensors and minicomputers and larger internal processors can fail to talk to one another, or to the computer diagnostic tools that Blom and Aguilar were using to try to find the cause for a series of flashing dashboard fault lights, now narrowed down to just the check-engine light.

Not that it was all that narrowed down.

When automakers began adding check engine lights to dashboards in the 1970s, they signaled when one of five things was a problem, Haney said. Now, that light could mean one of 400 different problems.

For Blom and Aguilar, the first step to finding a communications problem is to get a readout on their laptops of which circuit or circuits aren't working. They tap into a second database to find where in the guts of the car the circuit runs. Then, they'll haul out the yellow handheld multimeter to check current flows and voltage along the circuit to further narrow down the problems.

"It's like a science experiment," Blom said.

If you go

What: Richmond Times-Dispatch Mobile Newsroom

Where: Massey Library Technology Center at Reynolds Community College (Parham campus), 1651 E. Parham Road

When: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday-Friday

"You have hypotheses, and you test them. Most are wrong, but when you get the one that's right, that feels amazing."

For Vaclav Larew, pausing for a moment as he worked through a lab on a Camry's entertainment system — he was trying to figure out why a speaker wasn't working — the course is building confidence that he can tackle any of the problems a driver might be seeing.

"When I started, I was afraid I'd break something all the time," he said. "Now, I'm more sure of myself."

Michael Zaky, working with him trying to figure out what was wrong with the speaker, said he felt much the same — even though he was used

to working on older cars helping his dad with his business.

"These come in fancier wrapping," he said of the new Camry. "But I feel I know what to do now."

Reynolds announced a revamping and expansion of its auto technical program in 2021, when Toyota signed it up as the 39th community college to offer its T-TEN master technician program, a demanding two-year work-study program. The first cohort graduated earlier this year.

Hands-on work for three days

The students spend three days a week at Reynolds — a 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. stint, most of it in hands-on work. They spend another three days at sponsoring dealerships, since to be eligible for the program they need to have an internship with a dealership.

That revamp came after an outreach effort by the college to learn what the region's auto businesses felt they needed, and it also expanded the college's general automotive program to include several manufacturer-based certifications.

The key thing that Taney tries to teach is how to think about a problem.

"Maybe I'll give them a hint, but I try not to tell them the answer," she said. After all, there's a lot to know about cars.

"I love cars," Azriel Williams said. "I knew how to change spark plugs, modify exhaust systems for custom cars ... but now I'm learning about so many things ..."

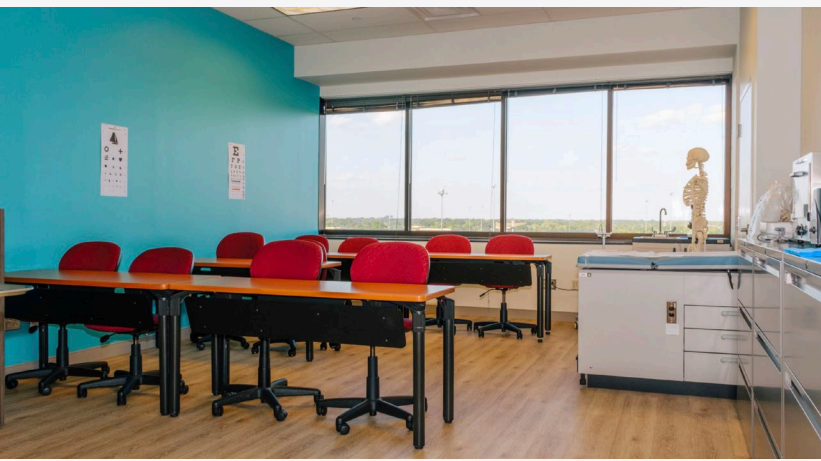
"This is the career I wanted."

Dave Ress
(804) 649-6948
dress@timesdispatch.com

Point of Pride

100% Pass Rate
on the NCLEX
3 of last 4
semesters





Short-Term Workforce Programs

- Clinical Medical Assistant
- Phlebotomy Tech
- EKG
- Nurse Aide





Skilled trades at DTC:

- Electrical
- HVAC
- Plumbing
- Apartment Maintenance
- Four-year Electrical apprenticeship program
- A new Plumbing apprenticeship, in Spanish





*The workforce development division of
Brightpoint & Reynolds Community Colleges*



NOW OPEN



NOW OPEN



**CAREER
CONNECT**





 Reynolds
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



2023-2024
RICHMOND CITY
ENROLLMENT SNAPSHOT

1,403 Students

58% First-gen

44% Adult learners (age 25+)

40% Pell awarded

Early College Academy



69 students enrolled

An additional **87** City of
Richmond students
enrolled in dual
enrollment courses
outside of the ECA



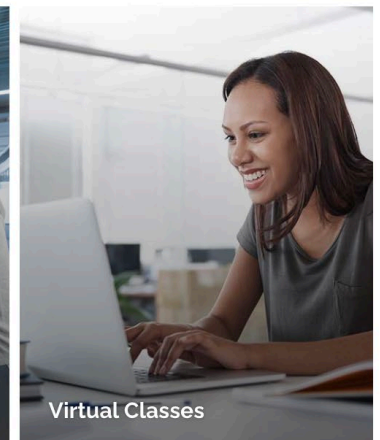
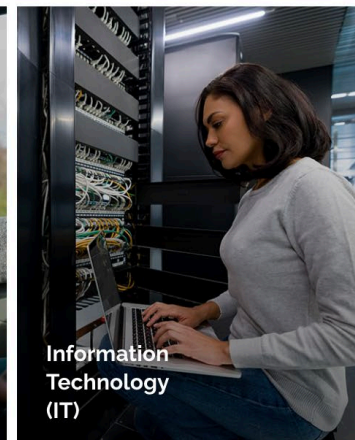
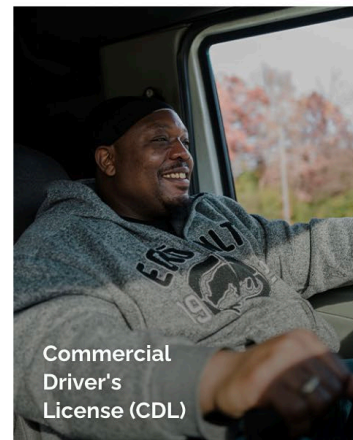
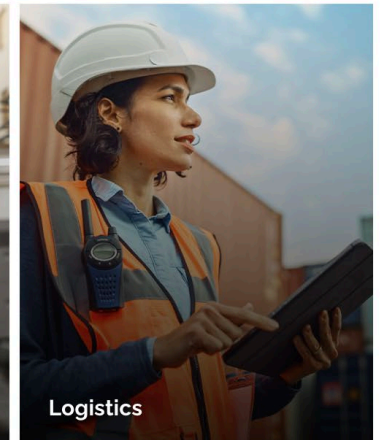
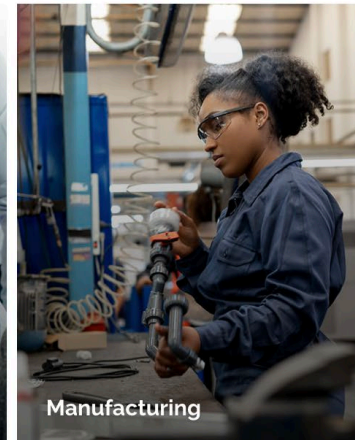
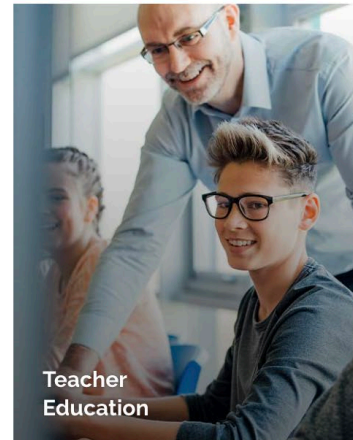
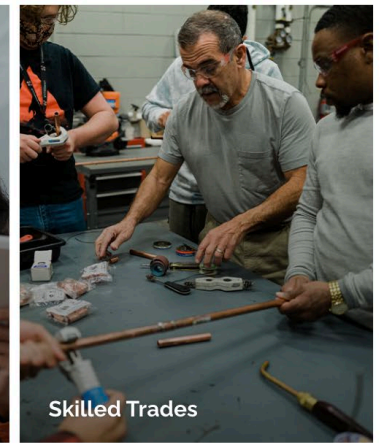
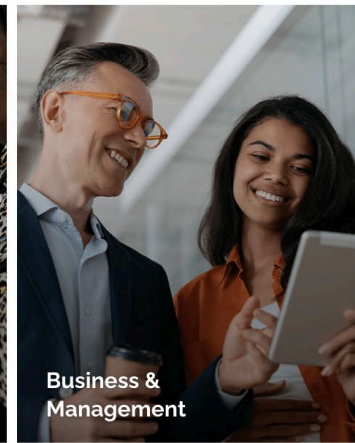
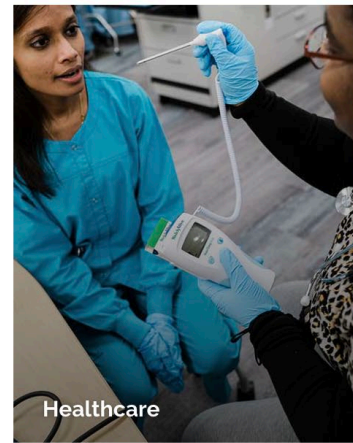


176
RICHMOND CITY ECA
GRADUATES SINCE THE START
OF THE PROGRAM

2023-2024

An additional 424
Richmond City residents
took a workforce training
class with Reynolds.

An increase of 11% over
the previous year.



A dark grey graduation cap with a gold tassel is positioned at the top of the frame. Below it, a large stack of US dollar bills is rolled up and secured with a gold ribbon. The bills are fanned out at the bottom, showing various denominations and serial numbers. The entire scene is set against a dark, textured background.

*Richmond City
Students*

\$3,261,594

**in scholarships and aid awarded in the
2023-2024 Academic Year**



GEORGIADIS HALL

Admissions & Records
Business Office
Campus Store & Julian's Coffee Shop
Career & Transfer Services
Enrollment Services
Financial Aid
Health Expectations
Intramural & Fitness Studio

Marketing Office
New Student Orientation
Preceptor Labs
Student Accommodations
Student Affairs
Student Life
Student Center
Students Resource Center

Reynolds
Georgiadis Hall

Reynolds
Georgiadis Hall

Reynolds
Georgiadis Hall

Reynolds
Georgiadis Hall



Thank you for your support!



