



Learning Links

Monthly Newsletter for NCTC Lifelong Learning * Volume 1, Issue 1 * March 2012

Lifelong Learning is the non-credit division of North Central Texas College.



What is Lifelong Learning?



Contrary to popular belief, we are not the division that offers the proverbial “underwater basket weaving” or piano

lessons to six-year-olds (though we would if there was a demand). Instead, we are the Continuing Education, Workforce Training, and Community Education arm of North Central Texas College, fulfilling three of the seven stated missions of our institution. We offer career programs that align with state-approved workforce needs (e.g., Welding, HVAC), provide grants issued by the Department of Labor and the Texas Education Agency to assist students in obtaining their GED or entering a medical field, and provide enrichment classes for those who love to learn and grow. In addition, we reach out to employers in our service areas to fulfill specialized training needs.

Our division strives to maintain the highest standards. To enroll in our career programs, students must pass assessments and speak to an advisor. Attendance, exams and grades are all mandatory elements of our programs.

Due to the dedication of our staff, instructors, and the whole institution, our division continues to grow, with increasing enrollments and new programming.

Upcoming Classes!

Canning and Freezing in Gainesville * Sat 3/3 * 9 am to 3 pm * \$49

Extreme Couponing in Corinth * Sat 3/3 9 am to 3 pm * \$49

Everyday Spanish in Flower Mound * Tue 3/20 to 5/1 * 6 pm to 9 pm * \$169

Ballroom Dance in Denton * Mon 3/19 to 5/7 * 7 pm to 8.30 pm * \$65



Intro to Professional Photography in Corinth * Sat 3/31 to 5/19 * 9 am to 12 pm * \$209

Development News



Lifelong Learning administers the **Drop Out Recovery Program**, a grant that is issued by the Texas Education Agency.

Since this program began, 90 students (!!!) have earned their GED. In addition to preparing students to take the GED exams, the grant provides for THEA prep and sponsors career training in our department. To date, \$480,000 has been billed and accepted.

As part of the **JET Grant**, sponsored by the State of Texas Comptroller’s Office, Lifelong Learning was able to purchase more than \$100,000 in equipment to complement our popular HVAC training program. The additional monies allowed the inclusion of a 40-hour “Green Energy Audit” course to the core curriculum. Not only our students, but a number of local contractors have taken this course to add to their services.



Lifelong Learning just received word of full funding on a \$5 million **Advanced Technology Grant**, written in collabora-

tion with North Central Texas Workforce Solutions. In addition to training workers for employment with IBM, Lockheed, AT&T and Labinal, the grant will allow NCTC to equip a new CISCO lab at the Flower Mound Campus.

In collaboration with Workforce Solutions of North Central Texas and Tarrant County College, Lifelong Learning recently submitted a **Texas Skills Development Grant** for GE Locomotive to train their employees in welding, blueprint reading, metallurgy, and circuitry. This grant will bring an estimated \$435,000 in enrollments.

Want to learn more about Lifelong Learning? Sign up for our e-mail newsletter. Click “subscribe now” on our website.

Program Highlights

The newest addition to our cadre of programs is Dental Assisting. Offered in conjunction with Dr. Jackie Stanfield, students learn the profession inside a dental laboratory and clinic. With a cap of 20 students, 19 student registered for our inaugural class. The next class begins April 28th. Tuition of \$3,000 includes books, CPR, and online radiography course.

In partnership with Suddenlink Communications, Lifelong Learning offers the Telecommunications Installer program. Students will learn how to install broadband internet, and will be able to sit for a national exam upon successful course completion. Employment with Suddenlink is a high probability. Classes are held in Gainesville, and tuition of \$1,250 includes books and testing fees.

MATRIX Grant News



The **MATRIX Grant** is a \$4.1 million scholarship program that pays partial tuition for high-demand healthcare classes. Programs covered include Certified

Nurse Aide, Pharmacy Technician, Clinical Medical Assistant, and more—as of Spring 2012, over 1,050 students have been assisted by the grant!

Both Gainesville and Bowie High Schools worked together with the MATRIX team to create Certified Nurse Aide classes for their students. The Gainesville High School program meets at the high school and includes training in physical therapy, CPR, Workforce Readiness, and Healthcare Spanish. Bowie students meet at the NCTC Bowie Campus.