

A-B Tech EDUCATION Journal

SPRING 2025



A-B Tech Team Wins American Culinary Federation National Championship

NC Governor Josh Stein Pays Tribute
to Class of 2025

A-B Tech Helps Community Recover
and Rebuild from Helene

ABTech
Community College

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NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
P. 4

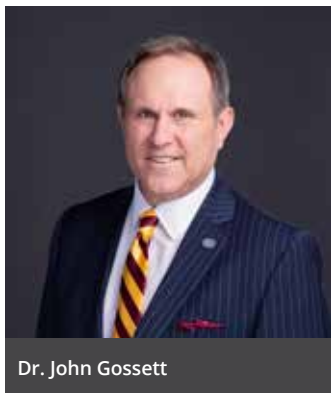


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RECOVERING AND REBUILDING
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A Message from the President



Dr. John Gossett

What a year! If you live in our communities of Asheville, Buncombe and Madison counties, I don't have to explain what we've all experienced since September 27, 2024. Fortunately, the worst of Hurricane Helene is behind us, and we are recovering together. The strength and resiliency of our people and our Appalachian heritage were the foundation for an

impressive collective effort unlike anything I've experienced.

At A-B Tech, we were fortunate not to have a lot of physical damage to our buildings, but we were closed for a month due to power and water outages. And of course, our students and employees were impacted in myriad ways. Our first concern was for their welfare, but we also immediately got to work serving our community. A-B Tech's main campus, A-B Tech Madison, A-B Tech Woodfin and A-B Tech Enka were hubs for shelters, emergency operations, donations, relief efforts, small business assistance, and more. You can read more about it in this issue.

Despite the storm, A-B Tech had a great year. We kicked it off last summer with our student culinary team winning the 2024 American Culinary Federation (ACF) National Championship! It was the second national title and 15th trip to nationals for our renowned Culinary Arts and Hospitality program. Our faculty and students worked incredibly hard for the honor and I'm beyond proud of them. This year's student team also won the ACF Southeast Regionals and will compete in the 2025 ACF Nationals next month.

Our enrollment across the college has stayed consistent this year, thanks in part to disaster-related tuition relief from our state and federal governments. We also began new

programs in Artificial Intelligence and Biomedical Electronics last fall, and we're adding new offerings in Behavioral Health and Business Administration this year. Further, we have a "hub" of skilled trades programs that will be active in training workers to help rebuild our community: construction, electrical wiring, HVAC, welding, electronics, and geomatics (better known as surveying). We're also beginning a plumbing program in Continuing Education that will be taught from our new Mobile Skilled Trades Trailer, which is designed to bring education to remote rural communities.

This year taught us that A-B Tech can fulfill our mission as the community's college even under the toughest of circumstances. But I also want to praise our alumni. Prior to the heart of the storm hitting our community and through the weeks and months that followed, it has been our graduates who ran into harm's way to help. Law enforcement, EMTs, fire, rescue, nurses, electricians, welders, and all the others we trained. And now, because community college graduates tend to stay in their hometowns, our students will be on the front lines of rebuilding our community.

I am proud of our community and how we have persevered through the largest calamity in 100 years. I am proud of our employees who stayed focused on the mission of A-B Tech: "Dedicated to the success of students and communities".

And I am proud of our students who came back to fulfill their dreams of a better life for themselves and their families. As our Foundation Board Chair, Annette Coleman often says, "We are better together!"

Sincerely,

John Gossett
President

RISE Culture of Service Statement

A-B Tech commits to demonstrating an inclusive and welcoming culture of respect, integrity and support for everyone.



A-B Tech's 2024 Student Culinary Team Wins Second American Culinary Federation National

A student team from A-B Tech Community College's renowned Culinary Arts and Hospitality program won the college's second national championship at the 2024 American Culinary Federation (ACF) Nationals. Regional winners vied for the national title during the ACF Annual Convention, held last July in Phoenix.

It marked the 15th time a student team from A-B Tech has competed at ACF Nationals, a feat unmatched by any other

culinary school in the nation. The college's 2007 team also won the coveted national title.

"It has been an amazing journey with a very talented group of students," said team coach and former A-B Tech instructor Chris Bugher, CEC. "It was great to see these students start as individuals and develop into a team, forming friendships and pushing each other to continue to improve their food and skills. They deserved the win, and I couldn't be more

proud. A-B Tech was so supportive of us from day one, and we are so happy to have shown the country the quality of our program."

The team included captain Abbey Franklin, Yajaira Sandoval, Ethyn Jester, Rebecca McElreath, and Avery Lathan. Team coaches were Bugher and Chef Instructor Bronwen McCormick.

"Being on the competition team for the past two years changed my life tremendously," Franklin said. "As captain, I am proud and honored to have been a part of something so special."

"We are very proud of our team and our coaches," said A-B Tech President John Gossett. "This group of student chefs has come together as one unit in exceptional ways,





2025 Culinary Team Gears Up for National Championship in Las Vegas



College's Championship

which resulted not only in finishing first in the country but earning a gold medal, which is measured against perfection."

Gossett also said A-B Tech is grateful to The Biltmore, which sponsored the team, and to the college's Culinary Arts alumni for investing time to help the students prepare for competition.

An A-B Tech's student culinary team will make a record-setting 16th appearance in the 2025 American Culinary Federation (ACF) National Finals this summer.

The college's 2025 team placed first in ACF regional competition in Myrtle Beach this spring, qualifying to defend the national title in Las Vegas in July. A-B Tech's culinary students compete internally each year to earn spots on the competition team.

The 2025 team members are: Jack Ramsey, Carolina Salas, Ezra Hanson (captain), Martin Deyman and Josh Jimison. Team coaches are culinary chef instructors Michelle Bailey and Stephen Hertz.

Cathy Horton, Chair of Hospitality and Culinary Arts, said Bailey is a highly respected chef and A-B Tech culinary alumnus and member of the 2007 national championship team who recently returned to teach at the college. She will take over coaching duties from long-time coach Chris Bugher, who led last year's team to a national title and recently accepted a job in the private sector.

Horton noted that students on this year's team are all competing for the first time. "We were not allowed to have any returning members," she said. "This is a young team with no prior experience. Showing well this year in Vegas will validate our new coaching staff as well as this young team of competitors."

Horton is impressed with what she's seen so far. Hanson has taken on the captain role with confidence, and the students as a group have been open to feedback from their coaches. she said. "They are inquisitive about the process and continual improvement, and show humor and good grace at every practice, no matter how challenging."

Learn more at abtech.edu/culinary.





A-B Tech Celebrates 2025 Commencement with NC Governor Josh Stein

NC Governor Josh Stein joined A-B Tech for its 2025 Commencement on May 10 at Harrah's Cherokee Center in downtown Asheville. Stein delivered addresses at A-B Tech, UNC Asheville and Western Carolina University to recognize graduates impacted by Hurricane Helene and to confirm his commitment to Western North Carolina's ongoing recovery.

A-B Tech President John Gossett presided over the ceremony and Nation Hahn, senior advisor to EducationNC and the Belk Endowment, also delivered a keynote address.

"We always look forward to commencement as the highlight of our academic year when we gather to celebrate our graduates, but it means even more this year," said A-B Tech

President John Gossett. "We are honored that Governor Stein joined us to pay tribute to the Class of 2025. Hurricane Helene was a lifetime event for Western North Carolina that impacted our students, employees and community like few things ever have."

Gossett noted that A-B Tech was closed for a month after Helene struck and it was unclear how many students would return. "As it turned out, most of our students completed either last fall or this spring," he said. "This class is resilient, having experienced Covid and Helene within a few years. Many also are first-generation college students and hold jobs while pursuing their educations and raising





NC Governor Josh Stein speaks at Commencement



families. I would bet on them to succeed wherever they go next."

A-B Tech awarded more than 900 degrees and diplomas for the 2024-25 academic year (fall, spring and summer semesters), and approximately 400 graduates participated in the ceremony.

Learn more about A-B Tech's outstanding 2025 graduates at abtech.edu/commencement-profiles.



A-B Tech **Helps Community Recover**



Main Campus

After Hurricane Helene delivered a devastating blow to Western North Carolina on September 27, 2024, A-B Tech immediately sprang into action to help employees, students and the community we serve. Our main campus hosted a Buncombe County/Red Cross Shelter and Medical Shelter, more than 300 EMS personnel from across the nation, FEMA and Buncombe County disaster relief assistance, and a Community Resources Fair with relief partners. Many employees and students also volunteered, including Construction Management, which helped neighbors with cleanup and repairs and built and donated sheds as temporary housing. Read more on page 12.



A-B Tech Madison

A-B Tech Madison became a hub for Marshall Town Hall, the Marshall Volunteer Fire Department, and wART Radio, all of which suffered extensive storm damage. The college also hosted the Madison County EOC and disaster relief efforts. Read more on page 10.



and Rebuild



A-B Tech Enka

The Small Business Center and Business Incubation program at A-B Tech Enka helped numerous small businesses navigate the complicated processes of applying for grants and loans to rebuild and recover from the storm. The SBC also provided space for the Small Business Administration to meet with applicants. Read more about how the SBC and its alumni helped Asheville Tea Company and other women-owned businesses on page 10.



A-B Tech Woodfin

The heroes at A-B Tech Woodfin's Emergency Services campus were the people who ran into the storm to save lives. Our instructors and students in the law enforcement, fire services and EMS programs were on the ground and helping, even while many were personally affected. The campus also hosted a large FEMA town for more than a month following the storm.



To see our Helene Recovery video and learn more about A-B Tech's post-Helene efforts and involvement, visit abtech.edu/Helene-recovery.

After Helene, A-B Tech Madison Transformed Into Community Hub



Situated on bustling Route 70 in Madison County, A-B Tech Madison has long been tightly connected to the local community. It offers a range of classes for students from high school to retirement age and frequently hosts community gatherings. After Helene, it became a temporary location for

the Marshall Town Hall, Marshall Volunteer Fire Department and wART radio, all of which had facilities that were badly damaged by floodwaters in downtown Marshall.

Led by director Sherri Davis, A-B Tech Madison also became a hub for emergency operations, a community kitchen, and donations. She said A-B Tech President John Gossett asked no questions and told her only that he wanted the college to be “part of the solution” for Madison County. During the month A-B Tech was closed, Davis fielded calls from the community and across the country.

The Marshall Volunteer Fire Department used the campus as headquarters for search and rescue operations. A classroom was quickly converted to a dorm, complete with cots for the crew. Before long, A-B Tech Madison’s parking lot hosted helicopters that brought in supplies from around the country.

“We had people coming in to help from everywhere,” Davis said. Disaster relief organizations included the Church of Christ, Starfish Disaster Recovery and Louisiana Cookers.

The college’s lobby became a food and supply distribution center with everything from bottled water to canned food, diapers, and clothes.

Local radio station wART, an A-B Tech partner, took over one of the quietest classrooms after losing its historic river-side train caboose in the storm. “We have DJs chatting, people coming in to do live interviews. It’s great having them onsite,” said Davis, who is hosting a program about A-B Tech called “Weekly Minutes with Sherri”.

While A-B Tech’s Madison campus has returned to hosting mostly students and instructors, the goodwill from the community remains.

“I feel so blessed to be part of A-B Tech,” she said. “After Helene, everybody was so supportive ... It’s been amazing that even in this time of devastation, sadness and heartbreak, everybody worked together to help each other out.”

A-B Tech’s Small Business Center and WE ARE Help Women-Owned Businesses Recover from Hurricane Helene

What do a local fundraising nonprofit, a tea manufacturer and a mom-and-pop department store have in common? All three are presently rebuilding after Hurricane Helene and have received help along the way from A-B Tech’s Small Business Center (SBC).

In the months since Helene, SBC Director Jill Sparks said many local businesses have come to the A-B Tech Enka-based center for help. The SBC has risen to the call, hosting the Small Business Administration (SBA) and directing business owners to grants, free classes, and loans.



Asheville Tea Company owner Jessie Dean’s new retail space on Thompson Street was destroyed by hurricane flood waters, which swept away her shop and its inventory. In the flood’s aftermath, Dean was able to return to the SBC’s Business Incubation program, which offers affordable rental space and business assistance. Though the program is usually for new entrepreneurs, Sparks said that when she heard about the damage to Asheville Tea Company, she made an exception. “It was the right thing to do,” she said. “Jessie embodies resiliency.”

Dean birthed Asheville Tea Company in the incubator program in 2016 and stayed until 2023, when she left to start her brick-and-mortar shop. Being back at the incubator, Dean said, has allowed her to resume her wholesale and online operations. The incubator provides everything her company needs from shipping and receiving to storage and office space.

“(The incubator) is a wonderful place to come back to,” Dean said. “It’s familiar and supportive and it’s allowed us to hit the ground running.”

Women Helping Women

In Marshall, Helene struck a hard blow to Penland and Sons Department Store, which was badly damaged, along with the majority of the town's main street. "We lost all our invoices, our catalogues, family photos; we lost everything," said Georgette Shelton, one of the owners.

Shelton and her sister, Susan Rector, both in their sixties, had been running the store since their mother died in 2016. With its tall wooden shelves, high ceilings and display of antiques, the store was well known for its timeless atmosphere. Though they'd dealt with floods before, neither had tackled a disaster of this scale and they weren't sure what to do next. A friend told Shelton about the SBC's free classes in grant writing. "My sister and I are trying our best not to have any kind of loans," Shelton said.

At the SBC, Sparks told Shelton about possible next steps, including loans and grants.

The store was able to apply for a \$30,000 grant through Women's Asheville Recovery Endeavor (WE ARE), a new women-run nonprofit. Founded by Meg Ragland of Plum Print, Ginger Frank of Poppy Hand-Crafted Popcorn and Allison Blake and Elsa Van Arnam of SoulKu jewelry within weeks of the hurricane, WE ARE raised money for damaged women-owned businesses by raffling off donations of local services and goods.

Coincidentally, Plum Print, a book publisher that preserves children's artwork, is a former client of the SBC and the incubator program. Ragland moved her business from Brooklyn to Asheville in 2013 and was able to grow while in the incubator program, expanding into larger spaces as needed. "We were growing so fast, she said. I don't know what we would've done if we'd signed a lease. We needed that flexibility."

The fundraising knowledge she has now, Ragland said, can be traced back to her early roots at the SBC. "Those skills came from the beginning when we did our seed round of funding," She said. "I can trace every business relationship back to the incubator when we were getting started. It comes full circle."

Since the hurricane, more than 100 local female-owned businesses have applied to WE ARE for hurricane relief funding. The nonprofit raised over \$180,000 last year and awarded four grants, two of which went to Dean and Shelton, who received \$30,000 each to help rebuild their businesses. By helping support her fellow entrepreneurs, Ragland feels she has come full circle since her time at the incubator.

"Women-owned businesses are often underfunded compared to men-owned businesses," Ragland said. "We've been so supported by our community, and we wanted to give back."

The money she received will help Shelton restore the shop that's been in her family for over a century. "We are trying to keep (the atmosphere) the same because people love the old nostalgia," she said.

Learn more about A-B Tech's Small Business Center at [**abtech.edu/SBC**](http://abtech.edu/SBC).



To donate to WE ARE, visit [**weareasheville.org/pages/donate**](http://weareasheville.org/pages/donate).
To donate to Penland and Sons, visit [**gofund.me/48399aee**](http://gofund.me/48399aee).
To donate to Asheville Tea, visit [**ashevilletateacompany.com/products/donate-to-us**](http://ashevilletateacompany.com/products/donate-to-us)

A-B Tech Construction Program Helps Community with Volunteer Efforts and Rebuilding

When Hurricane Helene struck, Construction Department Chair Heath Moody's classes had been in session for six weeks, teaching the basics of roofing, flooring and drywall. During the month A-B Tech was closed, Moody offered his students credit for doing local cleanup and rebuilding.

Moody's construction class, which regularly builds 8' by 8' sheds in class, also donated three structures to the

Community Housing Coalition of Madison County (CHC), to provide temporary shelter for families along Marshall's Rollins Street area, where many homes were washed away. One of the structures went to an elderly woman and her daughter, serving as an extension to a mobile home they

lived in while their home was being repaired.

Moody said he'd like to undertake more class projects that address social issues such as homelessness. "Students really take ownership and pride when they know they're going to help the communities in which they live," he said.

With so much of Western Carolina damaged, he said construction students are in a unique position to help rebuild the area. The demand for workers has increased steadily over the years, but more construction and skilled trades workers are needed now more than ever.

"More people are retiring out of the field," Moody said. "There are not many young contractors in the state. There was a shortage of labor before, and now we have tons more construction to do. It's inevitable there will be more jobs."

To meet the community need, Moody said, A-B Tech has been developing new short-term certificates for people who would like to gain skills and put them to use quickly. New programs include a residential design certificate and a sustainable agriculture and construction certificate.

"Shelter is a basic human need," Moody said. "The world can fall apart around you and if you have that skill, you can help build shelter anywhere in the world and find yourself helpful in that community."

Learn more about A-B Tech's construction programs at abtech.edu/construction.

Continuing Education Launches Mobile Skilled Trades Trailer for Rural Training

A-B Tech is bringing education to remote rural areas this fall via a new Mobile Skilled Trades Trailer that began as an award-winning idea and was further developed with input from rural communities and demand for skilled trades instruction.

Two years ago, the college's Occupational and Skilled Trades (OST) program won the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship's (NACCE) 2023 "Pitch for the Skilled Trades Competition" and was one of five community colleges nationwide to win a portion of an annual \$150,000 grant sponsored by the Philip E. and Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation.



OST's pitch was for a Mobile Trades Academy delivered via a trailer to bring trades like blacksmithing, welding, and woodworking to students across the state who otherwise wouldn't be able to access training. Since then, A-B Tech conducted listening sessions in its service area of Buncombe and Madison counties and learned that one of the most in-demand programs was plumbing.

The initial grant from the Ratcliffe Foundation helped purchase a 16-foot trailer that houses equipment and hands-on training materials. The program also raised additional funds to wrap the trailer and purchase equipment needed for the initial plumbing course, which begins in September in Madison County. Other skilled trade programs and locations will be added as needs are identified.

To register for plumbing and other continuing education courses, visit abtech.edu/ce-registration.

Career & College Promise High School Dual Enrollment Program Provides Tuition-Free Classes and a Head Start on College

By Dr. Fairley Patton



Fairley Patton, EdD,
Vice President for Student Services

A-B Tech has long stood as a champion of opportunity and accessibility in higher education, particularly through its Career and College Promise (CCP) dual enrollment program, which offers high school students in Buncombe and Madison counties a head start on their college education at a fraction of the cost.

CCP students not only earn college credits that are transferable to all public NC universities, but also gain exposure to the college environment early in their academic careers. The program serves as a crucial bridge for students transitioning from high school to college, helping them acclimate to higher education demands in a supportive environment.

The growth of the program at A-B Tech is testament to its success and appeal. From 2012 to 2025, the program expanded by over 175 percent, reflecting both its popularity and increasing recognition of its value to students and parents. This surge in enrollment highlights the trust and interest from the community and underscores the college's commitment to providing accessible educational pathways.

One of the most compelling aspects of the dual enrollment program at A-B Tech is its affordability. Tuition and most fees are waived for participating students, who are only responsible for consumable fees, textbooks and supplies. CCP significantly lowers the financial barrier to higher education, opening the door for many students who might otherwise be unable to afford college and enabling them to begin accumulating credits without financial strain.

For many high school students, dual enrollment is more than just an academic program; it is a gateway to future opportunities. CCP students can get ahead in their education, exploring their interests and making more informed decisions about career paths and academic majors before even graduating from high school. CCP partnerships with our local school systems also have increased access for underserved student populations in rural areas such as Madison County.

Dual enrollment significantly impacts the region by building a more educated workforce equipped with the skills and knowledge to meet local employment demands. Students often choose courses that align with high-demand industries, giving them a competitive advantage in the job market after graduation. In addition to College Transfer options, dual enrollment at A-B Tech includes hands-on, career-focused programs in fields like Artificial Intelligence, Aviation, Construction, Cosmetology, Culinary, Electrical Systems, Engineering, Welding, and more. CCP provides

pathways for nearly every student and industry, advancing both individual opportunity and regional economic growth.

CCP also fosters a culture of lifelong learning and continuous improvement, which are vital in today's rapidly changing world. Students who participate in dual enrollment are more likely to continue their education beyond high school and achieve higher academic credentials. In recent years, more CCP students also have earned A-B Tech degrees before graduating high school. Sixty CCP students earned A-B Tech degrees in 2024.

With its impressive growth, commitment to affordability, and focus on equity, A-B Tech's CCP program exemplifies the college's mission to provide meaningful teaching and learning experiences that respect and support every student's journey. For students in Buncombe and Madison counties, dual enrollment is not just about earning college credits, it's about opening doors to a brighter future.

To learn more, visit abtech.edu/CCP.

Trailblazer Success

A-B Tech is featuring alumni and student success stories through Trailblazer Success profiles. Miles Hollifield earned an Associate in Science transfer degree with honors from A-B Tech in 2023. He is now a student in the NC State School of Engineering, where he received a prestigious Goodnight Scholarship and Siemens internship.



"If you attend A-B Tech you'll save money and get a quality education."

- Miles Hollifield
NC State School of Engineering and A-B Tech Associate in Science AAS

2025-26 Curriculum Program List

Associate in Applied Science (AAS)

Accounting and Finance
Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Technology
Automotive Systems Technology
Aviation Management & Career Pilot Technology - Aviation Management
Aviation Management & Career Pilot Technology - Career Pilot

Biomedical Equipment Technology

Brewing, Distillation and Fermentation
Business Administration: General Business Administration
Business Administration: Marketing & Retailing

Business Administration: Sports Management

Cardiovascular Sonography
Computer Engineering Technology
Computer-Integrated Machining
Construction Management Technology
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice Technology
Culinary Arts
Dental Hygiene
Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology
Early Childhood Education
Early Childhood: Licensure Transfer Track
Early Childhood: Non-Licensure Transfer Track
Electrical Systems Technology
Electronics Engineering Technology
Emergency Medical Science
Emergency Medical Science Bridge Program

Geomatics Technology

Health and Fitness Science
Hospitality Management
Information Technology: Information Systems
Information Technology: Network Management
Information Technology: Software and Web Development
Information Technology: Systems Security

Information Technology: Artificial Intelligence

Mechanical Engineering Technology
Mechatronics Engineering Technology
Medical Laboratory Technology

Medical Laboratory Technology: Accelerated

Medical Office Administration
Medical Sonography
Nursing - Associate Degree
Nursing - RIBN
Nursing - LPN to ADN Advanced Placement Option
Nursing - Paramedic to ADN Advanced Placement Option
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Office Management: General Office
Office Management: Finance Radiography
Social and Human Services: Addiction & Recovery Transfer Track
Social and Human Services: Mental Health Transfer Track

Social and Human Services: Child Advocacy Studies Transfer Track

Social and Human Services: Addiction & Recovery Career Track
Social and Human Services: Mental Health Career Track

Social and Human Services: Child Advocacy Studies Career Track

Social and Human Services: Generalist Track

Surgical Technology
Surgical Technology Bridge
Veterinary Medical Technology
Welding Technology

Diplomas

Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Technology
Automotive Systems Technology
Biomedical Equipment Technology
Brewing Methods and Operations
Building Construction Science
Computer Engineering Technology
Computer-Integrated Machining
Cosmetology
Dental Assisting
Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology
Distillation Methods and Operations
Electrical Systems Technology
Mechatronics Engineering Technology - Maintenance & Reliability

Medical Assisting

Medical Office Administration
Office Management
Nursing - Practical Nursing
Social and Human Services
Welding Technology

Certificates

Accounting and Finance
Addiction & Recovery Studies
Advanced Electrical Wiring
Advanced Machine Operator
Automotive Systems Technology - Certificate I
Automotive Systems Technology - Certificate II

Aviation - Instrument Rating
Aviation - Private Pilot
Baking and Pastry Arts
Basic Emergency Medical Science
Basic Law Enforcement Training
Basic Welding

Biomedical Equipment Technology

Building Instrumentation & Control
Business Administration
CNC Machine Programmer
Computer Engineering Technology

Construction & Millwork

Construction Management Technology

Cooling
Cosmetology Instructor
Culinary Studies
Craft Beverage Lab
Criminal Justice Technology
Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology
Early Childhood
Early Childhood Administration
EDM & Fixture Specialist
Electrical Construction
Electrical Wiring
Electronics Manufacturing
Entrepreneurship

Essentials to Social Media Marketing

Essentials of Sports Management

Esthetics Instructor
Esthetics Technology
Food Truck Operations

Foundations of Business and Financial Literacy

Foundations of Economics and Financial Literacy

Geomatics Technology Land Surveying Fundamentals

Green Building & Carpentry

Group Fitness Instructor

Heating
Hospitality Management

Infant/Toddler Care
 Information Technology:
 Computer Fundamentals
 Information Technology:
 GIS Fundamentals
 Information Technology:
 PC Installation & Maintenance
 Information Technology:
 Network Systems Administration
 Information Technology:
 CCNA Preparation
 Information Technology:
 Database Management
 Information Technology:
 Front-End Developer
 Information Technology:
 Back-End Developer
 Information Technology:
 Cyber Forensics Analyst
 Information Technology:
 Systems Security
Information Technology:
 Artificial Intelligence
 Manicuring Instructor
 Manicuring/Nail Technology
 Mechanical Engineering Technology:
 Automation & Robotics
 Mechatronics Engineering Technology:
 Basic Industrial Maintenance
 Medical Office Administration:
 Medical Coding
 Mental Health Studies
 Office Management
Office Management:
 Virtual Office
 Online Hospitality Management
 Practical Meat Cutting
 Quality & Lean Six-Sigma
 Retail Marketing
Residential Design
 Restaurant Management
 Robotics & Multi-Axis Machining
 Robotic Welding
 Solar Photovoltaic Energy Technology
Sustainability
Sustainable Agriculture and Construction
Therapeutic Baking

**Highlighted programs are new or revised*

Get Help with Fall Enrollment

Registration is now open for 2025 Fall Semester classes that begin **August 25**. Following is information to help prospective students explore programs and classes, apply for financial aid and scholarships, schedule a campus tour or watch a video tour, and more. We also invite you to call our Information Center at 828.398.7900.

Admissions:

admissions@abtech.edu
or 828.398.7886

- Application
- Residency
- Program placement and testing
- High school transcripts

Outreach and Recruiting:

abtech.edu/campus-tours
or 828.398.7144

- Campus tours
- Open houses

Advising:

advising@abtech.edu
or 828.398.7900

- Selecting a program
- International students

Financial Aid:

FinancialAidOffice@abtech.edu
or 828.398.7920/7596

- FAFSA
- Financial Aid
- Scholarships
- NextNC Scholarship (apply at **abtech.edu/NextNC**)

Registrar:

registrar@abtech.edu
or 828.398.7900

- College transcripts

Explore programs: **abtech.edu**

Highlighted Opportunities for the 2025-26 Academic Year



New:

- **Business Administration**
 - ◆ Essentials of Social Media Marketing
 - ◆ Essentials of Sports Management
 - ◆ Foundations of Business and Financial Literacy
 - ◆ Foundations of Economics and Financial Literacy
- **Electrical Systems Technology: Electrical wiring in Spanish**
- **Health and Fitness Science: Group Fitness Instructor**
- **Medical Assisting: Now offered as one-year diploma program**
- **Office Management: Virtual Office**
- **Social and Human Services**
 - ◆ Child Advocacy Studies Transfer Track
 - ◆ Child Advocacy Studies Career Track
 - ◆ Generalist Track

New last fall (interrupted by Helene):

- **Artificial Intelligence AAS**
- **Biomedical Equipment Technology AAS and Certificate**

Continuing Education and Workforce Development:

- **Child Maltreatment and Advocacy certificates**
- **Mobile Skilled Trades Trailer**
- **Plumbing**
- **Per Scholas IT Support**

Programs to Help Rebuild Our Community:

- **Construction Management Technology AAS**
 - ◆ Construction and Millwork
 - ◆ Green Building and Carpentry
 - ◆ Sustainable Agriculture and Construction
- **Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Technology (HVAC)**
- **Electrical wiring (also available in Spanish)**
- **Geomatics Technology AAS and Land Surveying Certificate**
- **Plumbing**
- **Welding**

Explore these programs and more at A-B Tech's Skilled Trades & Technology Open House on July 22. Learn more and register at abtech.edu/welcome.

News Briefs

2025 Employee Awards

Six employees were honored as A-B Tech's 2025 Employees of the Year during the college's spring picnic on May 7. They were nominated by peers and students earlier in the year, and final selections were made by the college's Faculty Senate, Staff Association, and Continuing Education Division.

All winners receive a certificate and cash prize from A-B Tech. The Faculty Member of the Year and Staff Member of the Year also will be submitted in a statewide contest this fall. President John Gossett presented awards to the following employees:

Faculty Member of the Year:

Maggie Poist, English Instructor

Staff Member of the Year:

Heather Pack, Student Support Services Director

Continuing Education Instructor of the Year:

Karla Moore, EMS Instructor

Advisor of the Year:

Paula Hayes, Academic Advisor

Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year:

Bill Sanderson, Biology Instructor

Part-Time Staff Member of the Year:

Patrick Manion, Technology Support Technician



Uhren



Garcia

Student Government Association Officers

Newly elected Student Government Association (SGA) officers for the 2025-26 academic year are President Robert Uhren, who is studying Web and Software Development, and Vice President Barbara Garcia who is an Engineering Transfer student.

2025 Student Awards

Three A-B Tech students were nominated by the college this year for awards given by the NC Community Colleges System.

Ezrah Hanson, Culinary

NC Community College System Academic Excellence Award: Winner

Jair Lopez Molina, Cardiovascular Sonography

NCCCS Dallas Herring Award: Nominee

Joseph Cipollina, Construction

NCCCS Gov. Robert W. Scott Student Leadership Award: Nominee



Campus Events

HSE Graduation



Spring BLET Graduation



K. Ray Bailey Golf Tournament



Scholarship Soirée



Campus **Events**

Student Art Show



Earth Day and Fall Festival



Calendar of Events

July 22 **Skilled Trades Open House**

July 26 **FAFSA Saturday**

July 31 **New Student Welcome Day**

August 9 **FAFSA Saturday**

August 25 **Fall Semester begins**

October 16 **Autumn in Asheville**



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Fall 2025 classes begin August 25

For more information, visit abtech.edu/welcome or call 828.398.7900.

Register NOW for Fall Classes that begin August 25!

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