

MAKING EDUCATION WORK FOR VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA'S HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS

TECHNICAL TRAINING
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
GED® & COLLEGE DEGREE PROGRAMS
INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATIONS
STEM-H & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

WHY ARE VIRGINIA'S HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS IMPORTANT?

Virginia's Higher Education Centers are essential to meeting the needs of the workforce and offer programs that range from industry certifications to doctoral degrees. The Centers serve regions without easy access to four-year colleges, contributing to academic equity for place-bound residents and providing positive economic impact to their respective communities. During FY21, the Centers awarded more than 5,000 degrees and certifications in agribusiness, energy, healthcare, information technology, social work, K-12 endorsements, and more.



**SUPPORT OF
HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS**

EDUCATED & TRAINED WORKFORCE

**INCREASED ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY**



“ VIRGINIA'S HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS BRING REAL-TIME, RELEVANT EDUCATION, TRAINING AND RESEARCH DIRECTLY TO THEIR COMMUNITIES. THEY ARE PART OF WHAT MAKES VIRGINIA THE BEST STATE FOR EDUCATION. ”

PETER BLAKE
DIRECTOR OF STATE COUNCIL
OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA

21 INSTITUTIONS

VIRGINIA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES REPRESENTED

44 LOCALITIES

VIRGINIA COUNTIES AND CITIES SERVICED

50+

DEGREE PROGRAMS OFFERED

1,000+ CERTIFICATIONS

INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATIONS OFFERED

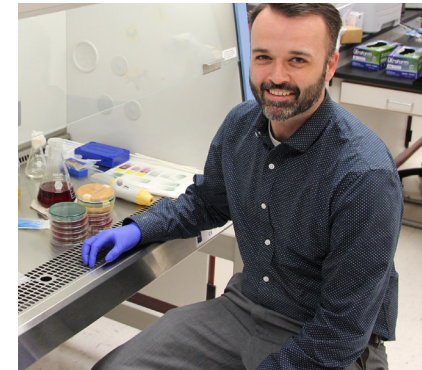
30,000+ LEARNERS

ENGAGED DURING FY2021

ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$150 MILLION+

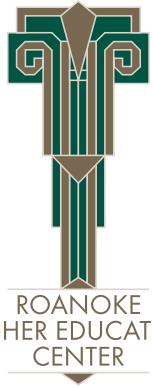
ESTIMATED BASED ON VALUE-ADDED EFFECTS, TAX REVENUE FROM PROJECTED INCOME INCREASES, JOBS CREATED, CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND OTHER METRICS



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ROANOKE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER
ROANOKE, VA
www.Education.edu

Over 200 programs of study are offered at the Roanoke Higher Education Center (RHEC) from 13 colleges and workforce agencies. Virginia Tech, one of the partners, delivers a Counselor Education degree program. During 2020-21 students provided 13,884 hours of free counseling to citizens in the Roanoke and New River Valleys, and a conservative value of these services is \$277,680. The diversity of the population adds to the student experience. Dr. Gerard Lawson, a professor in the program, states, "Our current students and alumni have seen a tremendous increase in needs for mental health support during the pandemic." The Counselor Education Training Clinic, located on the 7th floor of the RHEC, offers ideal space for both classroom and clinical learning.



NEW COLLEGE INSTITUTE
MARTINSVILLE, VA
www.NewCollegeInstitute.org

New College Institute (NCI) continues to make great strides toward its goal of becoming a premier rural center for innovation, workforce training, certification and academic excellence. NCI's state-of-the-art facility and cutting-edge distance learning capabilities underpin a wide variety of workforce and academic training opportunities. Notably, NCI's STAR Telemental Health program trained 2,991 practitioners around the globe, helping to meet the rapidly growing demand for telehealth professionals. Additionally, NCI became the first site in Virginia certified to offer Global Wind Organization (GWO) certification for wind turbine technicians in support of Virginia's growing renewable energy industry.



INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED LEARNING AND RESEARCH
DANVILLE, VA
www.IALR.org

The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) has leveraged and matched more than \$30 million in grant funds from GO Virginia, the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission, the Department of Defense and others to propel hands-on learning and research. From controlled environment agriculture to advanced manufacturing, IALR leads robust applied learning programs. Initiatives include Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO TEC), Accelerated Training in Defense Manufacturing (ATDM) and a strengthened apprenticeship and work-based learning program through a new *ExperienceWorks* framework — all to produce career-ready talent and drive economic transformation.



SOUTHWEST VA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER
ABINGDON, VA
www.SWCenter.edu

The Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center (SWVHEC) was awarded \$1 million by the Commonwealth of Virginia to administer the Virginia Rural Information Technology Apprenticeship Program. This program will support small, rural information technology businesses in 17 counties and five cities in the Southwest and Southside regions of Virginia to establish 18-month apprenticeship programs for full-time employees that combine mentorship and on-the-job training to enhance employees' experience and skills. The program's aim is to create post- and potentially pre-college technology jobs in rural areas with the goal of fostering technological economic development.



SOUTHERN VA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER
SOUTH BOSTON, VA
www.SVHEC.org

By partnering with state colleges and universities, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (SVHEC) provides affordable access to college degrees, hands-on job training, and supportive services for students and regional businesses. The SVHEC's hands-on training programs offer 27 industry-recognized certifications, and in FY21 Workforce Training students earned 307 credentials that allowed for career advancement and professional growth — all while keeping those professionals in our region. With the launch of the Career Tech Academy (CTA) in FY 2019, access to these in-demand programs extended to high school juniors and seniors from three underserved school districts. Since its inception 100 CTA students have earned 56 career studies certificates and 202 industry-recognized credentials.

