

LINN STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

E-NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2013



LSTC

IMPORTANT DATES

- Dec. 3** — Fall CAAP Testing for December Graduates
- Dec. 9**—Spring 2014 New Student Registration & Orientation
- Dec. 17-19**—Fall Semester Finals
- Dec. 19** — Fall Semester Ends
- Dec. 20** — Winter Break Begins
- Dec. 23-Jan. 1**—College Closed
- Jan. 2**—LSTC Staff Returns
- Jan. 7**—Spring Classes Begin
- Jan. 20**—College Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Feb. 12**—Career Expo @ LSTC
- Feb. 17**—College Closed for President's Day
- Feb. 27**—Career Expo @ the Advanced Technology Center
- March 4**—End of 1st 8 Weeks
- March 5**—Beginning of 2nd 8 Weeks
- March 7**—Advisory Council Meeting/ No Classes
- March 17-21**—Spring Break/No Classes
- April 4**—State SkillsUSA/No Classes
- April 7-15**—CAAP Testing for May and August Graduates
- April 18**—College Closed for Free Day
- May 6-8**—Spring Semester Finals
- May 9**—Spring Semester Ends
- May 10**—Commencement
- May 15**—Summer Classes Begin

NEW NAME FOR LINN STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Gov. Nixon endorses name change for Missouri's only state technical college

Gov. Jay Nixon signed legislation officially changing Linn State Technical College's name to the **State Technical College of Missouri**. The name change will take effect July 1, 2014.

House Bill 673, sponsored by Rep. Dave Schatz, was introduced to better reflect the college's statewide role under current Missouri law and poses no additional cost to the state. Enrollment at the college consistently represents over 80 percent of Missouri counties and its graduates fuel the state's technical workforce.

"This name change truly represents our service to the entire state," said Dr. Donald Claycomb, LSTC President. "Our graduates receive unparalleled technical instruction which prepares them to enter and support Missouri's industrial workforce."

Enrollment at the college has grown 58

percent over the last 16 years and its role in higher education is unique. As the only state technical college in Missouri, Linn State's curriculum balances hands-on technical courses with a strong foundation in communication, problem solving, decision-making and critical thinking. In 2012 alone, LSTC facilitated over \$900,000 in workforce development through customized training for Missouri businesses.

"We look forward to our continued excellence in technical preparation," notes Claycomb. "This name change doesn't eliminate the history and tradition of Linn State, but rather celebrates and defines what we've been providing to the state all along."

Linn State offers over 35 programs and options at the Associate of Applied Science degree and certificate levels. Since 1995, 95 percent of LSTC graduates have found gainful employment or continued their education within six months of graduation.

For more information visit www.linnstate.edu/namechange.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC RECORDS AND REGISTRAR UPDATE

Spring 2014 Registration. Registration for Spring 2014 classes opened in October and will remain open through the beginning of the spring semester. Ask your student if he/she is registered for spring classes, and if he/she's not, encourage him/her to register as quickly as possible. Registration process information was emailed to all students via Eagle Mail. If your student loses his/her schedule before the start of the spring semester, a new one can be printed from Linn State's portal (MyLSTC) via www.linnstate.edu. Billing information is also available to students in the portal.

Grades and Unofficial Transcripts. Paper grade reports are not mailed to students at the end of the semester. Students should log into MyLSTC and click on the My Grades link. Unofficial transcripts are also available here. Many vehicle insurance companies allow students to mail in unofficial transcripts in lieu of the college completing a form for students to renew their Good Student discounts!

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Order an LSTC Care Package for your Student!

Remember the excitement of opening the mailbox and finding a care package inside? Why not pay it forward to your student. The package will be delivered to your student on Wednesday, December 11, just in time for finals. There is a large list of items to choose from to create a fun and unique care package for your college student during their final schedule for the Fall 2013 semester. To see the care packages that are available, please visit <https://lstccarepackage.eventbrite.com>. Deadline to order is December 4.

Questions? Email aaron.kliethermes@linnstate.edu



OFFICE OF ACADEMIC RECORDS AND REGISTRAR UPDATE (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

December 2013 Graduation. LSTC confers degrees at the end of every semester (May, August, and December), but commencement ceremonies are held in May only. Graduates from the previous fall semester, spring applicants, and approved summer applicants may participate each May. Diplomas will be mailed to December graduates in January. Watch for commencement details on the LSTC website, www.linnstate.edu, in the spring.

May 2014 Graduation. Students should apply for May graduation during the fall semester so that a graduation review

can be conducted before starting the last semester of classes. This gives students the opportunity to make any necessary schedule changes before classes begin. Please ask your student if he/she has applied for graduation, and if not, please encourage him/her to submit the application for graduation as soon as possible. The application is available on Linn State's website and at the Academic Records office. Your student must apply for graduation even if he/she does not plan to participate in a May commencement ceremony.

Questions? Email registrar@linnstate.edu

FINANCIAL AID UPDATE

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

According to federal regulations, students must make satisfactory academic progress to remain eligible for financial aid. To remain eligible for financial aid, students must maintain an overall semester Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.000 or above on a 4.000 scale. Students must also satisfactorily earn a minimum number of credit hours. Please visit <http://www.linnstate.edu/financialaid/satisfactoryacademic.php> for LSTC's complete financial aid satisfactory academic policy. It is extremely important for students receiving financial aid to attend classes regularly. Missing classes can impact their final grades. Please note other funding sources may have more stringent criteria than the 2.000 GPA.

A+ Students

Does your student receive A+ benefits? If so, here are some important eligibility requirements to remember:

- Renewal students must maintain a cumulative 2.500 Grade Point Average (GPA).
- A+ will only pay for classes required for first degree.
- A+ will not pay for any retake classes.
- A+ will only pay for completed coursework. Completed courses are those for which a grade is assigned. If students do not complete a class(es), the tuition and fees for the class(es) will be deducted from the next semester the student receives A+.

- A+ eligibility expires when the student has completed 105% of credit hours required for their degree program. All completed hours at previous A+ institutions will be used to determine 105%. The number of hours accepted as transfer credit from non-A+ institutions will be used to determine 105%.
- Students must be enrolled full-time (12 credit hours) unless they are enrolled in an off-campus internship only or are enrolled in their last semester prior to graduation.

At the end of each semester, students will receive an e-mail notification regarding their eligibility for A+ funding the following semester. Please remind students to check their LSTC student email account regularly. More information regarding the A+ program can be found at <http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/aplus scholarship.php>.

FAFSA Reminder

If your student plans to return to Linn State Technical College for the Fall 2014 semester and receive financial aid, a 2014-15 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form should be completed. This FAFSA form will be available in January 2014. The Financial Aid Office encourages students and parents to complete their 2013 federal tax return as soon as possible. LSTC's priority FAFSA deadline is April 1, 2014. LSTC's college code is 004711-00.

Questions? Email financialaid@linnstate.edu

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Moodle Upgrade

When students return for the Spring 2014 semester, they will see an upgraded Moodle. A major upgrade of the college's Moodle learning management system will take place between the fall and spring semesters.

Moodle is the college's online learning management system where students can see grades, attendance, job readiness scores, and assignments for their courses. The upgraded Moodle will have a new look and feel and will sport a number of enhancements including the ability to drag and drop files to an assignment and the ability to dock blocks freeing up screen space to show more of a course's main page.

Students have received an initial notice via email concerning the upgrade. Students will receive additional notices via their student email accounts during November and December that will include instructions on using the new features included in the upgraded Moodle.

Questions? Email helpdesk@linnstate.edu

LINN STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE PREPARES STUDENTS FOR PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT AND A LIFE OF LEARNING



STUDENT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Greetings from Student Activities!

LSTC clubs and organizations have been very busy this year. Here are a few 2013 highlights:

Student Government Association:

The Student Government Association (SGA) recently hosted an annual Red Cross Blood Drive on campus. SGA also hosted Bongo Ball. In December, SGA will provide free holiday treats to all students.



Home Builders Association:

The Home Builders Association (HBA) Student Chapter recently hosted the Humans vs. Zombies game on campus. Students tried to escape the zombies and stay human for a week! Students won prizes for the most humans turned to zombies and the last human standing.

Phi Beta Lambda:

The Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) organization hosted a holiday party for all students on campus with treats for everyone.

Phi Theta Kappa:

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) held the annual fall induction ceremony and the C4 Initiative to encourage students to complete their degrees and graduate.

Veterans Club:

The Veterans Club recently honored the student and local veterans with a free lunch on Veterans Day. The Veterans Club also hosted a bake sale on campus with all profits being donated to the Central Missouri Honor Flight.

COUNSELING SERVICES UPDATE

Family Warnings About Binge Drinking Can Influence College Students' Alcohol Use

By Join Together Staff | July 18, 2013

Retrieved from www.drugfree.org/join-together

College students who hear warnings about binge drinking from family or friends are more likely to be concerned about their own alcohol use, compared with their classmates who don't hear such advice, a new study suggests.

Researchers at Penn State's College of Education found students who were not distressed about their binge drinking did not have other people who expressed concern to them about their alcohol consumption, Medical Xpress reports.

"On the other hand, when a friend or family member expressed concerns to a student about her or his excessive drinking, it can help the student reflect on their alcohol consumption and begin to take steps to reduce it," lead researcher Jeffrey Hayes noted in a university news release.

The results come from data gathered by the Center for Collegiate Mental Health, a network of almost 200 university counseling centers around the country. The study is published in the Journal of College Counseling.

According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, about four out of five college students drink alcohol, and about half of college students who drink, also consume alcohol through binge drinking.

Intramurals:

Intramural sports are a great way for students to get involved on campus, meet new friends, and stay fit. This fall, students competed in slow-pitch softball, sand volleyball, 5-on-5 basketball, badminton, disc golf, ping pong, and archery. Next semester, students can play 3-on-3 basketball, volleyball, dodge ball, ping pong, slow-pitch softball, flag football and kickball. All intramurals are free to students.



Current LSTC Clubs and Organizations:

American Public Works Student Chapter
 Associated General Contractors
 Aviation Club
 Career Ready Club
 Computer Club
 Electricity Club
 Home Builders Association (HBA) Student Chapter
 Machine Tool Club
 PAS/Horticulture Club
 Phi Theta Kappa
 Physical Therapist Assistant Club
 Resident Government Association
 SkillsUSA
 Student Government Association
 Veteran Students Club



College Family Resource

Download your copy of
***WHAT EVERY PARENT
 NEEDS TO KNOW***
*(information about alcohol
 & other college health
 issues)*

by visiting

[http://pip.missouri.edu/docs/
 PDFs/Parents.pdf](http://pip.missouri.edu/docs/PDFs/Parents.pdf).

This brochure is published by Partners in Prevention (PIP). PIP is Missouri's higher education substance abuse consortium dedicated to creating healthy and safe college campuses. For more information visit <http://pip.missouri.edu>.

BECOME A LINN STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE FACEBOOK FAN!

facebook

CAREER SERVICES UPDATE

It takes a lot more than “want to” to get a job after college. It takes planning and action.

It's easy to say “I want a good job when I graduate.” It's hard to define what that means to you. And it takes planning and action to get that job.

Your career services staff can't get you a job, but they can **help** you get a job.

What Career Services Can and Cannot Do For You

Career Services staff can market their services to students and encourage them to take advantage of the career services available, but they cannot force students to use career services.

You've heard the old saying: *You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink.* Well, career services staff provides a broad range of career services, but we cannot force students to use these services. We offer services that are relevant to students at **all** stages of their education, so career services is relevant to **all** students. We also offer FREE “Lifetime Career Services Assistance” to our graduates. All you have to do is ask!

Career Services staff can help students explore and evaluate their career and employment options, but they cannot place students into specific jobs.

It sure would be nice (and would certainly be easy) if students could walk into the career services office just before graduation and choose a job from a variety of opportunities prepared exclusively for them. Unfortunately, getting a job is not like ordering dinner or shopping for a new outfit.

By law, career services staff **cannot** select candidates or make hiring decisions on behalf of employers; employers have to make these hiring decisions themselves, and that means students have to be prepared to apply for jobs and present their qualifications in interviews.

I don't know about you, but I wouldn't want someone else choosing a job for me; I would want to be a part of that process. Students, get involved in the process – it's your life, after all!

Career Services staff can build recruiting relationships with employers, but they cannot force employers to come to their campuses or recruit for the types of jobs students want.

Employers recruit on our campus when they need to. This fall, several employers participated in an “Employer Spotlight” where they gave a presentation about their company to a single major, or multiple majors, and/or conducted Practice Job Interviews with students. Please ask your student if they participated in a Practice Job Interview with an employer, and what they thought about that experience. Career Services hosts an annual Career Expo (Job Fair) in February each year where employers come to campus from all across Missouri and several states outside of Missouri to meet with students for internships and full time jobs/careers after graduation. Students will have the opportunity to meet and interview with employers during the Career Expos. Last year more than 100 companies attended and met with over 1000 students. There will be 3 Career Expos hosted by Career

Services this year. November 21st is for Commercial Turf & Grounds Management students on the main campus, February 27th is for Nuclear Students at the ATC in Mexico, and February 12th on the main campus is for all other programs.

Lastly, on-campus interviewing is not the only tool employers use to recruit entry-level talent from Linn State Technical College. As a job seeker, your job is to understand the hiring dynamics of the industries you wish to enter and adjust your job search strategies to those dynamics. The career service staff can help you do this!

What Career Services Will and Won't Do

Career Services staff will advise and assist students in planning and crafting effective resumes and critique drafts of resumes, but will not write resumes for students.

Sorry, we can't do this work for you. All students are required to take the Job Search Strategies (COM125) class prior to graduation, which teaches them to plan and organize a job search, compose job search documents such as a resumes, cover letters, references, job applications, and follow-up letters, and demonstrate job-ready behaviors. This class is taught by the Communications Department Instructors. The

Career Services staff is available to help students one on one with their resume if they want or need additional assistance with writing their resume. All resume formats are not created equal, so don't just download and use the first resume template you can find. What might make sense for a drafting student probably doesn't make sense for a mechanic student. There is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all resume. Your resume is a marketing document. Treat it like one!

Career Services staff will contact employers on behalf of all students, but we will not contact employers on behalf of individual students exclusively.

Sorry, the career services staff is not your personal job search agent. Career services won't contact employers with your resume trying to convince them that you are a great candidate worthy of consideration. They work on behalf of all students at your institution. They do a lot of employer relationship building in order to make employers aware of the recruiting services they offer and the talents and qualifications their students possess. They reach out to a lot of employers, and a lot of employers use their recruiting services, but **you** have to apply for jobs, and **you** have to close the deal.

Okay, enough of the heavy stuff.

When it comes to exploring and pursuing your career options, connect with Glenda and Lindsey, your Career Services staff, located in NTC 107. We look forward to working with you. Best of Luck! **Questions?** Email careerservices@linnstate.edu

2014 LSTC Career Expos

February 12, 2014 @ the Main Campus in Linn, MO for all majors except CTG, MNT, PTA

February 27, 2014 @ at the ATC in Mexico, MO for Nuclear Technology students

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING LINN STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE!

LSTC NATIONAL RECOGNITION 2012-2013

- Ranked 6th by Bankrate.com as one of the Top 10 Community Colleges in the US of the 900 evaluated.
- Ranked 7th by StateUniversity.com for Best Community Colleges.
- Ranked 11th by Washington Monthly's 2013 Community College Rankings.
- Ranked 16th by StateUniversity.com for Safest Community Colleges.
- Ranked 39th by CNN Money out of two year colleges.
- Ranked 44th by TheBestSchools.org out of two year colleges.
- Top 10% of all two year colleges by The Aspen Institute for the last two years.



There are approximately 2,400 two-year public colleges in the U.S.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Linn State's **Business and Industry Office** and the **Welding Technology Program** have met all requirements of the American Welding Society (AWS) QC4, Standard for Accreditation of Test Facilities for AWS Certified Welder Program. Linn State Technical College is now officially an AWS testing site.



The **Design Drafting Technology** program has been certified by the American Design Drafting Association (ADDA) at the Design Drafter Level.

FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Diane Heckemeyer, Design Drafting Technology and Civil Engineering Department Chair/Instructor, was selected as an Honor Member of the Missouri University of Science & Technology Chapter of Chi Epsilon, the Civil Engineering honor society.

Marlene Medin, Physical Therapist Assistant Department Chair/Instructor, was honored at the Zonta Yellow Rose Luncheon as one of 15 Women of Achievement in the Jefferson City area.

GRANT FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE!

If you are interested in training for a career in one of the rapidly growing Healthcare or Manufacturing fields, you may be eligible for free training at Linn State Technical College through the MoHealthWINS or MoManufacturingWINS grants. These grants are federally funded trade act grants issued by the Department of Labor. MoHealthWINS is offering a series of 8 week computer programs taught in Jefferson City two evenings a week, a sixteen week Introduction to Maintenance program taught in Jefferson City two evenings a week, and an online Biomed Equipment Technician program that runs for a semester with an internship to follow. The MoManufacturingWINS grant is offering an Introduction to Welding program taught on Saturdays for sixteen weeks at Linn State and a Machine Tool program that is taught in Linn four evenings a week for sixteen weeks. The grant funded Machine Tool program is scheduled to launch in Saint Charles early 2014, as well.

For more information and eligibility requirements please contact:

Monica Wolfe
Retention Specialist
573-897-5321
email: monica.wolfe@linnstate.edu

Nancy Wiley
Grant Manager
573-897-5181
email: nancy.wiley@linnstate.edu



SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES QUICKLY APPROACHING

Scholarships open doors for students and encourage students to excel in their chosen programs of study at LSTC. The Foundation for LSTC has several scholarships available to students pursuing degrees in technical education at the college.

The Foundation is currently accepting scholarship applications for the 2014-2015 academic year. For further details or to apply online for scholarships, visit www.linnstate.edu/admissions/scholarships. Unless otherwise noted on the website, scholarship deadlines are February 15.

**LINN STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE WILL BECOME
STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF MISSOURI AS OF JULY 1, 2014!**