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**CCWA To Launch IEC Chesapeake Electrical Apprenticeship Program
To Support Electrical Industry Growth**

Courses will begin in Fall 2023 at Reynolds Community College-

Richmond – In an effort to expand opportunities to job seekers, the Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA) announces its partnership with Independent Electrical Contractors Chesapeake (IECC), to deliver training and other services in a fully accredited, Year 1 Electrical Apprenticeship program for IECC member companies. This accredited apprenticeship leads to a Journeyworker’s license for electricians.

This offering will be available for Year 1 Electrical Apprenticeship with the additional three required years in future, resulting in licensure. CCWA will deliver the electrical training courses with IECC curriculum in their newly renovated facilities at the downtown campus of Reynolds Community College.

“Since 2016, CCWA has successfully engaged with regional manufacturing industries to deliver pre-apprenticeship instruction to applicants for apprenticeships and then to provide new apprentices with Level 1 (or first year instruction),” said Elizabeth Creamer, CCWA’s Vice President of Workforce Development. “It is a thrill to now be partnering with IECC to offer a full, four-level apprenticeship related instruction program in an occupational area for which there are such solid and regionally available opportunities for our students. We are also pleased to be able to offer this training in new skills trades labs which is readily accessible to job seekers for whom this apprenticeship could be a life changer.”

Throughout the duration of the program, apprentices work full-time and attend classes two nights per week, providing the 8,000 hours of on-the-job and classroom training required for the Journeyworker’s electrician license. Because the curriculum is recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Office of Apprenticeship Training, students receive nationally recognized credentials as a Journeyworker Electrician upon satisfactory completion of the program. Most

students enroll with the ambition of earning their Journeyworker or Master Electricians License, and many graduates go on to become project managers, foremen, estimators, and business owners.

“IEC Chesapeake is excited about the opportunity to expand the organization’s footprint further south into Virginia, said Grant Shmelzer, IECC’s Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director. “For the more than 15 years, the organization has offered this program in the Northern Virginia market (Dulles). As a partner with CCWA, we are pleased to offer this four-year state and federal-funded, approved electrical apprenticeship program to electrical contractors and residents looking to enter the industry in the greater Richmond area. This program includes hands-on training as well as exposure to all aspects of the electrical industry including residential, commercial, and industrial. Also included in this program is exposure to emerging technology such as solar, electric vehicle charging, low voltage, and systems.”

IECC is the sponsor for the apprentices, manages the apprenticeships for the employers and tracks the apprentices’ training and education. CCWA leads the related instruction and provides the formal instruction to the apprentices during their planned apprenticeship.

Registration for the first cohort of apprentices will begin in the summer of 2023 for classes that begin in October. For more information, <https://www.iecchesapeake.com/apply-now/>.

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Since our founding in 1982, IEC Chesapeake has been the Mid-Atlantic region’s premier electrical and renewable energy contractor association and electrical apprenticeship program provider. Among the largest chapters of the national Independent Electrical Contractors Association (IEC), our members comprise more than 180 contractors and industry partners and represent over 40,000 men and women in all facets of the electrical industry.

Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA) seeks to be the go-to resource and partner for businesses and economic development organizations seeking workforce solutions and the first stop for job seekers across central Virginia looking for a runway to a career or advancement. As the shared workforce development division of Brightpoint and Reynolds Community Colleges, CCWA supports regional economic advancement and individual financial empowerment through industry sector strategies.