



2019-2020 Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Workforce Training Grant Proposal

Proposal Instructions: The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Proposal (this document) must be completed and signed by an authorized representative of the entity applying for the grant. Please read the proposal carefully as some questions may require a separate narrative to be completed. If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.

Entity Information

Name of Entity: Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School/Broward County Public Schools
Federal Employer Identification Number (if applicable):
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Primary Contact Name: Robert B. Crawford
Title: Director, Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School
Mailing Address: 4700 Coconut Creek Parkway
Coconut Creek, FL 33063
Phone Number: 754-321-5103
Email: RobertBCrawford@browardschools.com
Secondary Contact Name: John Felser
Title: Assistant Director, Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School
Phone Number: 754-321-5104

Workforce Training Grant Eligibility

Pursuant to 288.101, F.S., the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund was created to promote economic opportunity by improving public infrastructure and enhancing workforce training. This includes workforce training grants to support programs offered at state colleges and state technical centers.

Eligible entities must submit proposals that:

- Support programs and associated equipment at state colleges and state technical centers.
- Provide participants with transferable and sustainable workforce skills applicable to more than a single employer.
- Are offered to the public.
- Are based on criteria established by the state colleges and state technical centers.
- Prohibit the exclusion of applicants who are unemployed or underemployed.

Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School Supplemental Application Information

1. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

A. Provide the title and a detailed description of the proposed workforce training.

Avionics Systems Technician

Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School (ATC) will offer a new Avionics Systems Technicians program to address the local aviation industry need for trained technicians. This grant will provide start-up funds for the program allowing Atlantic Technical College to purchase the equipment and supplies necessary for the training of new technicians. Aviation companies at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE), the City of Fort Lauderdale, and Broward College have expressed additional support for the program and the need for trained technicians. Workforce Region 22 lists Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians as a High Skill/High Wage occupation.

Avionics is a specialization within electronic maintenance and repair. It focuses on aircraft electronics but encompasses a wide range of job types. An avionics technician is a specialist who is responsible for all the electronics on board an aircraft as well as the wiring that connects to the electrical system. They run cables, mount antennas, and connect instruments for navigation and engine monitoring. Avionics technicians install radios, autopilots, and passenger entertainment systems. The job demands attention to detail and a commitment to the very highest standards of quality workmanship because they work on flight-critical systems that impact passenger and crew safety.

B. Describe how this proposal supports programs at state colleges or state technical centers.

This program is in alignment with ATC's vision to change the lives of people from all backgrounds through innovative education and mission to promote excellence in academic, career and technical studies in order to prepare students to enter and remain competitive in a global workforce. ATC is in constant dialogue with our community partners to be sure we are offering training in those areas that are in local and regional demand.

C. Describe how this proposal provides participants transferable, sustainable workforce skills applicable to more than a single employer.

The Avionics Systems Technician program will provide participants with transferable, sustainable workforce skills that will prepare them for employment in the aviation industry as well as a wide range of businesses. The course content includes, but is not limited to troubleshooting, repair and installation of airborne radio communications, radio navigation and radar equipment systems in accordance with regulatory and industry standards. Also included is instruction in basics of AM and FM transmitters and receivers and avionics equipment. The program consists of six completion points including Basic Electronics Technician, Electrical Systems Technician, Analog Circuits Technician, Aircraft Electronics Technician, Avionics Installer/Technician and Advanced Avionics Installer/Technician.

Students will be prepared to take several industry recognized certifications including;
Aerospace/Aircraft Assembly (AAA), Aircraft Electronic Tech (AET), Avionics Electronics, CompTIA
A+, Certified Electronics Technician Associate (CETa), Electrical ER, and OSHA 10 Hour Safety.

D. Describe how this proposal supports a program(s) that is offered to the public?

ATC is a public educational institution operating under the authority of Broward County Public Schools. Enrollment in the Avionics Systems Technician program is open to any adult student who

meets the minimum basic skills criteria by achieving a score of 10 in Mathematics, Reading and Language on the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE) or who meets testing exemption criteria as set forth by the Florida Department of Education.

Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School also enrolls high students as Career Dual Enrolled students. These students can earn their high school diploma, obtain an industry credential, and earn articulated college credit while in high school. Career Dual Enrollment opportunities are open to all Broward County full time high school students, age 16 years or older and who have completed at least 11 credits.

The Avionics Systems Technology program will be available to interested and qualified Career Dual Enrolled students.

E. Describe how this proposal is based on criteria established by the state colleges and state technical centers.

This proposal is based on criteria established by ATC to offer programming in response to regional employment need. An initial request by the City of Ft. Lauderdale and FXE to explore program offerings in the aviation industry, was followed by an industry roundtable to gather anecdotal evidence regarding employment needs from local aviation employers. Additional sources of data include the Regional Demand Occupations List, online job searches, information from the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Alliance Economic Development organization, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

F. Does this proposal support a program(s) that will not exclude unemployed or underemployed individuals?

• Yes

• No

This program is an entry level program providing training for unemployed individuals to enter the aviation industry as well as to currently employed individuals who want to upgrade their skills.

G. Describe how this proposal will promote economic opportunity by enhancing workforce training. Please include the number of program completers anticipated to be created from the proposed training. Further, please include the economic impact on the community, region, or state and the associated metrics used to measure the success of the proposed training.

This proposal will promote economic opportunity by responding to the need for trained technicians as expressed by the aviation related companies in Broward County. Broward County and the greater Ft. Lauderdale area is an aviation hub. Airports within a 40-mile radius of Ft. Lauderdale include Ft. Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE), Pompano Airpark, Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport, North Perry Airport, Boca Raton Airport Authority, Palm Beach County/Lantana Airport, Palm Beach International Airport, Miami International Airport, Opa-Locka Executive Airport, and Kendall Tamiami Executive Airport. FXE is among the top airports in the country for general aviation with over 900 aircraft based on the field, and four fixed based operators with locations there. In addition to the large number of airports in the area, Spirit Airlines is headquartered in Miramar, FL, about 10 miles from Ft. Lauderdale.

According to the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Alliance, the aviation industry in Broward County has grown over 20% over the last 5 years. More than 1,800 aviation/aerospace related companies are in the tri-county (Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach) region. CareerSource Broward reports that as of June 2019, the aviation/aerospace industry in Broward County consists of 419 companies employing 13,229 people at an average salary of \$68,867.

The ATC program expects to enroll and graduate 25 new avionics technicians each year. As the program matures, that number is expected to grow.

Success of the training will be measured by the number of students who complete the program and are employed in the related industry. ATC's institutional accreditation agency (Council on Occupational Education, COE) requires a 60% completion and 70% placement rate to be the minimum for a viable program.

2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A. Is this an expansion of an existing training program?

O Yes O No

B. Does the proposal align with Florida's Targeted Industries?

Yes

No

If yes, please indicate the specific targeted industries with which the proposal aligns. If no, with which industries does the proposal align?

The program aligns with the Aviation/Aerospace sector.

If yes, please indicate the specific occupation(s) with which the proposal aligns. If no, with which occupation does the proposal align?

The program aligns with 493011/HSHW/Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians on the Statewide Demand Occupations List and the Regional Occupations in Demand List.

D. Indicate how the training will be delivered (e.g., classroom-based, computer-based, other). If in-person, identify the location(s) (e.g., city, campus, etc.) where the training will be available.

If computer-based, identify the targeted location(s) (e.g. city, county, statewide, etc.) where the training will be available.

In-person, classroom-based training will be offered in Broward County at Atlantic Technical College, 4700 Coconut Creek Parkway, Coconut Creek, FL, 33063.

E. Indicate the number of anticipated annual enrolled students and completers in the proposed program.

The initial anticipated annual enrollment and completion is 25 students.

F. Indicate the length of program (e.g., quarters, semesters, weeks, etc.), including anticipated beginning and ending dates.

Begin Date: <u>1/9/2020</u> End Date: <u>1/9/2021</u>

Florida Department of Education curriculum frameworks require this program to be 1200 instructional hours, or approximately 12 months in length when delivered on a full-time (6.5 hours/day) schedule.

G. Describe the plan to support the sustainability of the program after grant completion.

This program has strong support from the City of Fort Lauderdale and the local aviation community. It is anticipated that the funds from this proposal will provide start-up funds for the initial program of a longer-term plan for an Aviation Academy. Tuition and fees will sustain the program going forward. In the future, as the Aviation Academy plans proceed, it may be necessary to apply for additional funds to grow the program.

H. Identify any certifications, degrees, etc. that will result from the completion of the program. Please include the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code and the percent of completers in each code, corresponding with Section E.

Program completers will receive a Florida Department of Education recognized Certificate of Completion from Atlantic Technical College. Students will have the opportunity to sit for industry recognized certification exams: Aerospace/Aircraft Assembly (AAA), Aircraft Electronic Technician (AET), Avionics Electronics, CompTIA A+, Certified Electronics Technician (CETa), Electrical ER, and OSHA 10 Hour Safety Card.

Completing students will also be eligible to be awarded 9 credits toward an AS Degree in Engineering Technology, or 6 credits toward an AS Degree in Avionics, or 27 credits toward and AS Degree in Applied Technology Management by select schools in the Florida Community/State College system.

The CIP Code for Avionics Systems Technician is 0647060905.

I. Does this project have a local match amount?

If yes, please describe the entity providing the match and the amount. (Do not include in-kind)

It is estimated that Atlantic Technical College will provide matching funds in the amount of: \$450,000 from the Florida Workforce Development Fund.

J. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for the proposal.

The following attachments are provided for consideration:

Budget Narrative: Workforce Training Equipment, Software, and Training Materials Banyan Air Service
CareerSource Broward
City of Fort Lauderdale
Duncan Aviation
Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE)
Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Alliance

3. Program Budget

Estimated Costs and Sources of Funding: Include all applicable workforce training costs and other funding sources available to support the proposal.

1.) Total Amount Requested \$ 384,694.75

Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

A. Other Workforce Training Project Funding: Sources:

City/County

\$

Private Sources

\$

Other (grants, etc.)

\$

Please Specify:

Total Other Funding \$0

B. Workforce Training Project Costs:

Equipment

\$ 330,289.75

Personnel

\$

Facilities

\$

Tuition

\$

Training Materials

\$ 16,275.00

Other

\$ 38,130.00

Please Specify:

\$ 32,230.00 - Software

\$ 650.00 - Advertising

\$ 3,450.00 - Furniture \$300.00 - Membership

Total Project Costs \$ 384,694.75

Note: The total amount requested must be calculated by subtracting the total other workforce training project funding sources in A. from the total workforce training project costs in B.

C. Provide a detailed budget narrative, including the timing and steps necessary to obtain the funding, how equipment purchases will be associated with the training program, if applicable, and any other pertinent budget-related information.

Budget Narrative:

Refer to the Avionics Budget Narrative attachment provided under Section 2 J. The components of the proposed Workforce Training Project purchases for equipment and training materials are aligned to the program learning competencies and outcomes, the proficiencies needed to earn an industry certification, and the essentials skills required by employers to secure a job as an avionics technician.

4. Approvals and Authority

A. If entity is awarded grant funds based on this proposal, what approvals must be obtained before it can execute a grant agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (e.g. approval of a board, commission or council).

Approval of the School Board of Broward County, Florida is required to execute an agreement. The grant application will be presented to the Board on December 10, 2019 for post approval of submission. Should the grant be awarded, the agreement will also need to be submitted to the Board for approval.

- B. If approval of a board, commission, council or other group is needed prior to execution of an agreement between the entity and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity:
 - i. Provide the schedule of upcoming meetings for the group for a period of at least six months.

The School Board of Broward County, Florida is projected to meet on the following dates:

- January 14, 2020
- February 4, 2020
- March 3, 2020
- April 7, 2020
- May 5, 2020
- June 9, 2020
- ii. State whether entity is willing and able to hold special meetings, and if so, upon how many days' notice.
 N/A
- C. Attach evidence that the undersigned has all necessary authority to execute this proposal on behalf of the entity. This evidence may take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: a delegation of authority, citation to relevant laws or codes, policy documents, etc.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have express authority to sign this proposal on behalf of the above-described entity and to the best of my knowledge, that all data and information submitted in proposal is truthful and accurate and no material fact has been omitted.

Name of Entity: Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School/Broward County Public Schools

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools

Representative Signature:

Signature Date: November 15, 2019

Avionics Budget Narrative

Vendor	Purchase Type	Item Description	Quantity	Unit Price		Total Amount	
Apple Printing		FULL COLOR PICTURE ON FOAM CORE	10	\$	35.00	\$	350.00
Apple Printing	Advertising	FENCE BANNERS	2	\$	150.00	\$	300.00
Learning Labs Inc		MODEL 130ST THREE POSITION TRAINER	25	\$	2,745.00	\$	68,625.00
Learning Labs Inc	Equipment	MODEL 1401T DC CARD SET	25	\$	385.00	\$	9,625.00
Learning Labs Inc	Equipment	MODEL 1402T AC CARD SET	25	\$	695.00	\$	17,375.00
Learning Labs Inc		MODEL 1403T ANALOG CARD SET	25	\$	984.00	\$	24,600.00
Learning Labs Inc	Equipment	MODEL 2105T DIGITAL CARD SET	25	\$	1,140.00	\$	28,500.00
Learning Labs Inc	Equipment	MODEL 1438P AIRCRAFT ELECTRICAL	25	\$	2,195.00	\$	54,875.00
Learning Labs Inc		MODEL 1438S AIRCRAFT ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS	25	\$	1,495.00	\$	37,375.00
Learning Labs Inc		MODEL 1438E AIRCRAFT ELECTRONICS SYSTEMS	25	\$	1,180.00	\$	29,500.00
Learning Labs Inc		MODEL 488 AUTO DIGITAL MULTIMETER HAND HELD	25	\$	150.00	\$	3,750.00
Learning Labs Inc	Equipment	MODEL 477 DIGITAL O-SCOPE	25	\$	559.00	\$	13,975.00
Learning Labs Inc	Equipment	MODEL 442 FUNCTION GENERATOR	25	\$	595.00	\$	14,875.00
Lenovo	Equipment	LENOVO X1 YOGA 4TH GEN TOUCH	1	\$	1,370.00	\$	1,370.00
Arey Jones	Equipment	DELIVERY AND DEPLOYMENT	1	\$	10.00	\$	10.00
Lenovo	Equipment	LENOVO M820Z	25	\$	739.00	\$	18,475.00
Arey Jones	Equipment	DELIVERY AND DEPLOYMENT	25	\$	10.00	\$	250.00
Dell	Equipment	NOVOPRO WIRELESS PRESENTATION SYSTEM	1	\$	450.00	\$	450.00
Dell	Equipment	FUSION CART MANUAL ADJUSTABLE TABLE	1	\$	592.80	\$	592.80
Dell	Equipment	RECORDEX SIMPLICITY TOUCH 86"	1	\$	5,600.00	\$	5,600.00
Millenium Technology Group	Equipment	INSTALL RECORDEX	1	\$	324.50	\$	324.50
CDW-G	Equipment	DRAPER LUMA 100" PROJECTION SCREEN	1	\$	142.45	\$	142.45
Learning Labs Inc	Freight	FREIGHT	1	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
Production Automation Corp	Furniture	LINCOLN SERIES BENCH HEIGHT CHAIRS	30	\$	115.00	\$	3,450.00
South Florida Aviation Maintenance Council	Membership	2019/2020 SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP	1	\$	300.00	\$	300.00
Learning Labs Inc	Software	LEARNING CONTENT - MODEL 1438G - THEORY OF AVIATION TECHNOLOGY	1	\$	2,495.00	\$	2,495.00
Learning Labs Inc	Software	LEARNING CONTENT - HYDRAULICS/PNEUMATICS	1	\$	2,495.00	\$	2,495.00
Learning Labs Inc	Software	LEARNING CONTENT - MATHEMATICS & PHYSICS	1	\$	2,495.00	\$	2,495.00
Learning Labs Inc	Software	BASIC WORK CENTER - 10 STUDENT ACCESS LICENSE	1	\$	5,995.00	\$	5,995.00
Learning Labs Inc	Software	ADDITIONAL STUDENT ACCESS LICENSE (SAL)	15	\$	500.00	\$	7,500.00
Learning Labs Inc	Software	E-LEARNING SERVICES - 1 USER - ANNUAL FEE SUBSCRIPTION - NOV 1, 2019 - NOV 1, 2022	3	\$	3,750.00	\$	11,250.00
Learning Labs Inc	Training Material	MODEL 1410 SOLDER PROJECT CARD SET	25	\$	26.00	\$	650.00
Learning Labs Inc		MODEL 1459, CABLES & CONNECTORS	25	\$	625.00	\$	15,625.00



November 7, 2019

Robert B. Crawford, Director Atlantic Technical College 4700 Coconut Creek Parkway Coconut Creek, Florida 33063

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Banyan Air Service is delighted to provide this letter of support for Atlantic Technical College's Application to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to create an Avionics Certificate Program at Atlantic Technical College. The new program, to be located on the Main Campus of Atlantic Technical College in Coconut Creek, will align to the Aviation/Aerospace Industry need for thoroughly trained Avionics Technicians.

We wholeheartedly endorse Atlantic Technical College's efforts to increase job growth and economic development in Broward Counties' Targeted Industry sector of Aviation/Aerospace. Our company will provide in-kind contribution to the program that includes internships for adult students, job shadowing for high school students, and employment for program graduates.

Banyan Air Service, located at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE), believes that the Avionics Program at Atlantic Technical College will truly benefit our organization, as well as the other aviation companies in need of trained workers at FXE.

Very truly yours,

Arlisa A. Jernigan

Director of People Relations



November 8, 2019

Robert B. Crawford, Director Atlantic Technical College 4700 Coconut Creek Parkway Coconut Creek, Florida 33063

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Duncan Aviation appreciates the opportunity to write this letter of endorsement for Atlantic Technical College. We are pleased that Atlantic Technical College will be applying to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to create an Avionics Certificate Program at their school to serve the needs of the aviation/aerospace industry in Broward County. There is certainly a need for well-trained avionics technicians.

Duncan Aviation, in partnership with Atlantic Technical College, will play a role in the development and implementation of the program. We understand the importance of business and education working together to ensure the success of the program and student learning outcomes. Duncan Aviation has committed to providing in-kind contributions to support internships, job shadowing, and job placement.

Duncan Aviation, located at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE), has no doubt that the program will be a success and that the aviation/aerospace industry in Broward County and at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, will benefit greatly.

Sincerely

Brian Redondo

Satellite Manager - Ft. Lauderdale (FXE)

Duncan Aviation 2900 NW 59th St.

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

www.DuncanAviation.aero





November 8, 2019

Robert B. Crawford, Director Atlantic Technical College 4700 Coconut Creek Parkway Coconut Creek, Florida 33063

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) represents the third largest executive airport in the state, with over 900 planes based at the airport, that are being served by five Fixed Based Operations (FBOs). We are pleased to provide this letter of support for Atlantic Technical College, as you begin offering the Avionics program.

Additionally, we are in support of the school's applying to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) in order to create this aviation program. It will better serve the needs of the aviation/aerospace industry in Broward County, as there continues to be a critical shortage for well-trained avionics technicians locally.

As a collaborative effort in partnership with Atlantic Technical College, FXE will play a pivotal role in the development and implementation of the program. We will assist our business partners in providing the students in the Avionics program with internships for the adult students, job shadowing for your high school students, as well as employment opportunities for those graduating.

Atlantic Technical College's Avionics program is only the beginning of plans toward providing a well-trained workforce to address the needs of the aviation/aerospace industry in Broward County and more specifically at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. This is a much-needed training opportunity for our industry, and we look forward to growing with your school.

Sincerely.

Rufus A. James Airport Manager

Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport



November 12, 2019

Tim Ryan
Commissioner
Board of County Commissioners
Chair
CareerSource Broward
Council of Elected Officials

Josh Levy Mayor, City of Hollywood Vice Chair CareerSource Broward Council of Elected Officials

Dean Trantalis Mayor, City of Fort Lauderdale Chair Pro Tem CareerSource Broward Council of Elected Officials

Dr. Lisa Knowles Chair Broward Workforce Development Board, Inc.

Mason C. Jackson President/CEO CareerSource Broward Robert B. Crawford, Director Atlantic Technical College 4700 Coconut Creek Parkway Coconut Creek, Florida 33063

Dear Mr. Crawford:

CareerSource Broward (CSBD), the administrative entity of the Broward Workforce Development Board, is pleased to write this letter of support. We are excited about Atlantic Technical College's 2019-2020 Florida Job Growth Grant proposal to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for the expansion of Avionics Workforce Training in Broward County. We enthusiastically support the grant and look forward to becoming a part of the initiative.

CareerSource Broward and Atlantic Technical College are dedicated to serving the needs of the well-established and world-class aviation industry in Broward County. There are several aerospace firms that serve the needs of the industry, including the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport.

The Avionics Program at Atlantic Technical College aligns with the statewide and regional demand occupations for aircraft and service technicians. Moreover, Atlantic Technical College and Broward College are working jointly to create a career path for students that will award college credits towards a related Associate of Science (AS) Degree in the Aviation/Aerospace sector.

CareerSource Broward wishes to thank the Florida Legislature and Governor DeSantis for passing legislation that funds the Florida Job Growth Grant. We look forward to working with Atlantic Technical College, as they implement and expand the Avionics Training Program, to meet the need of trained workers in this field.

Sincerely,

Mason C. Jackson President/CEO

Mason Jackson

CareerSource Broward Administrative Office 2890 West Cypress Creek Road Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 P: 954,202,3830







110 East Broward Blvd. Suite 1990 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

954.524.3113 | local 954.524.3167 | fax 800.741.1420 | toll free

November 12, 2019

Robert B. Crawford, Director, Atlantic Technical College 4700 Coconut Creek Parkway Coconut Creek, Florida 33063

Dear Mr. Crawford;

As the primary economic development organization in Broward County, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance provides leadership in delivering economic development services to partnership organizations, one of which is Atlantic Technical College, part of Broward County Public Schools.

We are pleased to support of Atlantic Technical College's application to the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund for Workforce Training in the field of Avionics. We understand the significant effect that high-quality training programs have on the targeted industries in Broward County and their economic impact to the community. Atlantic Technical College's Avionic Systems Technician Program is poised to meet the employer demands for trained, skilled and credential workers within the Aviation/Aerospace Industry.

Together with Broward College, Atlantic Technical College will expand career development and educational training opportunities for students that will lead to a technical certificate, an Associate of Science (AS) Degree, along with Industry Credentials. We are pleased that Atlantic Technical College is entering the Aviation/Aerospace Industry to further develop the Workforce talents in our community.

Given the forecasting needs for trained workers in the Aviation/Aerospace Industry, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance is in full support of this initiative. If there is anything our organization can do to further assist in the development of the Avionics Program, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely.

Bob Swindell, President and CEO

Swinder





November 8, 2019

Mr. Robert Crawford Director Atlantic Technical College

Re: Avionics Systems Technician Program

Dear Mr. Crawford,

It is my pleasure to submit a letter of support for Atlantic Technical College's Avionics Systems Technician program. As the City of Fort Lauderdale's Chief Education Officer, I have had the privilege of convening a Steering Committee to assess aviation training needs and explore opportunities to expand educational offerings in this high demand sector. The Avionics Systems Technician program is a much-needed program that will prepare adult and high school students for careers in avionics and other aviation fields.

As you know, the increased use of digital technology on aircrafts means more time is spent maintaining computer systems, creating a greater need for the avionics training. Avionics is a growing industry with steadily increasing wages. National projections anticipate a 13% increase in the number of avionics jobs. Over the past five years, there has been 10% growth in median earnings for Avionics Technicians, making this career track very appealing for workers.

The Avionics System Technician program will help address the skills gap issue in the aviation sector by preparing students to become line Avionics Technicians, Aviation Electronic Technicians, Aviation Maintenance Technicians, Avionics Equipment Mechanics and for other entry level jobs in aviation. Students will have the opportunity to graduate with a variety of industry certifications, including Aircraft Electronic Technician, Aerospace/Aircraft Assembly, Avionics Electronics, Certified Associate Electronic Technician, Comp A+ and OSHA Safety. These industry certifications will make them very employable in the job market.

I fully support the Avionics Systems Technician program and look forward to partnering to make additional aviation training pathways available to students in the future.

Sincerely.

Zoie Saunders, M.Ed. Chief Education Officer City of Fort Lauderdale (954) 828-5603

zsaunders@fortlauderdale.gov