

**ACCS**  
INNOVATION  
CENTER

# PULSE CHECK



November 2024

# 30,000+

ENROLLED



**Skills for  
Success**

## »»» PILOTS LAUNCHED THIS MONTH

The Veterinary Assistant course was piloted with **Northwest Shoals Community College** at Tennessee Valley Animal Clinic in Tuscumbia, AL. We are deeply grateful to Dr. Cathy Davis for generously opening her clinic on a Saturday and Sunday to host the Skills for Success lab.



## NEW COURSE!



**Veterinary Assistant**

## AVAILABLE COURSES

[TrainForAlabama.com](https://TrainForAlabama.com)

## NEW COURSE!



**Barista**

The Barista course was piloted by **Lawson State Community College** at Santos Coffee in Vestavia, AL, with four participants. The pilot was instructed by the Lead Barista at Santos Coffee, Luciano Sinibaldi.



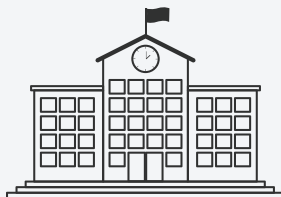
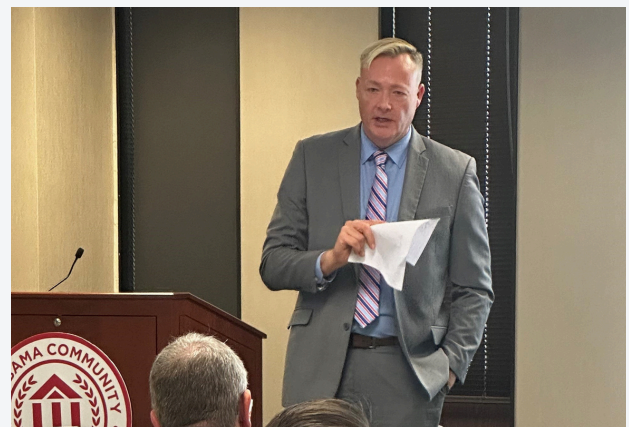


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## ➤➤ ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (ALSDE) CTE SPECIALIST LUNCHEON

On November 6th, the Innovation Center’s Career Readiness Team hosted ALSDE CTE Specialists for a dynamic strategy session focused on adding new Skills for Success courses to the 2025 Career Readiness Indicator list for high school students. The event featured inspiring guest speakers, including Dr. Chris Cox, Deputy Chancellor for Instruction, Research & Development at ACCS, who set the stage with a vision for how ACCS supports K-12 education and workforce development. Doug Brazier, Director of Workforce Development at Calhoun Community College, shared his firsthand experience with the SFS program and its community impact, while Andy Chamness, Director of Career & Technical Education for Tallapoosa County Schools, provided practical insights on implementing SFS courses to prepare students for workforce opportunities.

A big thank you to Houston Blackwood, Workforce Director; Matt Heaton, Career Readiness Manager; and Tom Chappell, Career Readiness Coordinator, for organizing a highly successful and impactful event!



**Skills for Success courses are now offered in...**

- ★ **106 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (74%)**
- ★ **252 HIGH SCHOOLS/CTE CENTERS (53%)**



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# COURSES COMING SOON



## Pilot Phase - Launch in Progress

- Concrete Mixer Truck Driver - Chattahoochee Valley
- Nursing Support Technician - Wallace State - Hanceville
- Motor Grader Operator - Dothan
- Forklift - Dothan
- Plumbing Assistant - Ingram State
- Machine Operator - Southern Union
- Nursery & Landscape Worker

## Courses in Final Review

- Water Treatment Operator Grade 2
- CDL A Revamp
- CDL B Revamp
- Biotechnician
- Propane Technician
- Asphalt Lab Tech

## ▶▶▶ LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - CDL B



Lawson State Community College partnered with the City of Bessemer Department of Public Improvements to offer CDL Class B training for city employees. This partnership provided employees with essential skills that enhanced their professional skills and contributed to the success of public improvement projects throughout the city.

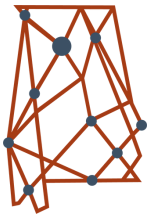


## ▶▶▶ WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - MENTAL HEALTH WORKER



Dale County HS students participated in a SFS Mental Health Worker course with Wallace Community College in Dothan. The Skills learned during this course will prepare them to continue their healthcare journey and prepare them for a program at community college or employment!





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## STATEWIDE LAB CALENDAR



[innovation.accs.edu/calendar/](http://innovation.accs.edu/calendar/)

**For Employers:** Join labs relevant to your industry to present job openings and connect with program completers eager to build their careers in your field.  
**For Community Leaders:** Show your support for workforce development by attending local labs and witnessing how these programs "Make Life Better" for Alabama communities.

Check regularly for updates, and note that some labs may be marked as private.

# PULSE CHECK



**STAY IN THE LOOP: 2024 HIGHLIGHTS AND BEYOND!**  
Catch up on all things Innovation Center and Skills for Success! From 2024 milestones to last month's updates, our Pulse Check Newsletter Archives have it all.  
**DON'T MISS A BEAT!**



Visit our YouTube page for inspiring success stories from Skills for Success participants.



## INNOVATION UNPLUGGED

Stay connected with the latest in innovation through our 'Innovation Unplugged' podcast.

November 2024

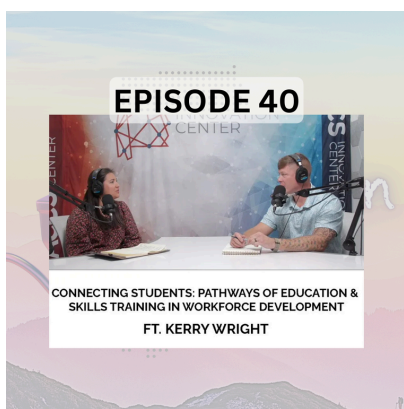
# NOVEMBER INNOVATION UNPLUGGED RECAP



## Episode 39

Plans to Transform Workforce Development with Dr. Ira Jones

College: Drake State Community College



## Episode 40

Pathways of Education and Skills Training in Workforce Development with Kerry Wright

College: Northeast Alabama Community College



## Episode 41

Industry Driven: Training for the Community with Michael Barnette

College: Central Alabama Community College



**A PODCAST WAS NOT RELEASED ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH**