

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CareerSource Tampa Bay and Hillsborough County Announce ACE 2.0 Program

~Are you 18 to 24 years old and looking for a career? ~

TAMPA, FL – *CareerSource Tampa Bay (CSTB)* is excited to announce continued partnership with *Hillsborough County's Board of County Commissioner's (BOCC)* to implement the **Apprenticeship-to-Career Empowerment 2.0 Program (ACE 2.0)** set to launch its second year in April 2022. The program works with specific targeted industries such as Manufacturing, Information Technology, Financial Services and Hospitality and the addition of Healthcare coming during the second year of the program.

The *ACE 2.0* Program is seeking Hillsborough young adults ages 18 to 24 to connect them to short-term occupational skills training that will result in industry recognized certifications, a meaningful work experience with a local employer and a career pathway for a brighter future. Income eligibility will be a requirement of services.

ACE 2.0 is designed to empower young adults to take control of their futures by providing them an opportunity to learn industry specific skills and credentials while earning income and real-world work experience. This opportunity will provide a career pathway trajectory that will accelerate their future earning potential and growth in their selected career.

During the 8-to-12-week ACE training, participants will receive two (2) days of free occupational skills training through a local training provider or apprentice program and three (3) days of worksite or hands on training with a local employer. Training will yield an industry-recognized certification and meaningful paid work experience. Participants will earn as they learn and be paid \$15 per hour with a maximum of 24 hours per week while at their worksite.

Special consideration will be given to young adults who are aging out of the foster care system or recovering from the effects of human trafficking.

The *Ace Program* will again have the backing of four industries and opportunities in Financial Shared Services, Information Technology and Manufacturing in place. Healthcare opportunities will start soon as training program selections are set.

Financial Shared Services, Information Technology, and Manufacturing will each run the following career paths for 8 to 12-week periods:

- **Digital Marketing** (8-week program)
- **Cyber Security** (12-week program)
- **Front End or Software Development** (12-week program)
- **Business Operations Specialist** (9-week program)
- **Aircraft Electronics Technician** (12-week program)
- **CNC – Milling, Programming and Operations** (10-week program)
- **Tech Works – pre-apprenticeship in IT Help Desk** (12-week program)

The *ACE Program* thanks all the great employer partners who helped place participants during year one of the program. *ACE 2.0* is seeking additional local Hillsborough employers in the mentioned targeted industries to partner with *CareerSource Tampa Bay* to provide worksite training, mentoring and a future for a Hillsborough young adult. Employer partners receive paid youth interns during their worksite hours. CSTB hopes to have multiple industry representatives' partner with us in this program.

“Those of us at CareerSource Tampa Bay are excited for this incredible opportunity to help the youth of Hillsborough County find the careers fit for them,” said CSTB CEO John Flanagan. “We hope that the implementation of this program will lead to a significant number of bright new careers for our youth in Hillsborough County.”

For more information or to register for the program please contact the *ACE 2.0* team at ACE@CareerSourceTB.com or call (813)-647-2046. Also visit the *ACE 2.0* program website located at <http://www.careersourcetampabay.com/ace>.

If further assistance is needed, please contact Cynthia Diaz, the ACE Program Coordinator, at (813)-930-7158.

About CareerSource Tampa Bay

Programs and initiatives are sponsored by CareerSource Tampa Bay and the State of Florida, Department of Economic Opportunity and fully supported by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture as part of awards totaling \$23,321,277.

CareerSource Tampa Bay works with businesses and candidates to leverage their training, retraining, and competitive opportunities in the workforce. CareerSource Tampa Bay provided 173,319 services to 37,054 active Wagner-Peyser individuals during the program year 2019-2020. CareerSource Tampa Bay, with our five career centers, is the single largest source of job candidates in the region, from entry-level to executive-level candidates. We work closely with all Veterans.

Businesses can access CareerSource's wide range of services that include recruiting, training for new and existing employees, targeted hiring events, and retention support strategies. All resources and services are provided at no cost to both businesses and job candidates. Programs funded through CareerSource Tampa Bay are equal opportunity programs with auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons

using TTY/TTD equipment use Florida Relay Service 711. A proud partner of the American Job Center network to learn more, visit www.careersourcetampabay.com.

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