



## **Final Report for the Pennsylvania Department of Education Community Education Council of Elk and Cameron Counties 2021-2022**

For the 2021-2022 program year, we celebrated thirty years of service to our communities! After several renovations to our building during COVID, including new floors, window treatments, and new conferencing technology, we hosted an Open House in October to show off our space. Overall, our building usage and offerings were up by 41% from the previous year. Credit courses resumed in person, with 47 enrollments through the Northern PA Regional College. Noncredit offerings increased by 54%, from 48 offerings to 67 offerings. Manufacturing and business-related noncredit courses remained the highest in terms of courses, hours of training and enrollment. Interestingly, we experienced a significant increase in human resources-related trainings; and the demand has continued this summer and fall. Noncredit courses included Supervisory Skills, Materials, Compaction and Sintering, Blueprint reading, Die Setter, CPR/First Aid, Internal Auditor, Google Tools, Excel, and OSHA. Our testing services were down slightly due to more testing centers reopening and re-establishing pre-pandemic capacities. The previous year was a “banner” year for our delivery of tests because of those closures. We delivered over 350 certification exams through three different test center networks: Pearson VUE, ETS, and PSI (new this year). Exams included GED®, PA Teacher and Administrator certifications, GRE® Physician Assistant, Notary, US Secret Service, NREMT, Pharmacy Technician, PA State Police, NY teacher certifications, Transportation Security Administration, FBI, and several out of state insurance certifications. Overall, our CEC served over 1,000 total enrollments throughout the year.

In addition to facilitating the non-credit courses and programs, we continued to operate the region’s only business and education committee – the DISCOVER Partnership. In its ninth year of operation, the program served more than 2,500 enrollments of students, educators and business representatives in Elk and Cameron Counties. This level of participation exceeded pre-pandemic levels. Events included, guest speakers, employer-led applied STEM projects, educator-in-the-workplace, career fairs, and job shadows.

We also continue to operate the region’s only Leadership program. This was our first year back in person for Leadership Elk & Cameron. This program has produced more than 200 new community leaders who serve their communities through service on boards, as elected officials, or with community improvement efforts. Through a collaborative effort with Elk County Toastmasters, a small committee of LEC Alumni developed and hosted a successful Women Empowering Women conference with an impressive 80 attendees.

In accordance with the PDE program objectives identified for the community education councils, the PDE funding covers a majority of our operational costs related to facilities, utilities, and operational staffing costs. We matched this by approximately 40% with grants from various private foundations as well as professional services contracts, fees for service, and additional public sector grants.

**Services and programming offered by the CEC during the 2021-2022 fiscal year include:**

- The CEC continued to support the staff and students of the Northern PA Regional College through classrooms, offices and services such as copying, printing, and use of computer labs;
- GED® classes and TABE testing are provided by the IU9;
- GED® Computer-based test center (28 GED® exams delivered this year);
- Authorized Pearson VUE Test Center (approximately 3,000 individual exams delivered since September 2012); 96% Candidate Satisfaction;
- Delivered 31 ETS exams for teacher and leadership certification; in the late spring we added PSI as a testing service; 16 exams were delivered mostly for TSA Screeners;
- The Manufacturer and Business Association offered their popular Supervisory Skills 5-part series, Food Safety Certification and Microsoft Excel.
- NPRC offered Materials, Compaction and Sintering, Supervisory Fundamentals, Industrial Electricity, Dental Assisting, and EMS;
- APOQ/PPAP, Internal Audit IATF and ISO 9001 through the Northwest Industrial Resource Center;
- PSU DuBois offered Die setting, Basic Blueprint reading, intermediate Blueprint reading, and an OSHA training;
- Our facilities continue to support four StarLeaf units in addition to a multi-purpose computer lab, 2 classrooms and a conference room;
- Provide computer lab space for students taking classes with our partner schools;
- Provide computer labs for various companies to use for computer training;
- The local Drug and Alcohol Abuse Agency held a series of professional development events
- The CEC continues to offer access to the ed2go online classes.

**The Community Education Council is also involved with many partnerships and boards throughout the state of Pennsylvania and locally:**

- Trustee & Chair of the Pennsylvania Wilds Center for Entrepreneurship Board
- Trustee & Chair for the Northern PA Regional College
- Board member for the Northcentral Workforce Development Board
- Board member for Penn Highlands Elk hospital
- Powder Metal Initiative member (PSU DuBois)
- Member of the North Central Workforce Board Youth Committee and Policy/Performance Committee
- St. Marys Area School District Occupational Advisory Committee
- Leadership Elk & Cameron County Advisory Board
- Board member of the Family Resource Network/Collaborative Boards (Elk and Cameron)
- Butler County Community College, BC3 @ Brockway Advisory Board
- Congressman Thompson's Elk County Advisory Council
- PDE Career Ready Coalition
- Partner regularly with area foundations

## Summary of Enrollments

<i>Fiscal Year 2021-2022</i>	<i>Summer</i>	<i>Fall</i>	<i>Spring</i>	<i>Total</i>
Credit	3	26	18	47
Non-Credit	120	173	221	514
Enrichment	40	103	170	313
Meetings	82	289	148	519
Internal/External Proctoring	6	58	43	107
GED Testing	12	7	9	28
Pearson VUE Other	111	69	99	279
ETS Exams	4	11	16	31
PSI Exams	0	0	16	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>1854</b>

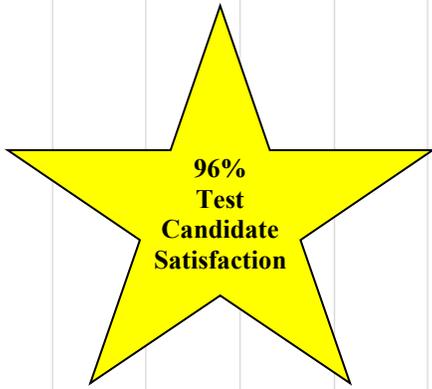
**Total Credit, Non-credit, Proctoring, Certification Testing: 1,022**

## Snapshot of Who We Serve in our Courses

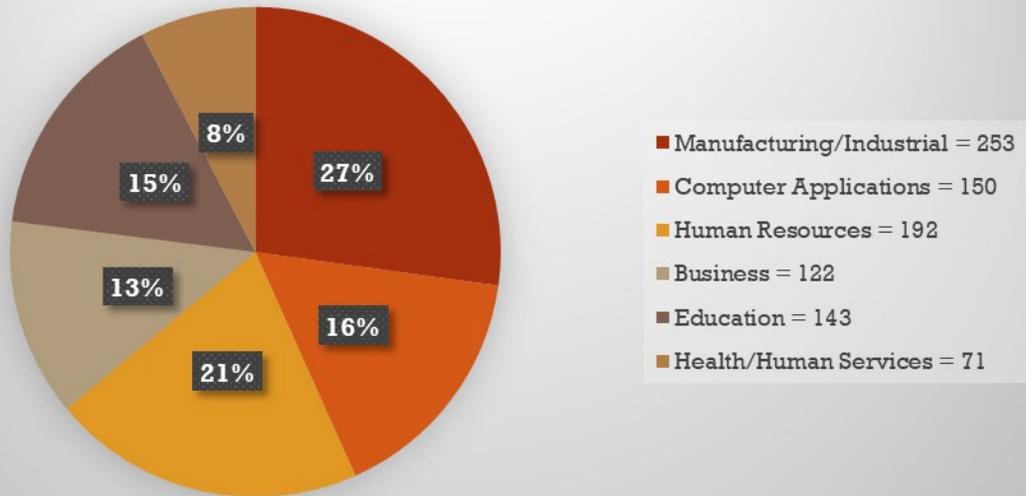
Travelled more than 10 miles	<b>40%</b>
Currently working	<b>87%</b>
Women	<b>53%</b>
Age 24 and under	<b>17%</b>
Have taken 2 or more classes	<b>14%</b>
From outside of Cameron/Elk	<b>22%</b>

This year, more people travelled more than 10 miles to attend courses (up slightly); more people were currently employed while taking classes (up from 73%) and the percentage of young adults, 18-24 years of age increased to 17% (up from 9%); this is mostly likely due to not having the NPRC Associated Degree programs being delivered in our building during the 2020-2021 year.

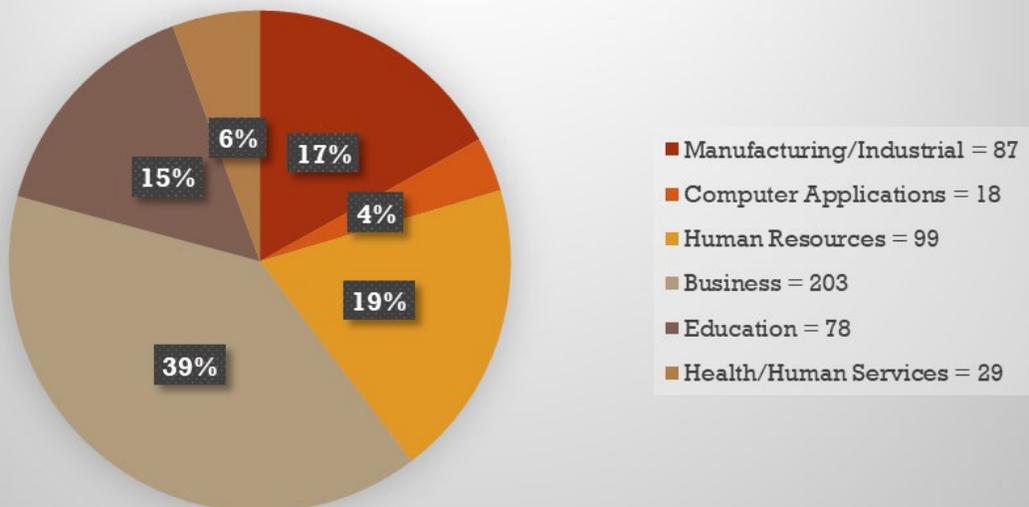
## All Exams Delivered at the CEC = 353



## Hours of Non-Credit Training (total 931)

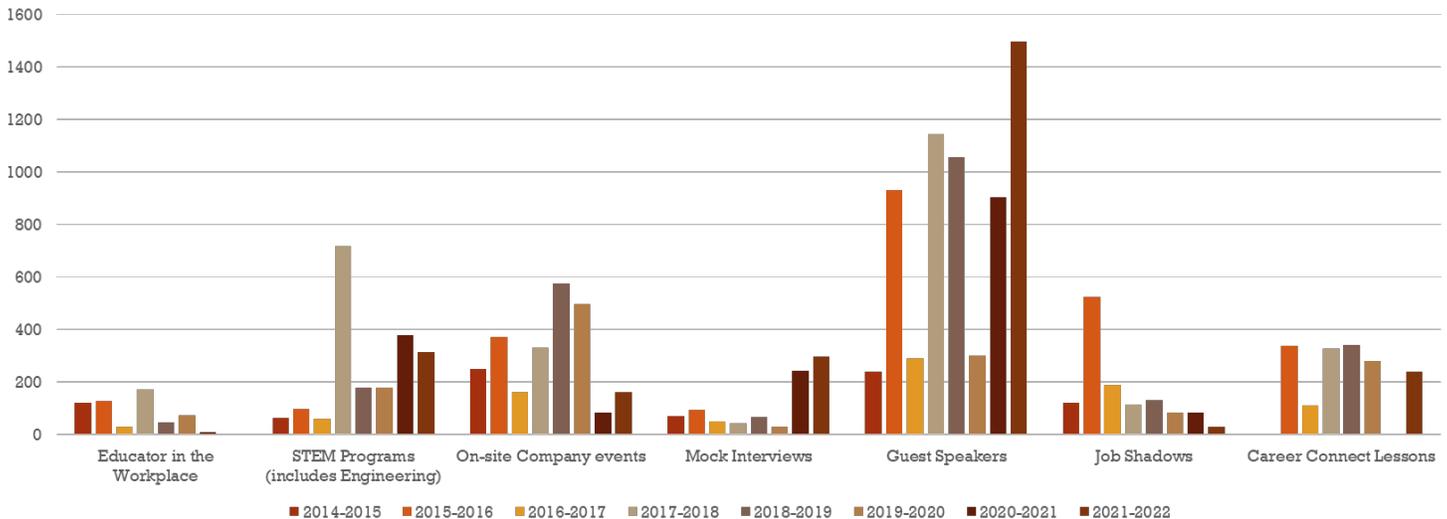


## Non-Credit Enrollments (total 514)



**The CEC'S Business-Education Partnership program:**

DISCOVER Partnership since 2014



**Some program results include:**

- As a result of the Ridgway 10<sup>th</sup> grade career cruises, 70% of students found a career that sparked their interest
- 80% of St. Marys Area 10<sup>th</sup> graders believe there are a variety of good jobs in the area and 70% have a positive outlook regarding local job opportunities in their career field
- 90% of South Street Elementary school 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders found a career that matched their interest at the Careers in Communities event
- 82% of Cameron County middle and high school students agreed that the alumni career day helped give them a better understanding how education and training play a key role in their careers

**The Leadership Elk & Cameron program:**



**As a result of the program...**

- 80% are likely or very likely to join a public board
- 100% are likely or very likely to volunteer and lead a community improvement effort
- 70% are likely or very likely to gain a leadership role in their job
- 50% are likely or very likely to run for an elected office

**Testimonials:**

- "I'm going to start taking leaps. This program took me through a 9-month transformation process. I wasn't sure what to expect, but I certainly wasn't expecting the confidence in myself to grow like it has. It exposed me to people and scenarios that I never would have had the chance to experience without it."
- "It is so rewarding! The things you will learn and the people you will meet are unbelievable! It's a one of a kind experience!"