SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR WIND TURBINE SERVICE TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAM AT DSLCC

Dabney S. Lancaster Community College (DSLCC) in Clifton Forge, Va. has received a $500,000 grant to fund a new program to train workers for wind turbine technician jobs in the region’s emerging “green” technology manufacturing and renewable energy industries. The funding, awarded through the U.S. Department of Labor, will provide new workforce training opportunities for residents of both Virginia and West Virginia.

Through the grant, five scholarships are available for West Virginia students to enroll in this program. The scholarships will cover out-of-state tuition until the program can be added to the reciprocity agreement between DSLCC and New River Community and Technical College. That agreement is scheduled to be finalized in June and will allow students to complete selected courses at New River while completing program requirements at DSLCC.

“We were thrilled to receive notification of this award,” commented Dr. Richard Teaff, president of DSLCC. “The grant was one of only 55 awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor for projects to enhance job training programs and employment services. Graduates can expect good opportunities for employment and become a part of the nation’s focus on green jobs.”

The Wind Turbine Service Technology program prepares individuals for career entry and advancement opportunities in the advanced technology applications of manufacturing and wind energy technologies. The program is designed to prepare students to become wind turbine service technicians to support the system installation, operation and maintenance needs of the wind energy industry, with capabilities to work in advanced manufacturing and other interdisciplinary technology-based jobs as well.
The Wind Turbine Service Technician Certificate requires the completion of 45 credits and includes general education courses as well as those in the technical subjects related to wind turbine operation and maintenance.

According to Earl Dodrill, coordinator of Continuing Education and Workforce Services at Dabney S. Lancaster, applicants will need to enroll in the college and take a physical exam to demonstrate their fitness to meet a 300-foot climbing requirement. Classes will begin on Aug. 23, and registrations are now being accepted, Dodrill said. For further information, contact Dodrill at 540-863-2902, or e-mail edodrill@dslcc.edu. Scholarship applications are available at the Greenbrier Valley Campus of New River Community and Technical College in Lewisburg, WVa.

-end-