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Triton College

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Triton College Celebrates Community College Month

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – This April, Triton College celebrates Community College Month, recognizing the invaluable role community colleges play in expanding access to higher education, fostering economic mobility, and strengthening local communities.

“For more than 60 years, Triton College has provided affordable, high-quality education, helping learners from all walks of life and generations achieve their career and academic goals,” said Triton College President Mary-Rita Moore. “This month, we celebrate the essential role community colleges like Triton College play in transforming lives and shaping the future.”

President Moore emphasized the flexibility and opportunities community colleges provide. “Whether students are earning a degree, preparing for transfer to a four-year university, or gaining workforce training, community colleges offer clear pathways to success. With small class sizes, dedicated faculty, and strong community partnerships, our institution empowers people, support businesses, and drives regional growth.”

This year, Triton College saw a six percent increase in spring enrollment compared to last year. Students pursuing careers in healthcare grew by more than 20 percent, with many of these students enrolling in the college’s expanding Diagnostic Medical Sonography program and the newly-launched Respiratory Care program. Interest also remains strong across Triton’s 120 degree and certificate programs, including Engineering Technology and Automotive Technology, demonstrating a growing demand for industry-recognized certificates that provide quick pathways into the workforce.

Coming this fall, the college is launching a series of new academic programs, including an Associate in Engineering Science degree, Cosmetology and Barbering, Heating and Air Conditioning, as well as certifications in Forklift Operator and Electric Vehicles.

“These new programs reflect our institution’s mission to align education with opportunity,” said President Moore. “We ensure students gain relevant skills for today’s job market.”

Student Success Stories

Sydney Babbington, a Triton College student in the ultrasound technology (sonography) program, chose the college for its affordability and state-of-the-art learning facilities. She was attracted to the opportunity of earning a certification and graduating with an employable skill.

Although she acknowledges that Triton’s program is challenging, she credits her success to the support of her instructors and classmates, calling them her “support team.”

“Prior to Triton, I attended a larger university, and it was too big for me,” said Babbington. “At Triton, I fell right into the classes and culture of the college.”

Malak Alrashed, a high school senior and second-year student at Triton, is taking full advantage of Triton’s Early College program, which allows students an opportunity to graduate with both a high school diploma and an associate degree.

“I wanted to take advantage of this great opportunity,” Alrashed said, referencing the partnership between Triton College and her high school.

Currently, about 40 high school students are pursuing an associate degree alongside their high school diploma through Triton’s programs. Additionally, more than 3,000 dual credit students—those earning college credit while taking high school courses—represent a 19 percent increase from the previous spring.

Triton College also remains committed to making higher education accessible through a variety of scholarship opportunities. The Triton College Board of Trustees currently supports 250 Trustee Honors Scholarship recipients, covering full tuition costs.

Financial aid participation has also increased, with 54 percent of Triton students filing the FAFSA, marking a 10 percent rise over the last five years.

One standout student, Melania “M” Mazur, is among just 22 Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) members nationwide selected as a 2025 Hites Scholar. She will receive a \$7,500 scholarship for baccalaureate studies.

“When you put in the work, effort and perseverance, it’s never too late to do something great,” said Mazur. “I feel like this scholarship has validated all of my determination.”

President Moore highlighted the impact of Triton’s faculty, who are committed to student success. “Our instructors provide guidance and support, fostering a dynamic learning environment where students feel valued and empowered to succeed.”

As Triton College celebrates Community College Month, it remains dedicated to its mission of valuing the individual, educating and serving the community.

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ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs designed for students to realize their career aspirations and

effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110 acres in River Grove, Illinois, holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high-quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at triton.edu.