

# WORKFORCE EDUCATION SPRING QUARTER NEWSLETTER

## »» Spring Resource Fair – Save the Date

Mark your calendars for our Spring Resource Fair on **Thursday, May 7, 2026!** Building on the strong participation and partnerships from previous Resource Fairs, this event once again brings together community partners, organizations, and service providers to connect with students and our campus community to share valuable resources, and strengthen local collaborations.

Partner registration is now open, sign up early to secure your spot and join us in making a difference!



Registration Link : [TCC Spring 2026 Community Resource Fair - Vendor Registration – Fill out form](#)

## »» Spotlight on The Center for Student Advocacy and Cultural Support

The Center for Student Advocacy and Cultural Support, or The Center as we call it at TCC, offers comprehensive programs and services for all students, including those who are first-generation, economically disadvantaged, or have disabilities. The Center goal is to promote access, academic persistence, and achievement within a diverse student community.

Staffed with dedicated professionals, the Center provides personalized support to help students stay in school, overcome challenges, and achieve their academic goals. Services include the Student Emergency Fund, FAFSA/WAFSA support, the Re-Entry Program for students with justice-impacted backgrounds, and much more, all designed to support the success of our diverse student body.

[Discover how The Center can help our students!](#)

## »» Explore what TCC has to offer!

TCC offers a wide range of opportunities, including stackable certificate programs, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees, allowing students to begin with a certificate, build toward an associate degree, and progress to a bachelor's degree in support of their career and educational goals.

**Spring 2026: Open enrollment begins Tuesday, February 17, 2026. Classes start Monday, April 6, 2026.** [Check out TCC Programs](#)

## »» Bachelor Degree Programs Applications Now Open!

- Applied Management
  - Community Health Professional
  - Health Information Management
  - Advanced Networking Data Security
- Information Sessions with Application Workshops are available!** [Click here to learn more about Bachelor Programs](#)

Would you like a presentation for your staff or customers?

Please contact our Lead Outreach Navigator, Lorrie Ann @ [lann@tacomacc.edu](mailto:lann@tacomacc.edu) 253-566-5247

## »» From Challenge to Opportunity



Vadim's path into his career field is a story of perseverance, growth, and saying yes to a challenge. When he first started college, he was placed in the English Language Acquisition (ELA) program. After completing the course, he was unsure about his next steps, until a conversation with an advisor changed everything.

During a meeting with Elizabeth, an ELA advisor, Vadim shared his goal of working in IT. She asked him a simple question: "Do you want a challenge?" Vadim said yes. That same day, he completed placement exams that showed he was ready to move forward without additional ELA classes. To strengthen his skills even further, he enrolled in Adult Basic Education (ABE) courses, where he continued building confidence in his English and learning more about U.S. history.

Vadim's interest in IT began long before he moved to the United States, where he previously worked as an IT support technician. After time away from the field, he knew he needed to refresh his skills, which led him to enroll in TCC's Networking and Cybersecurity program. Along the way, he joined the TCC IT Department as a Work Study student, gaining valuable hands-on experience.

One of Vadim's favorite parts of the program was an independent study that allowed him to explore advanced networking topics. With guidance from an instructor, he built his own server and successfully configured a working server cluster, a hands-on, practical experience he truly enjoyed.

Today, Vadim is continuing his education in TCC's Advanced Networking & Data Security bachelor's program and is considering pursuing a master's degree. To him, success means reaching personal goals, building strong technical skills, and earning his degree. He encourages other students to stay consistent, ask questions, and take advantage of opportunities like Work Study positions and internships early on.

Financial support also played an important role in Vadim's journey. When delays came up during the FAFSA review process, Workforce Education stepped in to cover his tuition so he could begin classes on time. Reflecting on that support, Vadim shared: "Workforce Education Navigators supported me multiple times. They acted as intermediaries in resolving FAFSA issues, helped with class enrollment when I was on waitlists, and provided guidance on completing required forms correctly."

With determination, encouragement, and strong institutional support, Vadim turned early challenges into a successful path forward. We wish him all the best as he continues to achieve his goals!

## »» Meet Rebecca Jayasundara, Associate Director of Bachelor Programs

Hi! I've been working for Tacoma Community College for 22 years! The first 21 years I spent in Basic Education for Adults (BEaA) working with folks building their skills, earning their high school diplomas and improving their English. In 2025, I too, was ready for a new challenge but wanted to continue serving our TCC community. Luckily, I was hired as TCC's Associate Director of Bachelor Programs.

Did you know we have Bachelor Degrees available right here on campus? It seems to be TCC's best kept secret and I'm excited for any opportunity to share it with students, staff, community members, basically anyone who will listen. Our bachelor programs allow working adults, non-traditional students and folks with families and care-giving responsibilities the chance to advance their career and increase their earning potential without disrupting their lives or emptying their wallets. We offer degrees in Networking and Data Security, Applied Management, Health Information Management and Community Health, with more programs in the works. My favorite part of this job is reconnecting with students I first met working in BEaA, (like Vadim!) who are now thriving in our bachelor programs!

Outside of work I enjoy being outdoors and recently took up a new hobby, welding...which just goes to show, it's never too late to try something new! Our application for the 26-27 bachelor cohorts is open now and we give priority consideration to TCC students.

If you are interested in learning more about the opportunities to advance right here at TCC, please check out our [Bachelor Degrees @ TCC webpage](#) or shoot me an email – [rjayasundara@tacomacc.edu](mailto:rjayasundara@tacomacc.edu).



## Resources and Support to Reach Career Goals

We invite our community partners to share this opportunity with clients who have been laid off or are looking to upgrade their skills. TCC's Worker Retraining and other Workforce Programs provide funding, guidance, and support as your clients pursue education and training. With more than 40 stackable certificate programs, associate degrees, and bachelor's degree options, TCC offers clear pathways that help individuals achieve both academic and career goals.

**Students can sign up for Spring Quarter Funding Application Workshops by scanning the QR code or visiting our website**

ZOOM Mondays 10:00am

In-person Tuesdays 2:00pm & Wednesdays 10:00am

No Workshop

### FEBRUARY 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

### MARCH 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Spring Quarter open enrollment begins on February 17, 2026.**

**Spring Quarter Starts on Monday April 6th, 2026.**

### »» WORKFORCE HAS FIVE FUNDING PROGRAMS

- Worker Retraining Grant
- WorkFirst Grant
- Basic Food Employment & Training Grant
- Opportunity Grant
- Early Achievers Grant

[Connect with us today!](#)

**Reminder:** [TCC Welcome Center](#) is located in building 8 on campus. They are a one-stop shop for potential and new students to get help with starting at TCC.



**Workforce Education  
Building 19 Room 70**

**tccworkforce@tacomacc.edu, 253-566-5188**

[Click here to subscribe our quarterly newsletter!](#)