

# WIRED

EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ALUMNI & FRIENDS MAGAZINE



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SABRA TOMB

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

# From the President

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## PRESIDENT LARSON ANNOUNCES PLANS TO RETIRE

On April 27, 2022, I met in executive session with the Edison State Community College Board of Trustees to announce my intent to retire by June 30, 2023. While no action was taken, the Board discussed transition options, including the process of hiring a new President and the overlap time between myself and the next President.

The faculty, staff, and students of Edison State have supported and inspired me from my first day on the job. The Trustees of the College have fueled the outstanding growth and success of Edison State with diligence

and attention. The generosity of our Foundation and community donors demonstrated faith in my vision for Edison State. You could not ask for a better working environment than I have experienced at Edison State. I am leaving with the knowledge that the college has a clear direction, strong leadership team, and dedicated Foundation, business, and community partners that position Edison State for great success.

Over the coming months, I look forward to creating opportunities and energy around this next phase for Edison State.



Dr. Doreen Larson, President  
 @larson\_doreen

## DURING HER TIME AS PRESIDENT

Dr. Larson was hired in July 2015 as the fifth President of Edison State and the first female President of the College. During her tenure, Edison State experienced over 50% growth in enrollment, planned and constructed the Robinson Student Career Center, opened two new campuses in Troy and Eaton, developed innovative workforce partnerships and best practices, and created a premier model of College Credit Plus student service with great success. Dr. Larson has been named one of the most influential female executives in the region for four consecutive years.

## A STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD

The Chairman of the Edison State Board of Trustees, Jim Oda, stated, "Dr. Larson's announcement to retire creates mixed emotions. We greatly appreciate her leadership and vision but understand her desire for retirement."

# Edison State Recognized With Collegiate Purple Star Award



Edison State Community College was recognized with a Collegiate Purple Star Award during a virtual Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) event held on May 26.

Coinciding with Military Appreciation Month, the virtual event included representatives from 33 public and independent Ohio colleges and universities and announced the first class of institutions to receive the Collegiate Purple Star designation. Ohio is the first state to adopt such a designation.

"The support services provided for military-connected students through Edison State's Office of Veterans

Services help ease the transition into higher education and set them on a path to career success. Edison State is a worthy recipient of this first-ever Collegiate Purple Star designation," Chancellor Randy Gardner said.

Unveiled in March of this year, the Collegiate Purple Star Award recognizes public and independent institutions that are "supportive and inclusive of military-connected students." Interested institutions submitted an application, and the Collegiate Purple Star Advisory Committee chose the aspiring military-friendly institutions to receive the designation.

To receive the Collegiate Purple Star designation, institutions must be compliant with House Bill 488. Eligible institutions will have implemented the Keys to Veteran Success and Principles of Excellence, completed institutional training on issues that military-connected students may face, and established policies specifically for veterans. Additionally, institutions will

have a dedicated space for veteran and service-member students, a written policy to strengthen resources for military-connected students, and have a representative regularly attend Ohio Veterans Education Council (OVEC) meetings.

"Edison State is honored to receive the Collegiate Purple Star designation that denotes our commitment to the support and inclusion of military-connected students," said Edison State President Dr. Doreen Larson. "Governor Mike DeWine and Chancellor Randy Gardner have led this initiative and place Ohio at the forefront of state systems that acknowledge the sacrifices and underscore the value of service and skills from our currently serving military and our veterans."

"We view this recognition as another step in assessing our service to our veterans, and we encourage input from our military-connected students regarding ways we can continue to improve," Dr. Larson added.

## Alumni & Friends Opportunities

As alumni & friends of Edison State, the Office of Alumni Engagement invites you to join us at the ballpark for several upcoming exclusive outings.

### DRAGONS GAME TICKETS

Make plans to attend one of two different Friday games on **July 22** or **September 2** compliments of the Office of Alumni Engagement. A limited number of tickets are available and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. Email [stayconnected@edisonohio.edu](mailto:stayconnected@edisonohio.edu) to reserve up to four tickets.

### EVENING AT THE BALLPARK

On **Wednesday, July 27**, from 6:30 –8:30 p.m., you and one guest will have the opportunity to play music bingo, take a guided tour, participate in on-field batting practice, and enjoy food. Tickets are limited for this free event. Must be 21 years of age to participate. RSVP to Jack Twomey by emailing [jack.twomey@daytondragons.com](mailto:jack.twomey@daytondragons.com) or calling **937-228-2287 ext. 111**.



### DAY AT THE PARK

Join us for a Day at the Park at Dayton Dragons field on **Sunday, September 25**, from 2:00-5:00 pm. We welcome all alumni and friends, faculty, and staff to enjoy backyard games, musical bingo, inflatables, face painting, a family movie, food and more! Please join in on the day and have fun. RSVP for this free event by emailing [stayconnected@edisonohio.edu](mailto:stayconnected@edisonohio.edu).

# The Class of 2022

THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT  
CONGRATULATES AND WELCOMES THE NEWEST  
MEMBERS OF THE EDISON STATE ALUMNI NETWORK!



A

Jacob Abel  
Delia Adkins  
Lindsey Albers  
Madsyn Allen  
Nathaniel Alspaugh  
Emily Amsden  
Rockelle Anderson  
Pamela Andrejcio  
Faith Apple  
Ian Armstrong  
Kayla Arnold  
Madison Arthur  
Jonathan Aultman

B

Carmen Badell  
Alyssa Baker  
Emily Baker  
Nathan Baker  
Madison Bakosh  
Lea Baldwin  
Dylan Ballauer  
Kenneth Banfield  
Benjamin Barber  
Brock Barga  
Melissa Barhorst  
Kirsti Barnes  
Sarah Barnhart  
Isaiah Baughman  
Jeanette Baxter  
Aidan Beachler  
Jillian Beavers  
Madison Bell  
Kevin Bellamy  
Timothy Belmaggio  
Elizabeth Bennett  
Haleigh Beougher  
Kamdyn Berard  
Damien Bivens

Gianna Bixler  
Shaun Blake  
Sydney Blanton  
Ellis Blevins  
Ashley Bloomfield  
Faith Bockrath  
Carley Boeckman  
Madison Boerger  
Erika Bohman  
Jennifer Bole  
Hunter Booth  
Kristina Bothel  
Regan Boyd  
Aaron Brautigam  
Christopher Brewer  
Riko Brock  
Noah Brown  
Raina Brown  
Victoria Brown  
Rayna Brownlee  
Benjamin Brush  
Gracye Bryant  
Christopher Bucklew  
Jeremy Burch  
Marc Burdiss  
Brian Burmeister  
Brett Burnham  
Aaron Buschur  
Kailee Bush  
Alyssa Byers  
Jason Byrum

C

Isabella Cable  
Nathanel Cade  
Jacob Cantrell  
Connor Carey  
Kyle Casey  
Meagan Caudill

Ashley Cecil  
Mallory Centers  
Zayne Centi  
Meghan Chamberlin  
Logan Chaney  
Layne Claudy  
Ashley Coe  
Taylor Collins  
Michael Convery  
Christina Cook  
Cody Cotrell  
Nicholas Cotterman  
Benjamin Couchot  
Samantha Courts  
Sage Cowan  
Carleigh Cox  
Frankie Crabtree  
Kenneth Creager  
Jazmyn Crusoe-Price

D

Amber Davidson  
Abraham Davis  
Kaela Davis  
Stephaine Davis  
Tatiana Dean  
Teague Deaton  
Adam Debrosse  
Matthew Defalco  
Allen DeGrange  
Tylor Demmitt  
Joshua Detrick  
Morgan Deweese  
Caden Dickey  
Nicholas Didier  
Keri Dirksen  
Conelia Dixon  
Cody Dolan  
Caitlin Donnelly  
Hannah Dowdy  
Meghan Downing  
Luke Drew  
Deanna Duffey  
Adam Duncan  
Maranda Dunlap  
Jared Dunn  
John Dwyer

E

Morgan Eberd  
Chloe Eberhard  
Rylie Edwards  
Ethan Egbert  
Jack Eggleston

Tayvian Elder  
David Elliott  
Megan Elliott  
Sara Ellis  
Chizoba Emeaghara  
Amaya Evans  
Andrew Evans  
Jason Evans  
Alyssa Evers  
Elena Evers

F

Claudia Fecher  
Joshua Fett  
Heather Fornshil  
Jennifer Foster  
Gregory Fourman  
Conor Fox  
Delores Fox  
Alyssa Francis  
Brice Francis  
Allison Franklin

G

Brianna Gallimore  
Megan Gard  
Michael Garrett  
Erica Gaynor  
Dalton Geesy  
Colleen Gehret  
Luke Geise  
Gabrielle Gerstner  
Reina Gibson  
Shailyn Gibson  
Kaelyn Gilbert  
Dakota Gillette  
Amber Glick  
Joseph Glodick  
Mason Gooslin  
Bristynn Graman  
Zachary Grau  
Olivia Graves  
Barbara Greenbaum  
Jalen Gregorace  
Chloe Grillot  
Carynne Gross  
Amy Gruber  
Chris Guillermin  
Hannah Gulley  
Laura Gutman  
Autumn Gydosch

H

Grace Hageman  
Philip Hall

Anthony Hampton  
Merissa Hanish  
Christian Harmon  
Libby Hamish  
Thomas Haskell  
Elise Hays  
Lilian Heffelfinger  
Melaney Heinrichs  
Allison Helman  
Jennifer Helman  
Alexandra Hendrickson  
Lily Henning  
Tyler Henry  
Brandon Hernandez  
Evan Hicks  
Rayna Higgins  
Mikela Highlander  
Zoie Hill  
Codee Hinson  
Jenna Hiser  
Roger Hoff  
Gretchen Holland  
Jonathan Holloway  
Meghan Holman  
Andrew Holsapple  
Andrew Holt  
Ellie Holthaus  
Ashlynn Honaker  
Abilene Honchell  
Dalton Horne  
Korynn Huffman  
Jenna Hughes  
Mason Hummel  
Molly Hunt  
Tyler Hutton

J

Latisha Jackson  
Clay Jacobs  
James Jacobs  
Wyatt Jacobs  
Mackenzie Jessup  
Cassandra Johnson  
Jane Johnson  
Kailah Johnson  
Landon Johnson  
Nia Johnson  
Elijah Jones  
Kristen Jones  
Olivia Jones  
Kirsten Jorgensen

K

Faith Kahlig

Joseph Kalmar  
Brooke Keagy  
Kirstin Kemp  
Clarissa Kiehl  
Amber King  
Valerie Kissinger  
Kathy Kitchen  
Ashley Kleiber  
Grant Klopfenstein  
Clark Knapke  
Austin Knight  
Jase Knutson  
Zachary Kuntz  
Mikayla Kutter

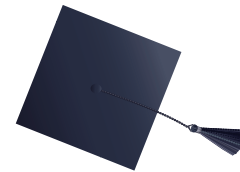
L

Angela Lawless  
Salem Leach  
Kip Lee  
Kenna Lemaster  
Callie Lentz  
Michael Leshner  
Erika Lethcoe  
Javin Lipscomb  
Jordan Long  
Lydia Looker  
Olivia Love  
Janelle Lowry  
Kenneth Lucas  
Ross Ludwig  
Corrin Luedeke  
Brittani Luker

M

Erianna Macklin  
Sierra Maggert  
Alyssa Magoto  
Sekou Maiga  
Stacie Male  
Jena Mangen  
Jordan Manuel  
Jaden Marchal  
Amanda Martin  
Erica Martin  
Trevor Martin  
Shannon Masters  
Kaijsa Maxwell  
Kelly McClelland  
Derek McCool  
Amanda McGaffic  
Virginia McGowan  
Rylie McIver  
Jadah McMillen  
Ray McNerlin

# atulations



Alexandria Merle  
Daisy Meyer  
Rachel Middlestetter  
Tara Mikel  
Lydia Mikesell  
Katelyn Miller  
Allison Millhouse  
Nicole Minnick  
Stephanie Mitrousis  
Robby Mock  
Malinda Moden  
Ian Mohrbacher  
Alexis Monnin  
Julie Moor  
Nicole Murphy  
Andrew Murray

N

Adam Nalley  
Noah Napoletano  
Jonathan Nelson  
Carter Newhouse  
Victoria Newland  
Jonathan Nielson  
Cassandra Noe  
Tyler Nuss

O

Brendan O'Leary  
Shannon O'Leary  
McKenna Obringer  
Alysha Oda  
Alexis Olberding  
Jordyn Olding

P

Nikki Parker  
Lolita Patton  
Brayden Peake  
Nikki Pearson  
Kyle Peters  
Melissa Petroziello  
Haille Pitcock  
Olivia Place  
Caroline Polakowski  
Sydney Poling  
Trisa Porter  
Laura Pottorf  
Jason Powell  
Megan Powell  
Jacob Price  
Jeremy Price  
Derek Prickett  
Tia Prince  
Daniel Prizznick

Kelly Pryfogle  
Anna Puthoff  
Keagen Putnam

Q

Jack Quinisk

R

Kyle Ramey  
Meghan Ray  
Dylan Rayner  
Joshua Reck  
Cara Reed  
Skyler Reed  
Kierra Reichert  
Brandi Reier  
Dane Rice  
Kevin Riley  
Logan Riser  
Ashley Rismiller  
Lauren Ritter  
Macey Ritter  
Jaylen Robinson  
Richard Robinson  
Brenna Rock  
Kristen Rodrigues  
Julian Rodriguez  
Madison Roe  
Adam Rohrer  
Madison Romanowski  
Kaitlyn Roop  
Chalea Ross  
Pennie Royer  
Kayla Runyon  
Kayley Ruschau  
Tyler Rush  
Tyler Russell

S

Kayla Saintignon  
James Santo  
Sarah Santon  
Gabriel Sargent  
Sheyena Saunders  
Thomas Saylor  
Joy Schaaf  
Audra Schaub  
Briana Schaurer  
Hannah Schepis  
Casey Schilperoot  
Renea Schmitmeyer  
Cassie Schoonover  
Valerie Schroer  
Krista Schulze  
Heidi Schutt

Artemus Scott  
Jennifer Scott  
Dana Senter  
Hanna Shafer  
Terisa Shaffer  
Jiaziyi Shan  
Matthew Shane  
Jady Sharp  
Victoria Sharp  
Marissa Sharpe  
Matthew Shimp  
Chad Shuster  
Eve Siegel  
Mason Simindinger  
Madison Simons  
Jaren Slusher  
Cherelle Smith  
Isaac Smith  
Scott Smith  
Wanda Smith  
Brent Snell  
Arielle Snider  
Laura Snyder  
Destiny Solomon  
Katelyn Sosby  
Laura Spradlin  
Daniel Sprague  
Samuel Stachler  
Whitney Staggs  
Sara Staley  
Amber Stangel  
Rylan Steenrod  
Carter Sterling  
Andrew Stern  
Madelynn Stewart  
Rachel Stewart  
William Stiltner  
Kyle Strunk  
Connor Stutsman  
Brittney Suhr  
Robert Sutton

T

Kathryn Tams  
Casey Thompson  
Malik Thurman  
Wyatt Thurmond  
Austin Timmerman  
Michael Tragesser  
Kamryn Trissell  
Angel Turner  
Kaitlyn Turner

U

Hannah Unser

V

Elijah Vance  
Gwendolyn VanVoorhis  
Mackenzie Varady  
Alisha Varney  
Angela Venrick  
Olivia Vest  
Madelyn Vogel  
Karissa Voisard

W

Angelena Walker  
Jesse Wall  
Jacob Waller  
Daniel Wardley  
Logan Warner  
Timothy Washburn  
Jacob Wasky  
Nicholas Watkins  
Cheyenne Weatherhead  
Brandi Weber  
Karissa Weldy  
Cooper Wemmer  
Bonita Wentworth  
Madison Werner  
Brent Westerheide  
Georgia Wetzal  
Olivia White  
Jennifer Whitenack  
Brayden Wiggins  
Macy Wiktorowski  
Maggie Wilcoxon  
Jaclyn Willoughby  
Josie Winner  
Lacey Wooten  
Devin Wray  
Olivia Wright

Y

Alan Yount

Z

Emma Zerkle  
Gina Ziesemer

## MEET THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2022\*

**449** graduates earned  
**657** degrees or certificates.

Graduates' ages range  
from **15** to **62**.

**61%** are female,  
**39%** are male.

**55** graduated with honors  
(GPA 3.5-3.74), **47** with high honors  
(GPA 3.75-3.99), and **23** with  
highest honors (GPA 4.0).

**32%** live in Miami County,  
**23%** in Shelby County, and  
**24%** in Darke County.

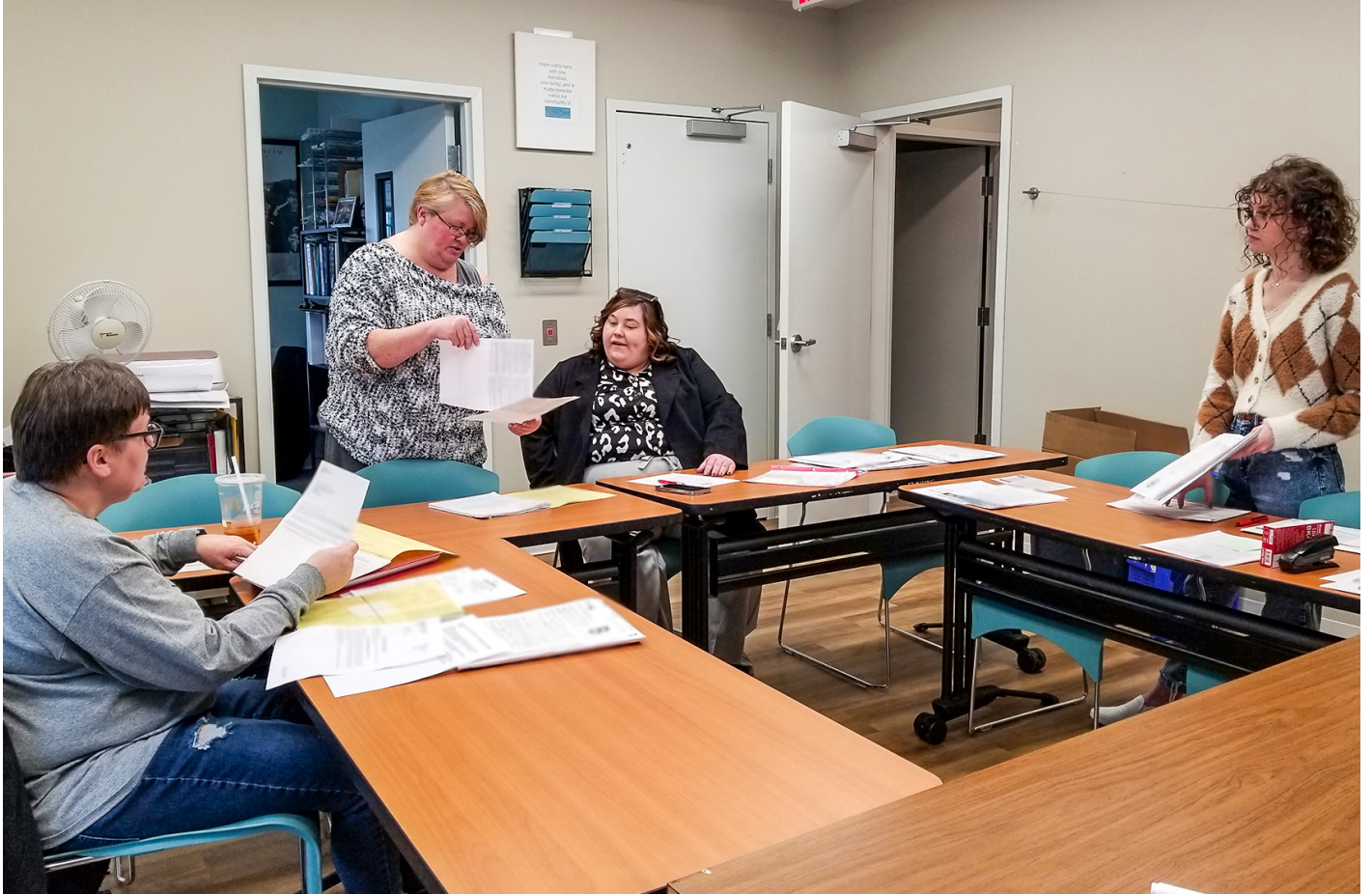
**18** Ohio counties are represented.

**31** graduates were high school  
seniors, **2** were high school juniors.

**170** students with transfer credit  
totaled **7,122** hours transferred,  
averaging **42** hours per student.

\*Figures represent graduates in academic year  
2021-22 as of May 11, 2022  
Office of Institutional Research

# Update on Accounting



Accounting students (L to R) Mia Rogers, Angel Turner, Shawndra Byrd, and Raina Brown prepare taxes as part of a service-learning project at the Partners in Hope site location and in partnership with the Dayton Coalition (VITA/EITC). Photograph by Carol Jackson of Partners in Hope, Inc.

## CALCULATING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Preparing students with the skills needed to excel in today's workplace, the Accounting program at Edison State Community College is the perfect choice for those interested in a career in financial, managerial, or tax accounting. Students in the program learn to compile and analyze business transactions and prepare financial reports.

Led by Associate Professor Sandra Streitenberger, the program has seen a 67.8% five-year increase in student enrollment. Fifty-nine students were enrolled in accounting certificate or degree programs in 2017; by the

2021–22 academic year, that number had grown to 99 students.

Edison State accounting students are members of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA); each year, they attend an IMA virtual leadership conference and an IMA Educational Student Night. Students also provide host/liaison services for the annual Women in STEMM Expo, where they're assigned to a business partner from the community for a day.

Streitenberger and her team have helped Edison State establish partnerships with four local high schools and numerous area business

## AN UPDATE ON THE ACCOUNTING PROGRAM AT EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

employers. Creating a channel with these employers has led to placing students and alumni in over 50 accounting jobs since April 2021. It's also placed students in over 50 internships with companies such as Midmark Corporation, Brock Air Products, and Manning and Associates CPA.

"The ongoing community outreach from faculty and students has facilitated an open funnel for employers actively seeking accountants," Streitenberger said. "Employers have a growing reliance on Edison State to develop accounting candidates for the increasing demand in the community."

"Whether you're looking for part- or full-time work, interested in a long-term position, or trying to fulfill your internship requirement, the available job offers seem to keep coming," said accounting student Mike Waugh.

To ensure students are prepared for this in-demand career field, Streitenberger and her team continue to focus on community outreach and business partnerships with service-learning projects, job shadowing, internships, and community-based networking opportunities. Some recent partnerships include those with Piqua Community Foundation, Partners in Hope and Dayton Coalition (VITA/EITC), and the Troy Senior Citizens Center.

During the Piqua Community Foundation's Shark Tank-style Pitch Piqua event, Edison State accounting students volunteered as a non-partisan group of auditors to count the votes. They kept track of live voting by the community and event judges for each contestant's presentation.

Accounting students prepare taxes for the community at large as part of a service-learning project at the Partners in Hope site location and in partnership with the Dayton Coalition (VITA/EITC). Students must be IRS-certified and volunteer for 20 on-site service-learning hours.

The Troy Senior Center provides students with a firsthand glimpse of

## Accounting Advisory Committee

- Patti Abels, Professor of Business, University of Findlay
- Jennifer Baker, Relationship Manager, Wright Patt Credit Union
- Sam Brown, CPA & Owner, Sam Brown CPA Inc.
- Susan Curtis, Controller, Miami Valley Steel Service Inc.
- Nicole Gillespie, Controller, Greenville Federal Bank
- Mike Hulme, CPA & Owner, Hulme & Company CPA
- Maria Larger, Director of Cold Chain Finance, Emerson, COMRES/AC
- Jennifer Mack, Regional Manager, Franklin University
- Heather Osborne, Director of Finance & Administration, Vartek Services, Inc.
- Vicki Pierre, Manager of Accounting, Nitto, Inc.
- Dan Pierron, Senior Manager, NK Parts Industries, Inc.
- Tanya Shell, Vice President of Finance, The French Oil Mill Machinery Co.
- Susan Shields, Vice President & Controller, Greenville National Bank
- Keith Thomas, Treasurer, Midwest Regional Educational Service Center
- Brian Wagner, Vice President, Park National Bank

audit life. Established 17 years ago, this partnership brings in Edison State students to perform independent evaluations of accounting records, providing students with improved entry-level skills.

"The internship I found through the program was a great start to my accounting career," said alumna Hallie Snyder. "I'm still at the same company I completed my internship with and have been promoted to accounting manager. I wouldn't have been prepared for this position without the wonderful education

I received and the guidance of the professors in the program."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), employment of accountants and auditors is projected to grow seven percent between 2020 and 2030. An average of approximately 135,000 job openings are projected for each year over the decade. Pay projections range from \$66k to \$134k.

"Accounting will always be necessary," Streitenberger said. "If you enjoy numbers and crunching figures, there's no better career for you."

# Their Experience



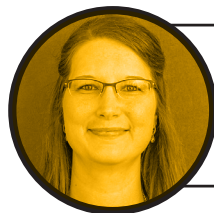
**Julian Rodriguez**  
Class of '21

*Edison State's accounting program changed my life, literally. From the very first day of my accounting classes, I knew I picked the right major. I don't know where I'd be without Mrs. Streitenberger's help and guidance in everything. She's the one who helped get me my internship and my actual first accounting job, where I still work to this day. I'm beyond thankful for Edison State, the amazing staff and professors, and overall environment.*



**Donna Ilene Rue**  
Class of '20

*I learned so much from my accounting classes that I landed a finance accounting intern job three and a half years ago, and I have grown with my company. I went from a part-time intern to part-time employee to a full-time employee with a great government job in Beavercreek with top-secret clearance. I don't think I would have made it this far without the education I received from Edison State.*



**Jennifer Wentz**  
Class of '22

*I think the accounting program is great, and overall, the Edison State experience in general was a game-changer for me. The Edison State staff is wonderful in making sure you have the resources you need to succeed, whether it's library help, tutoring, bookstore, volunteer experiences, job assistance, and even the cafeteria. Edison State does such an awesome job at helping students first gain confidence, and then getting them out there and involved.*

## MOSAIC OF COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Ninety-six nonprofit board members, executive directors, and staff from throughout the region attended the 19th annual Mosaic of Community Leadership Conference on Wednesday, May 18, at Edison State Community College's Piqua Campus.

The event was hosted by The Paul G. Duke Academy for Community Leadership and the Center for Leadership Development at Edison State.

The one-day conference gave

participants the opportunity to engage in a keynote address, network with other area nonprofit leaders, attend breakout education and work sessions, and enjoy lunch.

A keynote address was provided by Dr. Karen Townsend, president of KTownsend Consulting, an organizational development firm offering expertise in leadership development and 21st Century diversity. Dr. Townsend works with leaders to create inclusive environments and build strong teams so they can effectively and efficiently meet the needs of their diverse clients and customers.

Those in attendance also participated in breakout education and work

sessions that touched on topics such as communication, financial management, friendraising and fundraising, governance and leadership, human resources, partnerships, and programming.

The conference is held each year in conclusion of the Paul G. Duke Academy for Community Leadership series which is designed to help individuals make a difference on their nonprofit boards and in their communities.

To be added to the Mosaic of Community Leadership Conference mailing list, contact Julie Slattery by calling 937.778.7805 or emailing [jslattery@edisonohio.edu](mailto:jslattery@edisonohio.edu).



# Experience



**Hallie Snyder**  
Class of '21

*The education I received through Edison State's accounting program was not only phenomenal in preparing me for the accounting field but also affordable and flexible with life situations. The internship I found through this program was a great start to my accounting career. I am still at the same company I completed my internship at and have been promoted to manager of the accounting department.*



**Charity Barnes**  
Class of '19

*The accounting program at Edison State and the encouragement from Mrs. Streitenberger are why I gained the skills and knowledge to land an internship that became my full-time job. I have since furthered my education and earned my bachelor's degree, and now I'm currently working on my master's degree. My Edison State experience greatly impacted my life, and I will be forever grateful.*



**Tracy Overholser-Markin**  
Class of '20

*Edison State's accounting program is the best thing that ever happened to me. With the encouragement from Mrs. Sandra Streitenberger and the other students, I became confident enough in myself to change my career from a factory worker of 29 years to an accounting office where I continue to learn more every day. Thank you, Edison State faculty and staff, for preparing me for my new and improved future.*

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## EDISON STATE STRATEGIC PLANNING ONLINE SURVEY OPPORTUNITY FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Edison State Community College is currently engaging in a strategic planning process to move the college forward and provide more robust educational service while better responding to communities' needs throughout the region.

Edison State values community members as essential stakeholders who present unique perspectives and insight into the educational and training needs of the region. To gather feedback, Edison State invites community members to

participate in an online survey to provide their input regarding the college's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

Community members may complete the online survey through July 15 by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.edisonohio.edu/feedback](http://www.edisonohio.edu/feedback). Input provided will have significant influence in assisting Edison State to realize its mission and help better serve students and communities throughout the region.



# History in the Making

## CHARGER ATHLETICS HAVE HISTORIC SEASON

Edison State Community College's softball and baseball teams recently wrapped up successful regular seasons, and both qualified for postseason play. Their advancement marks the first time in Edison State history that all athletic teams earned postseason bids to play during their sport's respective National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) tournament.

"What we're building here at Edison State with our athletic programs is only the beginning," said Athletics Director Nate Cole. "We believe what we're accomplishing is going to be the standard that all other community colleges will see as the blueprint to model their athletic programs after."

The 2021–22 seasons kicked off with volleyball this past fall. The Lady Chargers finished their season 12-11 overall and 7-4 in the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference (OCCAC). The team participated in postseason play at the NJCAA Great Lakes District Tournament this past November.

Both the men's and women's basketball teams had dominating seasons, with the women's basketball team finishing the regular season undefeated and clinching the OCCAC championship title. The Lady Chargers advanced to the NJCAA Great Lakes District C Championship and ranked #18 in the NJCAA Division II Women's Basketball Rankings.

The men's basketball team finished the season 20-9 overall and 7-5 in the OCCAC, advancing in the quarter- and semi-finals to compete in the NJCAA Great Lakes District C Championship in March.



The Charger baseball team finished their season 28-21 overall and 15-9 in the OCCAC. They claimed the sub-district championship and won at the NJCAA Region XII Great Lakes District DII Tournament, advancing to the NJCAA Region XII Baseball Championship held on May 19.

Finishing the season 28-15-3 overall and 15-6-1 in the OCCAC, the softball team competed in the NJCAA Great Lakes District A Softball Championship. The tournament was held on May 12–13 in Stevensville, MI.

"I want to thank all faculty, staff, administration, maintenance, and everyone associated with Edison State Athletics for everything they do for the Athletic Department," Cole added. "I especially want to thank the coaches for their leadership and support. Most of all, I thank the student-athletes for their dedication to academic



and athletic success. They represent Edison State with class, pride, and sportsmanship."

Edison State's intercollegiate athletic teams compete in the OCCAC and are Division II members of the NJCAA. For more information, visit [athletics.edisonohio.edu](http://athletics.edisonohio.edu).

# Mini-Grants Awarded

## THE EDISON FOUNDATION FUNDS \$20,508 IN FY 22

The Edison Foundation mini-grant program is designed for employees of Edison State to utilize in the advancement of the college mission and strategic plan. The Edison Foundation Chairperson Jennifer Williams, along with former Chairperson John Warner serve as members of the mini-grant program and announced distributions for fall 2021 and Spring 2022.

### FALL 2021

- \$1,000 to Lin Roberts for The Friends of Bear's Mill
- \$878 to Jessica Hill for Expanding Marketing Resources
- \$1,000 to Rhonda Rich/Melissa Eve for Regional Campuses
- \$909 to Jill Bobb to Stock the Paramedic Program
- \$700 to Tom Burelison for Event Equipment

- \$1,000 to Roger Fulk for Proper Etiquette & Manners Training
- \$1,000 to Velina Bogart for Student Charger Stations Food Pantries
- \$1,000 to Amy Crow for Device Charging Stations

### SPRING 2022

- \$1,000 to Amanda Bylczyński for Student Satisfaction Survey
- \$1,000 to Jessica Chambers for Charger Station Food Pantries
- \$995 to Brian Murphy for Wave Motion Demonstrator
- \$1,000 to Gail Ahmed for Music Dept. and Charger Music Society
- \$625 to Herbert Head for Entire Human Skeleton Model
- \$1,000 to Terry Calvert/Lisa Hartwig for Math Dept. Supplies & Reorg.
- \$1,000 to Tom Burelison for Campus Cleanup & Beautification
- \$1,000 to Timothy Householder for Digital Cameras for Underprivileged ART165 Students

- \$1,000 to Julie Willenbrink for Nursing Department Needs
- \$1,000 to Olga Boberg for Oxygenation Topic: Pulse Oximeter Needs
- \$1,000 to Stacey Bean for Transfer Advisory Board
- \$400 to Rebecca Schinaman for Professional Skills & Dining Etiquette Series
- \$1,000 to Roger Fulk for Marketing Materials for CFWDE
- \$1,000 to Tom Martinez for Lab Expansion and Resupply

Please consider supporting our staff and faculty through the mini-grant program. Donations can be made through The Edison Foundation at [www.edisonohio.edu/Foundation](http://www.edisonohio.edu/Foundation) (click donate button) via PayPal, by check, or credit card. Please make payments to The Edison Foundation and designate Mini-Grant Program.

## Employees Honored for Years of Service



Edison State Community College recognized 25 employees for a combined total of 245 years of service in their careers during its 43rd annual employee recognition celebration.

The event was held virtually and took participants on a trip down memory lane, allowing them to “guess the graduate” and reflect on Edison State memories in a yearbook-style format. Elizabeth DuBois, Coordinator of Employee Recruitment, Training, and Development, hosted the event, and Dr. Doreen Larson, President, provided remarks. In place of a catered in-person dinner, honorees were presented with gift cards to use at the Upper Valley Career Center’s Cornerstone @8811 restaurant.

“This is our opportunity to celebrate the employees that have been with us anywhere from five to 30 years,” said Dr. Larson. “The variety of folks we have, the talents they bring, and the work they do changes people’s lives forever, for the better. The people we’re honoring and celebrating today have dedicated many years to that effort and to Edison State.”

Edison State recognized the following employees for reaching significant milestones in their careers at Edison State:

**Thirty Years:** Becky Pepiot

**Twenty Years:** Chuck Steel

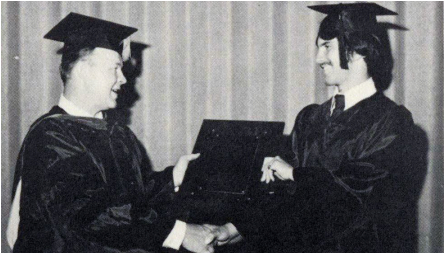
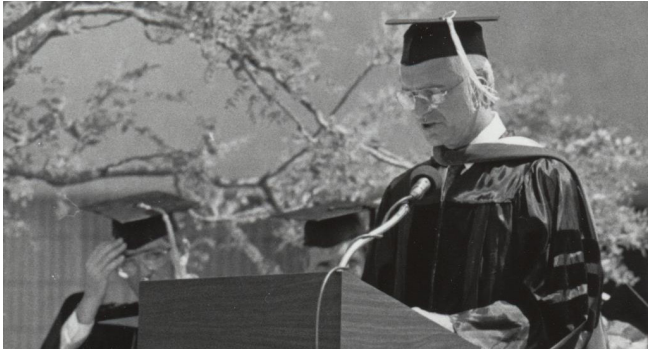
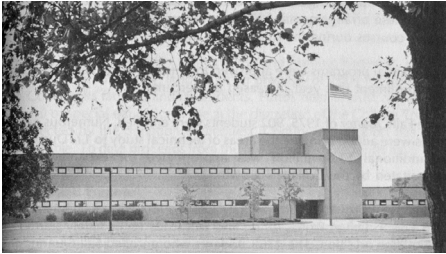
**Fifteen Years:** Donna Argo, Karen Baker, Susan Miller, Rick Roberts, Tony Spencer

**Ten Years:** Amy Barr, Tom Burelison, Andrea Francis, Brian Leingang, Amy Schwable, Sharon Thomas

**Five Years:** Todd Brittingham, Steve Brown, Chris Cummings, Kerry Dowling, Melissa Eve, Darlene Francis, Dr. Rick Hanes, Deb Holthaus, Brad Lentz, Norma Petkus, Erin Reese, Chris Spradlin

# Throwback

From modest beginnings in 1973 in a rented facility, the College has grown in stages, enduring many changes. As Edison State approaches its 50th anniversary, we invite you to take a quick trip down memory lane as you browse through these photographs from the past.



# Beyond the Campus

Going above and beyond the call of duty, Edison State students, faculty, and staff are often found supporting organizations and individuals in our area communities.

## STARS & STRIPES FEATURE



Terry Calvert is pictured third from the left.

Vivian Blevins, an adjunct instructor at Edison State, and her students interviewed 35 women in recent years, including Edison State Mathematics Professor Terry Calvert, who served 13 years in the U.S. Navy and 10 years in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot, retiring as Lt. Col. The Miami Valley Veterans Museum featured those women's stories in its "Giving Voice to Women Who Have Served" exhibit.

An article about the exhibit, written by Nancy Bowman, was featured in *Stars and Stripes*, a national publication that's distributed to military bases and ships in the Navy and Coast Guard fleet worldwide. To read the article, visit [www.stripes.com](http://www.stripes.com) and search "New exhibit spotlights women in the military."

## AVI CHEF RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE

AVI Chef Don Walters was presented with an honorary associate degree during the College's 47th annual commencement ceremony. A vital member of the Edison State community, Walters' work has become a hallmark of major college events.

Whether preparing for a small gathering or an event with hundreds of attendees, Walters uses his creative talents to ensure events are enjoyable and memorable. He is a respected professional and community member, reflecting the core values of the College.



Edison State President, Dr. Doreen Larson, presents AVI Chef Don Walters with an honorary associate degree during the College's 47th annual commencement ceremony.

## TRUSTEE MILLIGAN EARNS DOCTORATE DEGREE



Edison State Board of Trustee member Thomas P. Milligan successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on April 26 at Franklin University.

Dr. Milligan's Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) Defense covered "Context and Culture: A Phenomenological Study of Blue-Collar Workers in Two Multi-Cultural Workplaces." The committee included Dr. Bora Pajo, Committee Chair; Dr. John Nadalin, Committee Member; and Dr. Kenneth Knox, Committee Member.

## ALUMNI PARTICIPATE IN PANEL DISCUSSION



Edison State alumni Mathue Hammaker and Mia Rogers recently volunteered to represent the Accounting program on a student panel at an Ohio Cooperative Education Association event in Dayton. The student-panel discussion focused on their internship/work-based learning experience.

Matt interned at Midmark Corporation in their accounting department while Mia gained a new internship opportunity in public accounting at the CPA firm Lightner & Stickel, CPAs. Both used the opportunity to reflect on and share their experience.

# Brad Lentz, Agriculture Program Receive Awards



(L to R): Chad Beanblossom, VP of Enrollment Management and Regional Campus Operations; Tom Milligan, Edison State Board of Trustees; Brad Lentz, Agriculture Program Director; Randy Gardner, Chancellor of the ODHE; and Darryl Mehaffie, Edison State Board of Trustees

On Friday, March 25, Brad Lentz, Agriculture Program Director at Edison State Community College, was presented with the Darke County Chamber of Commerce's Agriculture Achievement Award during the Chamber's Agribusiness Day event. The agriculture program at Edison State received the Agricultural Advocacy Award.

"Within a short span of time, Mr. Brad Lentz has designed and offered leading-edge agribusiness courses and degrees," said Edison State President Dr. Doreen Larson. "The Edison State program is defined by frequent trips to regional businesses, mentorships by agricultural leaders, and internship experiences that hone technical skills and support individual development of professionals in agriculture careers."

"We're honored to have a place of recognition among those selected by the Chamber for over 60 years in support of the critical industry of agriculture in Darke County."

Each year, the Chamber presents a farmer or family who resides in Darke County and is actively involved in agriculture and the community with the Agriculture Achievement Award. The award is based on the recipient's commitment to innovation, community involvement, good land stewardship, and being an exemplary example for future generations.

A Greenville native, Lentz has over 20 years of experience in the agriculture industry. He became the Agriculture Program Director at Edison State in August 2016. His experience as an educator includes having served as an agriculture teacher at Ansonia Local Schools and the school's FFA advisor, where he mentored an average of 125 members per year and supervised the school's greenhouse and garden center.

Lentz has been actively involved with agricultural organizations, such as the Ohio Association of Agricultural Educators, National Association of Agricultural Educators, Ohio and National Education Association, Ohio Farm Bureau, and AmericanHort. In 2019, he helped organize a group of Edison State agriculture students to assist farmers and families in Hamburg, Iowa, who were devastated by flooding.

"Under Brad's leadership, Edison State's agriculture program is thriving and has grown from a single degree program in 2016 to multiple associate degrees and certificates in 2022," said Chad Beanblossom, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Regional Campus Operations.

"Brad is enthusiastic about agriculture and passes that excitement on to his students each day. He prides himself in providing quality education and ensures his students graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to enter the workforce, join the family farm, or transfer to a four-year university."

The Chamber also presents a recipient with its Agricultural Advocacy Award annually. To be eligible, an individual or organization must serve the Darke County community and be committed to promoting the industry, educating individuals on the industry's importance and value, and preparing students for careers in agriculture.

"Agriculture continues to be critical to life and the economy of west-central Ohio, which makes Edison State's commitment to agricultural education and training so important," said Randy Gardner, Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education. "This new honor is additional evidence of Edison State's value to the region."

Edison State's agriculture program is offered exclusively through Edison State at Greenville.

## Congressman Warren Davidson Visits Edison State

Congressman Warren Davidson recently visited Edison State's Troy location for a roundtable discussion. The discussion highlighted the expansion of the EMT/Paramedic program at Edison State at Troy, the continued success and growth of the College, its innovative partnerships, and its newly launched 25&UP Finish Fast tuition waiver.

Edison State student Erica Lunsford is

completing the Graphic Design Short-Term Technical Certificate by taking advantage of the tuition waiver. Lunsford works full-time at a local church and recently took over a position where she's creating in-house flyers and other design work.

"I work full-time, but my income goes to all my other expenses, so having to pay for school was going to be a challenge," Lunsford said. With the help of the waiver,

she can gain the skills needed for her new position. "It's going to make me better at my job, which is exciting."

Davidson thanked Edison State for its 25&UP Finish Fast tuition waiver initiative. "Almost everyone will say the biggest limit to our growth right now is people. This program is a way to address that need." To learn more about the waiver, visit [www.edisonohio.edu/25up](http://www.edisonohio.edu/25up).

# Bet on the Future—A Stick Horse Derby a Success



## DERBY EVENT RAISES OVER \$9,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The Edison Foundation at Edison State Community College had a successful inaugural Bet on the Future: A Stick Horse Derby event, raising over \$9,000 to support scholarships for students in the agriculture and veterinary technology programs.

Eighty-seven people, including volunteers, supported the event on May 4 at Edison State's Piqua Campus. A stick horse derby highlighted the evening's activities. The event also included music and dancing, as well as hors d'oeuvres and specialty drinks. Guests sported traditional derby-style hats and attire, with prizes awarded for the most creative hat and best dressed.

Supporters placed bets on the races and purchased raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes such as a one-year pass to all Darke County Arts events, a custom-made jewelry box, and a catered greenhouse dinner. Three races took place, with the winners of each facing off in a final competition. The big winner of the evening was Rogers Grain, sponsored by Scoular and ridden by Edison State Jockey David Lewis.

"The first run of this derby event was a definite winner," said Edison State President Dr. Doreen Larson. "Many thanks to the sponsors who took a chance on something new and our team at Edison State who took the concept and ran with it. I know our students in agriculture and veterinary technology are grateful for the scholarship support."

Bet on the Future: A Stick Horse Derby was made possible by Owner Sponsors Park National Bank, United Way of Miami County, and Edison State Community College; Trainer Sponsors Franklin University, Koenig, and Scoular; Handler Sponsor Wayne Healthcare; Big Gulp Signature Drink Sponsor Amy and Todd Crow; Dazzling Dance Sponsors Brethren Retirement Community, Bruns Animal Clinic, Ltd., Can't Stop Running, Flinn Veterinary Clinic, Green Lawn Animal Clinic, Helman Bros. Body Shop, Homan, Inc., MVP Dairy, and Nutrien Ag Solutions; and General Race Sponsors A.M. Leonard, Inc. and PSC Crane & Rigging.

# Developing Skills to Support Regional Manufacturing



Karyn Gibson works on a lathe machine.

According to The Ohio Manufacturers' Association, Ohio manufacturing is responsible for almost 17% of Ohio's Gross Domestic Product and contributes to the quality of life in the state. Edison State Community College recognizes the need for skilled manufacturing technicians throughout the region and offers several program options to increase the skills needed to support manufacturing. One such program is the short-term CNC Machine Tool Operator Training Program.

This six-month program equips employees with the skills needed to be successful CNC operators by offering a blend of online learning and hands-on validation learning labs. The CNC operator sets up and operates a variety of computer-controlled machine tools to fabricate precision parts and instruments while applying the knowledge of mechanics, shop mathematics, metal properties, layouts, and machining procedures. The program is divided into five subject areas and hands-on labs: Safety, Math, & Measurements; Manual Mill; Manual Lathe; CNC Mill; and CNC Lathe.

Online courses for the program are completed with learning management system partner Tooling U-SME, and hands-on validation skills labs are performed with experienced and knowledgeable instructors reinforcing the learning process. Upon a student's successful completion, a CNC Machine Tool Operator certificate and seven academic credits are awarded; these credits may be applied toward an academic certificate or associate degree under the Mechanical Engineering career pathway.

A valuable opportunity for employers looking to upskill their current workforce or individuals pursuing career advancement, the CNC Machine Tool Operator Training Program helps participants build the knowledge and skills needed for a fast-paced manufacturing environment.

Karyn Gibson is a team member at Crane Pumps & Systems in Piqua, a creator of innovative pump solutions that allow for effective, efficient transport of wastewater. Crane sent Gibson through the CNC Machine Tool Operator Training

Program at Edison State from May to November 2021. After completing the program, she went from being an assembler in the production department to training as a CNC operator/machinist.

"By completing the program, I gained a knowledge of different precision measuring devices and could practice how to use them correctly," Gibson said. "The program is flexible, so you can learn and study on your own schedule."

"Karyn has done really well with her CNC training," said Bobbie Cota, HR Manager at Crane. "The program at Edison State has helped us gain a valuable machinist who will continue to grow and develop."

Ohio manufacturing provides almost 700,000 jobs with excellent potential for Ohio workers and, at \$43 billion, the highest total annual wages of any Ohio industry sector. In 2018, the average annual wage for Ohio workers in manufacturing was \$61,500.

The Edison State CNC Machine Tool Operator Training Program is eligible for funding from the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The Short-Term Technical Certificate Grant awards up to \$2,000 per student or employee. The program is also eligible for TechCred, an incumbent worker training program geared toward alleviating training costs for employers.

Classes can begin anytime. For more information on the training opportunities available at Edison State, visit [www.edisonohio.edu/Center](http://www.edisonohio.edu/Center) or contact Brandi Olberding by calling 937.381.1533 or emailing [bolberding@edisonohio.edu](mailto:bolberding@edisonohio.edu).

Visit [www.cranepumps.com](http://www.cranepumps.com) to learn more about Crane and current career opportunities with the company.

Edison State is a member of the West Central Ohio Manufacturers Partnership (WCOMP), an industry-led group working on the needs of local manufacturers.



# Helping High School Students Navigate College



Enrollment Manager Jordan Keith assists a College Credit Plus student.

High school is different than it used to be. Previously, a student focused on grades, sports, or who would be their date to the next dance. These days, local students are also creating education plans to get ahead academically and save money by enrolling in Edison State's prestigious College Credit Plus (CCP) program. CCP gives students a wealth of opportunities—academically, financially, and socially—by allowing students to receive both college and high school credit at the same time. Students take college courses in person at any campus location, online, and, for many students, even at their own high school.

Through CCP, students get ahead academically by taking general education courses that are guaranteed to transfer to public Ohio universities—and many credits can transfer nationwide. Some students stay with Edison State after high school graduation to complete their associate degree before transferring to a four-year university. Others focus on courses in career pathways such as Business or Computer Information Systems so they can pursue a specific career program. In any case, students save financially since they can be eligible for free or low-cost college credits through CCP.

Edison State's Enrollment Managers visit high schools daily to guide students in person on how to qualify for CCP, advise about classes, and map out individualized plans to help students meet their future career goals.

Staffing at Edison State saw major changes this past year, as we introduced three new Enrollment Managers, as well as a Director of Enrollment Management at the Piqua Campus, Ethan Tauscher. Tauscher works with Rachel Carlisle, Director of Regional Campus Enrollment Management & Student Services, bringing CCP Enrollment Managers together to reflect on how to best serve CCP students, families, and counselors.

Carlisle says, "The college admission process can be overwhelming for new students and families. However, personal assistance throughout these steps can help students feel comfortable with their choice to pursue higher education and ensure they have a solid understanding of what is involved in the endeavor."

Chad Beanblossom, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Regional Campus Operations, oversees the Enrollment Management division and enjoys seeing the collaboration of the team.

Dr. Loleta Collins was introduced as Assistant Dean of College Credit Plus Academics. She assists Dr. Paul Heintz, Jr., Dean of Arts and Sciences, with all items on the academic side of the house so CCP courses can be conducted at the high school site. Dr. Heintz reviews the educational credentials of high school teachers; and if they qualify, they're certified to teach with Edison State. The course is then revamped to align with Edison State's college curriculum. Currently, 33 school districts have Edison State CCP courses taught on-site at their location.

Dr. Heintz says, "We require that all courses are comparable in content and rigor regardless of where that Edison State course is offered. It is Edison State's goal to not only provide CCP students with a quality education experience but to also provide them with skills

and knowledge they can use in the future, whether that involves workforce development or continuing their higher learning education."

Through the recent staffing changes, the high schools that Enrollment Managers visit were reassigned and now reflect a new territory map divided into seven regions from northern Mercer County to the southern region of Preble County. When visiting students, Enrollment Managers first ask what career field they're interested in pursuing. Sometimes students don't know just yet, and that's all right! Enrollment Managers walk them through how to access engaging Career Services at Edison State and take practical subjects, and they talk about internship and apprenticeship opportunities to help students determine what they'd ultimately like to do in the future.

Hollie Ahrens, a school counselor at Versailles High School, shares, "Edison State's service model provides schools and students with essential support. Without having Edison State on our high school campus to help students with everything from applying, to registration, to transitioning after high school, I do not think our CCP program would be as successful. It is essential for school counselors to work with Edison State staff to help ensure that students are given as many opportunities as possible while also making sure they are meeting high school graduation requirements."

Enrollment Managers not only help CCP students during their high school visits but also any student interested in Edison State's programs. They have extensive knowledge to assist Career-Technical students pursuing credits with career centers and are excited to provide critical information and next steps for students who would like to attend Edison State after high school graduation.

There are many new faces this year, but the spirit remains the same: the Edison State team is friendly and dedicated to helping students. They want to ensure the college process is more fun and easier to navigate so students can be successful and make their career aspirations a reality.

Find out more about CCP by visiting [www.edisonohio.edu/ccp](http://www.edisonohio.edu/ccp).



# Sabra Tomb

## Edison State Student Yesterday—Attorney Today

The Office of Alumni Engagement is excited to share that Edison State alumna Sabra Tomb was recently deemed a “Rising Star” by the Dayton Bar Association. Sabra graduated from Edison State with an Associate of Science transfer degree in 2012 and is now working as an attorney for the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. There, Sabra conducts critical legal work with scientists and engineers, enabling AFRL’s mission.

Sabra’s incredible journey with Edison State first began as a junior in high school when she took courses under the dual enrollment program, currently known as College Credit Plus. She has always had an entrepreneurial spirit; after high school graduation, she decided to become a personal trainer and later started her own natural health store in downtown Troy. After seven years, the economy proved challenging for local shops, and she made the difficult decision to close her store and embrace a new, exciting life change by re-enrolling at Edison State.

Sabra was uncertain of her educational path but found tremendous support from her academic advisor and professors. She cherishes how much they believed in her, saying, “Every single professor was phenomenal. It was life changing!” Sabra fondly remembers the comradery of her classmates, being involved in Phi Theta Kappa, delicious eggs in the

cafeteria, and feeling like she lived in the mathematics classroom one summer session. Her math professor asked her to illustrate every single step while working through math problems, and though it seemed to be a tedious task at first, it was ultimately wonderful advice that allowed Sabra to be successful after she graduated from Edison State and transferred to Wittenberg University.

“It stuck with me, and I was able to later be successful in chemistry and physics—even special relativity,” Sabra recalls.

During her time at Edison State, she was nominated as one of the “outstanding students of the year” and attended the celebration ceremony even though she gave birth to her daughter only two weeks prior.

While attending Wittenberg, she became involved in plant biology research and began work as an intern at the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. She continued working there after her graduation and attended the University of Dayton for her law degree. She had two children at home and juggled work during law school and while studying for the bar exam.

Today, she enjoys time with her husband, chauffeuring kids to various sporting activities, working out at the gym, fundraising for important causes,

and being active in her community. Sabra’s compelling story of flexibility, considerable multitasking, and determination is truly inspiring.

Sabra attributes her success to Edison State because it felt like home. There were people of various ages that she could relate to as an older student returning to school. Sabra credits Edison State staff and faculty for their encouragement and offers words of advice to current students.

“Edison State was the catalyst for my success,” says Sabra. “I wouldn’t be who I am if not for that experience. Instructors instilled in me the confidence, discipline, and vision to persevere.”

“Much of my success boils down to having great mentors and professors. Surround yourself with people of potential as much as possible; don’t be afraid to say yes. Get comfortable being uncomfortable; that’s when growth takes place.”

Sabra also stresses that “Edison State’s student-oriented and supportive organizational culture is very palpable. My professors at Edison State taught to the whole person. Edison State will always hold a special place in my heart. It was like a family!”

We congratulate Sabra on her success and are excited to see what the future holds for her!

# Alumni Spotlight



**KARA KACZMAREK**  
2015

After graduating from Edison State in 2015 with an ADN, Kara began working for Fresenius Kidney Care. In 2018, after the birth of her fourth child, she left Fresenius and started at the Sidney-Shelby County Health Dept. as a public health nurse. In 2020, she began working in surgery at Wilson Health and received her BSN from Ohio University. The next year, Kara accepted a position as the Help Me Grow Home Visitor Supervisor at the Shelby County Health Department. This program is directed to families that are pregnant or have children under two years of age. She is currently working full time with the Help Me Grow program and as a PRN with surgery at Wilson Health.



**LAURA BOOTH**  
2002

Laura graduated with an Associate of Applied Science in Human Services. She was fortunate to find a job with the Help Me Grow program, where she is employed as a Home Visitor. Laura enjoys her career and feels appreciation from the families she works with and her administration. Laura attributes the success she has had to Edison State and the professors who helped her. "Edison State is more than a place of higher learning but a place that actually cares and is dedicated to helping each student succeed. I felt a great deal of care and respect from the faculty. I was able to explain the personal trials I was experiencing and the special attention then given to me to help me succeed in my education. As a result, I graduated with high honors and more than an education in human services but also life."



**SUZANNE HAVENAR**  
1995

After graduating from Edison State in 1995 with an Associate of Applied Business in Paralegal Studies, Suzanne began her career interning at Elsass, Wallace, Evans, Schnelle & Co., LPA in Sidney, Ohio. She then accepted a position at Miami County Children's Services (MCCS) where she was a paralegal to the on-site attorney. While at MCCS, she also served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) with Miami County courts. When the MCCS attorney retired, Suzanne started working at Kerrigan, Boller, Stevenson & Goettemoeller & Co., LPA, also in Sidney. This firm was part private law firm and part of the Shelby County Prosecutor's office. Suzanne then expanded her law knowledge and began working at Dyer, Garofalo, Mann, & Schultz in Dayton, where she became manager of their northern offices, including Richmond, Indiana. After seven years working with the firm, she decided to work closer to home and began working at McCulloch, Felger, Fite, & Gutmann Co., LPA in Piqua. In 2010, Suzanne retired to care for her husband and spend more time with family.



**CHAD KENNEDY**  
1997

After graduating from high school, Chad joined the Johnson Township–St. Paris Volunteer Fire Department. He later graduated from Edison State in May 1997 with an Associate of Science. Later, he transferred to Wright State University, graduating in 1999 summa cum laude as an Honor's Scholar with a major in psychology before taking a position with the Piqua Fire Department. Over the next 15 years, he was promoted to Captain and then Assistant Chief of the fire department. While there, he completed a paramedic to RN transition program at Clark State, gained his BSN at Ohio University, and then completed the PMHNP Masters of Science program at Wright State University, ultimately becoming a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Today, Chad serves as a Captain in the U.S. Army Reserves with a Combat and Operational Stress Control medical detachment and as an adjunct faculty member for a Master-level PMHNP program.



**DANELL SHIREY**  
2003

Danell Shirey started her journey with Edison State in 2003 when she participated in the dual-enrollment program, now known as College Credit Plus, as a high school student. During that time, she focused on responsibility and how to be more proactive as college demanded it. Shirey later became a physical therapy assistant at Dayton Children's Hospital, then shifted gears during the COVID pandemic by starting a position in the Guidance Office at Lehman Catholic High School. In this role, she assists the school counselor with many projects and helps current CCP students with their next steps in the program, making her journey with CCP come full circle. She enjoys Edison State's positive environment and says there are "friendly people and great instructors" on campus. Shirey recently re-enrolled at Edison State and will complete her Medical Coder Certificate this summer. She adds, "If I hadn't gone to Edison State, I wouldn't have met my husband." They have two children and enjoy camping, fishing, and hiking as a family.

Want to share your alumni story?  
Email [stayconnected@edisonohio.edu](mailto:stayconnected@edisonohio.edu).

# Edison State Stands Ready

## INTEL

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted recently announced that Ohio would become home to two leading-edge Intel chip manufacturing facilities. Intel's \$20 billion investment will help boost production to meet the surging demand for advanced semiconductors.

As the largest single private-sector investment in Ohio history, the initial phase of the project is expected to create 3,000 Intel jobs, 7,000 construction jobs over the course of the build, and support tens of thousands of additional local long-term jobs across a broad ecosystem of suppliers and partners.

Edison State Community College is prepared to play a pivotal role in providing necessary education to support the project. "This project results from extraordinary leadership by Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted. They succeeded in fueling an economic vision that rises above the COVID challenges to focus on the future. The future of Ohio is bright, and Edison State is excited to play a role in this newest initiative," said Dr. Doreen Larson, President of Edison State.

Edison State offers associate degrees

in the Engineering and Manufacturing Career Pathway and numerous certificates and short-term technical certificates that support workforce development within the related career field. Edison State's recently launched 25&UP Finish Fast tuition waiver further supports the development of the state's workforce by waiving 100% of tuition cost for adults in Ohio pursuing an accelerated degree, certificate, or short-term technical certificate from Edison State.

To support the development of the new site, Intel pledged an additional \$100 million toward partnerships with educational institutions to build a pipeline of talent and bolster research programs in the region.

## SEMCORP

A major producer of electric vehicle battery components, SEMCORP recently announced plans to invest \$916 million in a Sidney, Ohio, manufacturing complex.

According to the State of Ohio's website, SEMCORP Manufacturing USA LLC expects to create 1,199 full-time positions, generating \$73 million in new annual payroll as a result of the company's new project in Sidney.

SEMCORP manufactures separator film used within lithium-ion batteries. The company's main focus is within the EV battery market with business also in consumer electronics and energy storage systems. The TCA approved a 2.095 percent, 15-year Job Creation Tax Credit for this project.

SEMCORP will be located at the Industrial Park at Millcreek and Kuther Road. The site, which has been authenticated by JobsOhio's SiteOhio program since 2021, has been flagged for major industrial development since 2016. This status ensures the site is free of any detriments that may slow or stop development. The 850,000-square-foot facility is the largest foreign direct investment in Ohio.

"Edison State stands ready to educate and develop the workforce that will be needed to run these new Intel and SEMCORP facilities and the many high-tech support companies that are sure to move into the region as additional suppliers. Edison State's programs in the Engineering and Manufacturing Career Pathway specialize in real-world educational experiences, using cutting-edge technology and a hands-on approach to learning," said Chris Spradlin, Executive Vice President and Provost of Edison State.

THE EDISON FOUNDATION'S **Drive for Scholarships**

**FRIDAY**  
9:00 AM  
**29**  
JULY

Troy Country Club  
1830 Peters Rd., Troy, Ohio 45373

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## Upcoming Events

- Jul. 22—Alumni & Friends Dragons Game
- Jul. 27—Evening at the Ballpark
- Jul. 29—Drive for Scholarships
- Jul. 31—LPN/ADN Transition and Nursing Application Deadline
- Aug. 29—Fall Semester Begins
- Sept. 2—Alumni & Friends Dragons Game
- Sept. 25—Day at the Park  
Dayton Dragons Field
- Oct. 6—Scholarship Celebration
- Nov. 30—Holiday Evening
- Nov. 30—MLT Application Deadline

# Scholarship Recipients Named

## EDISON STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

### DIVERSITY

- Amita Snyder–Miami

### THE EDISON FOUNDATION

- Gianna Bixler–Darke
- Spencer Hinderman–Miami
- Floyd Lockhart–Miami
- Shannon Myers–Darke

### GED

- Abigail Wilkins–Miami

### PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

- James Biser–Darke

### THOMAS ALVA EDISON

- Kylie Balkcom–Miami
- Makenna Borchers–Shelby
- Mikayla Bryant–Shelby
- Silas Cheatwood–Miami
- Amber Fullmer–Montgomery
- Camryn Gleason–Miami
- Ella Hoehne–Shelby
- Josiah Hutcherson–Miami
- Lillian Kirk–Miami
- Tyra Lee–Shelby
- Aidan Leonard–Miami
- Vincent Peyton–Miami
- Jack Quinlisk–Shelby
- Graceanne Slade–Miami
- Tristan Stanhope–Miami
- Colin Tackett–Miami
- Brenden Werling–Miami
- Ava Westfall–Shelby
- Dylan Whitehead–Shelby

### TRUSTEE'S SCHOLARSHIP

- Isabel Voisard–Darke

## EDISON FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

### ANNA HUDELSON MEMORIAL

- Jillian Thurmond–Shelby

### ADULT LEARNER

- Kaleigh Keams–Champaign

### CHARLES RIDENOUR

- Joshua Fett–Darke

### DARKE COUNTY CAMPUS

- Joseph Glodick–Darke
- Jake Goubeaux–Darke

### DONNELLY NURSING

- Stephanie Osborne–Miami
- Karly Schisler–Miami
- Abigail Vail–Miami

### D. DOUGLAS KING MEMORIAL

- Deanna Moody–Darke

### DRIVE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mercedes Beasley–Champaign
- Karista Davidson–Darke
- Morgan Davis–Shelby
- Leah Fry–Darke
- Tyler Gates–Miami
- Alexandra Joseph–Auglaize
- Kristen Lucente–Miami
- Ryen Marsh–Miami
- Sierra Marsh–Miami
- Katlyn Nartker–Miami
- Katelyn North–Shelby
- Jolie Nyiramahirwe–Montgomery
- Kelsey Robinson–Shelby
- Aspen Swayze–Mercer

### THE EDISON FOUNDATION

- Taylor Fletcher–Darke
- Cheyenne Grow–Darke
- Ashley Lee–Miami
- Spencer Pike–Darke
- Matthew Reed–Champaign
- Falyn Rhinehart–Montgomery
- Gloria Ryan–Miami
- Eve Siegel–Shelby
- Tia Thacker–Champaign
- Diana Tuttle–Auglaize

### FLOYD & GRACE HANES MEMORIAL

- Luke Drew–Darke

### FRED FREED MEMORIAL

- Hayley Dirksen–Darke

### FRED VERCELES MEMORIAL

- Stephen Elabor–Miami

### GAIL & STEVE STALEY

- Emily Kindell–Miami

### GREG & ALYSSA BLANKENSHIP

- Paris Long–Champaign

### HOLLY HAHN MEMORIAL

- Christelyn Barnett–Miami

### ILLUMINATE THE FUTURE COMMUNITY

- Parker Geis–Auglaize
- Charis Hunt–Shelby
- Ahlam Partee–Miami
- Zachary Schantz–Champaign
- Bridget Tigner–Montgomery

### ILLUMINATE THE FUTURE EMPLOYEE

- Tiffany Miller–Darke
- Caitlyn Roberson–Miami
- David Robinson–Miami
- Sophie Spitler–Miami
- Lucy Tumbusch–Darke
- Sharea Waddle–Darke
- BreAnne Woody–Miami

### JEAN DUGAN MEMORIAL

- Kennedy Booker–Miami

### JOHN J. DUGAN MEMORIAL

- Bushra Piracha–Miami

### KATHY CLIFTON

- Audrey Bensman–Shelby
- Channon Collins–Miami
- August Evans–Darke

### KATHY ODA

- Karly Schisler–Miami

### DR. KENNETH A. YOWELL

- Jennifer Wentz–Shelby

### LESTER & CLEON BOWERS

- Emily Scholl–Darke

### MARYANN MEHAFFIE MEMORIAL

- Logan Landrey–Shelby

### MARY REBECCA ALLEN MEMORIAL

- Lindsay Vachon–Darke

### MIAMI CO. FRAT. ORDER OF POLICE

- Kayla Runyon–Miami

### MIAMI COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

- Savannah Wead–Miami

### MIAMI VOITURE ET 8

- Kelsey Dugas–Miami

### MIAMI VALLEY WOUNDED VETERANS

- Lolita Patton–Miami

### MYERS-VACCARO ENGINEERING

- Paris Long–Champaign

### OPPORTUNITY

- Angela Rouse–Miami

### PITSENBARGER

- Brian Downing–Shelby

### PREBLE COUNTY YOUTH FOUNDATION

- Regan Shisler–Preble

### THE RAVAL FAMILY EDUCATION

- BreAnne Woody–Miami

### RAY & BETTYE LAUGHLIN

- Nolan Curtis–Darke

### SAMUEL E. VALANDINGHAM MEM.

- Brendyn Yeary–Montgomery

### SHERYL BRINLEY MEMORIAL

- Jacqueline Olwine–Darke

### SUSIE WISE

- Mary Wood–Darke

### THOMAS & PATRICIA ROBINSON

- Jodie Adamson–Shelby
- Addyson Halcomb–Darke
- Ellie Holthaus–Shelby
- Micah Klunk–Shelby
- Kloie Rogers–Shelby

### TRI-COUNTY TRUST

- CJ Bond–Miami
- Emily Scholl–Darke
- Brooke Stoler–Shelby
- Amanda Unger–Darke
- Sidney Unger–Miami

### TROY LIONS CLUB

- Derek McCool–Miami

### VACCARO-MYERS

- Lillie Schaeffer–Miami

### WILLIAM M. MCCULLOCH MEMORIAL

- Gabriel Millet–Miami

# Reverse Raffle Raises Scholarship Dollars for Charger Athletics



## EVENT RAISES \$23,492

Supporters recently came together at Edison State Community College's Piqua Campus for the 12th annual Charger Athletics Reverse Raffle fundraiser to support Edison State Athletics. Over 250 people were in attendance, which awarded one lucky ticket holder the \$10,000 grand prize.

This year's event brought in \$23,492.99 for the athletics program through the sale of tickets, a silent auction, and other activities. Nearly \$15,000 in prize money was awarded to winning ticket holders, including the grand prize winner, Buckeye Charters, Ltd.

"The money we raise through this event helps offset many of the costs that our athletic teams incur throughout the year. It also provides a lot of opportunities our student-athletes may not normally have, such as traveling to and participating in postseason tournaments," said Nate Cole, Edison State Athletics Director.

Over 25 additional items were available in a silent auction that were donated by area businesses, community members, and athletic teams, which also contributed to the funds raised.

"We had a tremendous outpouring of support from people in the community and right here at Edison State, and we can't thank them enough for making the event successful," said Cole.

"This was a great event with a lot of winners," added Dr. Rick Hanes, VP of Advancement, Strategic Planning, and Partnerships & Executive Director of The Edison Foundation. "We'd like to thank all of the supporters of the Edison State Athletics Department and The Edison Foundation."

Originally known as the Charger 300, the Charger Athletics Reverse Raffle began in 2010 to provide funding for postseason play and offset expenses beyond the Edison

State Athletics budget. The need for an annual fundraiser for the athletic department grew from the Charger teams winning National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region XII titles, District G titles, and moving on to compete at the NJCAA Division III Final Four.

Over the past seven years, \$123,319.54 raised from previous Charger athletic reverse raffle events have been used to purchase team uniforms and equipment, provide team facility upgrades, and cover expenses associated with postseason play.

Edison State's volleyball, men's and women's basketball, baseball, and softball teams compete in the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference (OCCAC) and are Division II members of the NJCAA.

# CCP/Career-Tech Tuition Waiver

Edison State Community College continues to assist high school graduates with a new College Credit Plus (CCP)/Career-Technology tuition waiver. The waiver covers 100% of the tuition for students who have completed at least six credit hours through CCP, articulated coursework, Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG), or any combination.

“Edison State highly values students who take on college-level work while in high school, and we want to encourage them to continue their college career with us,” said Edison State President Dr. Doreen Larson. “The waiver covers students at all high schools, including career and technical education centers. Students and their families can leverage this waiver

to attain degrees and certificates at Edison State, as well as complete the first two years of a four-year degree with no tuition cost.”

The 100% tuition waiver is available to students who complete at least six credit hours of CCP or articulated coursework, including CTAG, at a partner institution; submit a Major Declaration Form; register for summer, fall, or spring semester classes immediately after graduation; file their FAFSA; and stay enrolled until the completion of their degree or 70 total credit hours.

Edison State has formed strong partnerships with area high schools and career-technical centers to create a smooth transition for high school students entering college. CCP

continues to thrive as 33 area high schools have partnered with Edison State to host collegiate-level courses and students from 47 high schools are attending classes on campus. Local career-technical students also continue to benefit from robust articulation agreements developed with Edison State.

Students receiving the waiver will have 100% of their tuition covered, which includes instructional, general, technology, activity, and career services fees. Any financial aid awarded to the student will pay first. Lab fees for individual courses, security fees, textbooks, and additional fees will be the students’ responsibility.

## LEARN MORE

Learn more by visiting [www.edisonohio.edu/waiver](http://www.edisonohio.edu/waiver)

## Miami County Economic Development Initiatives



Steve Campbell from NorthStar Policy and Project Development Corporation presents during the event.

State President Dr. Doreen Larson provided a welcome, Commissioner Wade Westfall spoke along with Steve Campbell from NorthStar Policy and Project Development Corporation, and Commissioner Ted Mercer showed his support as well.

The Department of Development Director Richard Osgood was excited for the collaboration. Michael Clarey from Economic Development states, “It’s a win for Miami County’s economic well-being just to get all of these people and the organizations they represent in a room together, but then to see such robust engagement on these crucial issues made it a great day. There is a lot of work to be done, but we intend to keep up this momentum.”

Edison State enjoyed supporting such a valuable community event.

The Miami County Department of Development hosted their Economic Development Strategic Visioning Initiative event at Edison State Community College on February 25, 2022. Many members of the community attended to hear the presentation and participate in an engaging guided discussion.

Some major priorities of the initiative include business retention, expansion, and attraction; workforce; business incubation and entrepreneurship; and marketing. Some critical elements of concern discussed during the event were the impacts of housing and child care within the local area. Edison



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# MAILING PANEL

## A Note From The Edison Foundation...

Make a 2022 tax-deductible gift to **The Edison Foundation**, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization formed to support the educational and community service goals of **Edison State Community College**. All gifts are appreciated and provide scholarships and academic program support.

### DONATION YEAR-END DEADLINES

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Must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2022

**The Edison Foundation**  
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Tax ID#: 31-1379781

#### GIVE NOW



#### CREDIT CARD

If sent by mail, must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2022; if made online, **The Edison Foundation** must receive transaction details by 4 pm EST on Dec. 29, 2022.

**The Edison Foundation** accepts donations on PayPal via Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. The secure site is: [www.edisonohio.edu/donate](http://www.edisonohio.edu/donate)

#### GIFTS OF STOCK

To receive tax credit in 2022, must be received and handled by our broker, Fifth Third Bank. Contact Megan Alley at 513-534-3557 or [megan.alley@53.com](mailto:megan.alley@53.com). For a year-end gift or more information, please email [foundation@edisonohio.edu](mailto:foundation@edisonohio.edu) or call 937-778-7805.

*Thank you for your support!*

## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION...

**WIRED** is an alumni and friends newsletter published by the the Office of Advancement, Strategic Planning & Partnerships. The newsletter contains alumni and friends highlights, information, and events that Edison State Community College supports and hosts on an ongoing basis. For more information, contact:

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