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Anderson 1 and 2 Career and Technology Center Receives the Excellence in Action Award for its Innovative Automotive Technology CTE Program

April 5, 2018 – [Williamston, South Carolina] – Today, the Automotive Technology program of study at the Anderson 1 and 2 Career and Technology Center received the prestigious Excellence in Action award from Advance CTE. This award honors innovative and effective Career Technical Education (CTE) programs across the nation. The Automotive Technology program of study exemplifies excellence in providing relevant work-based learning opportunities through sustained partnerships with education, community and industry leaders; integrates rigorous academics; meets college and career readiness standards; and has demonstrated substantial evidence of student success and achievement.

The Automotive Technology program of study received the award in the *Transportation, Distribution and Logistics Career Cluster*®. They are dedicated and passionate about creating seamless transitions to postsecondary and career. Beginning their sophomore year, learners can earn up to 15 college credits through an articulated agreement with the Tri-County Technical College, as well as 10 industry-recognized credentials in electrical and braking systems, creating a seamless transition to both postsecondary education and careers.

The Automotive Technology program of study has sustained partnerships with education and industry leaders that weigh in on curriculum, provide meaningful work-based learning experiences and additional supports. Among them is a partnership with Clemson University, established to encourage the growth of the female and minority populations' interests and success in the field. The female and minority learners' enrollment in the program of study has increased by 50 percent in the past year.

The program of study is clearly setting learners up for success. Last year, 99 percent of students earned an industry-recognized credential and 73 percent earned postsecondary credit.

"We believe in project-based learning, engaging businesses and industries, setting high expectations for all students and creating student-centered classroom environments. We have embraced the integration of academics into career and technical education. Our programs work closely with our home high schools and postsecondary institutions around career pathways that give students a head start on high-demand employment opportunities through stackable credentials," said Kale Fortenberry, Automotive Technology Instructor.

"The programs of study that we are honoring today all share a steadfast commitment to the highest expectations for CTE," said Kimberly Green, Executive Director of Advance CTE. "This dedication to quality and excellence leads to strong learner outcomes, creating opportunities for a lifetime of career and education success. Today's honorees serve as national models of what high-quality CTE looks like and can achieve."

Representatives accepted the honor at an award ceremony as part of the Advance CTE Spring Meeting in Washington, D.C. Learn more about the Automotive Technology program and the Excellence in Action award [here](#).

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About Advance CTE

Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work is the longest-standing national non-profit that represents State Directors and state leaders responsible for secondary, postsecondary and adult Career Technical Education (CTE) across all 50 states and U.S. territories. Established in 1920, Advance CTE supports visionary state leadership, cultivates best practices and speaks with a collective voice on national policy to promote academic and technical excellence that ensures a career-ready workforce.