

What is the SC Advanced Technological Education (SC ATE) Scholars Initiative?



The SC ATE Scholars initiative is a concentrated effort to recruit, educate and graduate needed technicians using the Advanced Technological Education approach offered at South Carolina technical colleges.

This brochure will provide an overview of this exciting initiative, including:

- Employer benefits.
- Employer responsibilities.
- Technical college responsibilities and support.
- Student responsibilities.

Why is the SC ATE Scholars initiative important to South Carolina business and industry?

The SC ATE Scholars initiative supports the primary purpose of the ATE program—attracting, retaining and graduating more students in engineering technology *to better meet industry needs*. Efforts are focused on providing a learning environment that more accurately reflects the workplace setting.

In the SC ATE Scholars initiative, industries and colleges become partners to identify, recruit and select students as SC ATE Scholars. Through a local ATE Scholars industry consortium, students are offered competitive technical college scholarships (for tuition and books) and related work experience with company sponsors.

Feedback from participating companies and students has been overwhelmingly positive.

Shared responsibility and a cooperative effort are important to the initiative's bottom line—producing greater numbers of more highly skilled engineering technology technicians for South Carolina's growing economy.

Employer Benefits and Responsibilities

What are the corporate benefits from a partnership with SC ATE and a South Carolina technical college?

- Having an expanded pool of engineering technology technicians.
- Actively participating in the student screening and selection process.
- Providing additional educational and training opportunities through a cost-effective public-private partnership.
- Offering an additional employee benefit that can help attract, motivate and retain high quality employees in a competitive field.
- Working as a partner in a SC ATE Scholars industry consortium to meet local engineering technology employment needs.
- Reaping positive community recognition from involvement in the SC ATE Scholars initiative.

ATE Scholars Industry Consortium Member:
"The SC ATE Scholars initiative is a leading-edge program."

What are the corporate responsibilities?

- Recruiting and/or selecting students to sponsor as SC ATE Scholars.
- Providing a scholarship for tuition and books to company-sponsored students.
- Providing sponsored students a paid, supervised work experience in a related field.
- Supporting recruitment advertisements and student recognition activities.
- Participating in the SC ATE Scholars industry consortium.
- Continuing to provide a company employee the current compensation package while the employee is a student in the SC ATE Scholars initiative.
- Providing schedule flexibility so that sponsored students may enroll in interrelated courses to be taken simultaneously during the semester.

ATE Scholars Industry Consortium Member:
"I think the ATE program is what we're looking for going into the future. The skills are right in line with what industry needs today."

College Responsibilities

What are the commitments and responsibilities that South Carolina technical colleges accept as a part of the SC ATE Scholars initiative?

- Offering the SC ATE curriculum for industrial and/or engineering technology students.
- Organizing and facilitating the activities of a local ATE Scholars industry consortium.
- Seeking to identify financial aid opportunities to offset the cost of the company's investment in tuition and books.
- Managing consortium advertising in public media to recruit students.
- Advertising in college publications (catalog, handbook, etc.).
- Testing and screening students based on the college's and company's selection criteria.
- Providing appropriate advisement and academic support to help ensure student academic success.
- Reporting to the employer the academic progress of company-sponsored students.
- Coordinating student recognition efforts.

ATE Scholar: *"You have two years working experience plus a diploma when you get out."*

Student Responsibilities

What are the responsibilities of a student selected for the SC ATE Scholars initiative?

- Maintaining an acceptable grade point average.
- Remaining in good standing as an employee of the sponsoring company.
- Fulfilling all identified responsibilities as a company-sponsored student in the SC ATE Scholars initiative.
- Agreeing to make use of all necessary college and academic support services if and when needed—or when recommended by faculty or company supervisors—to help ensure academic success.
- Permitting the technical college to release academic progress reports to the sponsoring company.

ATE Scholar: *"This will play a major part in helping me achieve my goals."*



The Time to Act is Now

The SC ATE Scholars partnership is developing the technicians your business needs.

SC ATE Scholars are educated in a problem-solving, team environment. Students complete an associate degree in engineering technology, an important step in a lifelong process to increase knowledge and improve skills.

Corporate partnerships for the SC ATE Scholars initiative fill quickly. *Sign up now so that your company has access to a promising new pool of engineering technology technicians.*

For more information, contact the South Carolina technical college listed below or the SC ATE Center of Excellence, which is listed on the back of this brochure.



SC Advanced Technological Education Center of Excellence

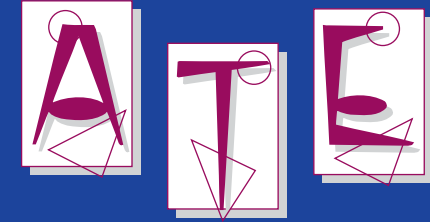
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South Carolina



S c h o l a r s

SC Advanced Technological Education

