



SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE — WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT —

Power Line Worker Program Update

November 2024

Power Line Worker Graduation for Cohort #26 A Great Crowd! A Great Day!



Twenty-eight students graduated from the Southside Virginia Community College Power Line Worker Program on Thursday, November 14th. It was a special day that represented a great deal of dedication and hard work.



Family and friends gather around the program's outdoor lab, fondly called the "Playground" to watch as students demonstrate skills of the trade.



After the morning demonstrations, the crowd moved to the Camp Pickett Officer's Club at Fort Barfoot for the formal ceremony.



Brian Mosier, CEO and President of Virginia Maryland Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC), was the graduation speaker. He is no stranger to electric cooperatives or Southside Virginia Community College. He began his career with Union Power Cooperative (North Carolina) and continued with Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative as Vice-President of Business Development. In 2019, he joined VMDAEC as Vice-President of Government Affairs and later as Vice-President of Member and Government Relations. He was later promoted to Chief Operating Officer and then became the President and CEO. Brian and the VMDAEC members were founding partners of SVCC's Power Line Worker Training School which officially began on March 1, 2016.

VMDAEC is an umbrella organization that serves 16 member owned electric cooperatives in a three state area. These 16 cooperatives serve more than 2 million people.

Brian is a member of the College's PLW Advisory Committee and a true cheerleader of SVCC's program and of the industry.



Isaac Walton of Lawrenceville, VA, was awarded the Climbing Higher Award. The recipient of this award has demonstrated to classmates and instructors traits necessary for a successful career as a power line worker. Characteristics include:

- Pride in their work
- Resilience and fortitude
- Dedication to the profession
- Commitment to safety
- Recognizes PLW as more than a career, it is a lifestyle
- Has the backs of their brothers and sisters in the field



With the graduation of Cohort #26, over 600 students have completed the program representing 56 counties and 13 cities in the Commonwealth of Virginia and 7 total states. Wow!

New Fiber Class

A new workforce class debuts at the Occupational Technical Center on January 13, 2025. After completion of the FBA OpTIC Path Certification Course, graduates will be prepared to install, splice, test, and maintain fiber systems.

To learn more about the course, attend the informational session on Thursday, December 12 at 5:00PM. The session will be held at the Occupational Technical Center, Pickett Park, 1041 W. Tenth Street, Blackstone, VA. Contact Suzanne Shook for more information, suzanne.shook@southside.edu or call 434-292-3101.



Upcoming Class Dates

Cohort #27: February 3 - April 17, 2025
Cohort #28: June 2 - August 15, 2025
Cohort #29: September 8 - November 20, 2025

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