



Dear Douglas County Community,

It is with great excitement I take a moment to introduce you to a new Career and Technical Education (CTE) program that is being offered at our new CEC Inverness Campus. We are offering an Industry certification and Career Pathway for Business and Entrepreneurship. CTE gives purpose to learning by emphasizing real-world skills and practical knowledge. It combines regular academic courses with career-focused courses, skill-building, mentoring, and work opportunities to give students extra preparation for college degrees and careers.

CECI's business/entrepreneurship pathway provides students the ability to explore the basics of business ownership. Our goal is to foster innovative and entrepreneurial behaviors by engaging students with hands-on learning that encourages students to research, practice, manufacture, and test the viability of their business concept. Students will gain experience, insights, and feedback from myriad stakeholders to improve their business for the preparation of a practical launch. After the completion of our four, sequenced-based, semester-long courses, students will begin to understand the core business principles, including the essentials needed to prepare, launch, and maintain a successful business, while having the ability to earn the ESB certificate that validates the students' preparedness.

We are currently recruiting members to join our Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee for this program at CECI. We are looking for Volunteers in the Industry areas of Business and Entrepreneurship. The committee is composed of business, industry, and civic representatives from the community. The goal of the committee is to improve career and technical preparation, consultation for instructors regarding course content and to develop closer cooperation between business and education for Work-Based Learning opportunities. If you have a background in any of these areas, knowledge of training needs and worker competencies you would be valuable to the program advisory committee. The time commitment to the Business and Entrepreneurship advisory committee would be two meetings each school year (one each semester). These meetings may be attended remotely and/or in person. We invite you to become a member of an advisory committee and CECI.

In addition, we are looking for Businesses that may be able to offer and/or support work-based learning (WBL) opportunities to enhance and support real hands-on experience in this program and industry. There are no limitations and/or expectations for WBL opportunities that a business may be able to offer. If you or someone you know may be interested in becoming an industry partner to support this program by offering possible WBL opportunities such as internships, industry-sponsored projects, job shadows, etc. I would be happy to discuss this in further detail. No business is too large or small.

Thank you for considering a partnership with CECI. Feel free to pass this request onto anyone you may know. We look forward to working with you to advance the goals of our Business and Entrepreneurship program and to broaden opportunities for our students in the community. If you need additional information or have clarifying questions, please feel free to contact me on the email below.

Sincerely,
Shirley Lia.

CTE Director
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