





February 23, 2021 For Immediate Release Contact: Rick Szabrak – 614-806-5429 / <u>Rick.Szabrak@FairfieldCountyOhio.gov</u>

Fairfield County Workforce Center Offering New Classes in March

(Carroll, OH) – The Fairfield County Workforce Center will begin offering new courses this March. Hocking College and Ohio University Lancaster will provide the instruction for an introduction to HVAC course and a small machine repair course, respectively.

Both courses are being offered to help individuals start careers in new industries or to enhance their current skills. Construction continues to grow in Central Ohio and HVAC companies are continually hiring new employees. There are also many job openings in manufacturing and the small machine repair program can help individuals learn a new trade or assist local companies in providing additional skills for their employees.

"The Workforce Center is here to meet both the needs of our employers and our local workforce," said Rick Szabrak, Fairfield County Economic and Workforce Development Director. "These two programs can help fill important jobs in our community and lead local workers into great careers. I'm excited that both Hocking College and Ohio University will share their expertise in these fields."

Hocking College will be offering its HVAC Ready to Work program, beginning March 1st, 2021. This 13week course will prepare students for entry-level work in the heating, ventilation, and cooling industry, providing students certifications in NATE, EPA, and NCCER.

"The Fairfield County Workforce Center provides robust, hands-on, relevant, industry-led training programs focused on delivering the skills needed for great careers in a variety of industries," said Sean Terrell, Dean of Workforce Development at Hocking College. "Hocking College is excited to be kicking off the Center's Ready to Work programs with HVAC training that provides a pathway to employment through short-term, stackable industry-recognized certifications."

Ohio University Lancaster will provide the Machine Repair course beginning March 9, 2021. Students learn the mechanical components of systems, the proper techniques used in repair systems, and safety procedures used in industry today.

"Meeting the workforce needs of Fairfield County area employers is vital," Dean of Campus and Community Relations, Jarrod Tudor, said. "Ohio University Lancaster is committed to Fairfield County and to offering top-notch training to prepare students for immediately entering new careers in health care."







The Fairfield County Workforce Center, located at 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW in Carroll, is a collaborative partnership between the Fairfield County Commissioners, Ohio University Lancaster and the Russ College of Engineering, and Hocking College. The partnership focuses on economic development through training and workforce development.

Course information and registration details can be found at <u>FairfieldCountyOhioWorkforceCenter.gov</u>.

For information on the machine repair course, please contact Jarrod Tudor at 740-681-3302 or via email at <u>Jarrod.Tudor@ohio.edu</u>. For more information about the HVAC courses, please contact Sean Terrell at 740-753-7149 or via email at <u>terrells@hocking.edu</u>.