

Gov. Walker: Promotes workforce development at Nicolet Technical College

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"We are preparing our workforce for today's and tomorrow's jobs"

RHINELANDER – Governor Scott Walker visited Nicolet Technical College today to discuss the importance of workforce development in high demand fields. The governor discussed the Career Creator Program and Wisconsin Fast Forward after visiting a criminal justice classroom and touring the welding room at Nicolet Technical College.

"With historic low unemployment and businesses expanding across Wisconsin, it is all the more important that we are preparing our workforce for today's and tomorrow's jobs," said Governor Walker. "Through our Wisconsin Career Creator Program, and Wisconsin Fast Forward, we are providing the tools and resources to train Wisconsinites for high demand jobs, like those in manufacturing. With strong support from our educators and business communities, we will continue to see Wisconsin's workforce grow into the 21st century."

Nicolet Technical College offers competency-based education in Welding and IT Programs which are helping train Wisconsin's workforce. The college also offers many programs that support manufacturing and apprenticeship programs.

Two of Governor Walker's workforce development initiatives include Wisconsin Fast Forward and Wisconsin Career Creator:

- Wisconsin Fast Forward provides grants to Wisconsin businesses who provide

customized skills training for high-demand jobs. The program was created by Governor Walker in 2013 with bipartisan support. The goal is to train and retain highly skilled Wisconsin workers.

- Wisconsin Career Creator is a \$20 million initiative at the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) aimed at improving educational and training opportunities. The program has the support of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS), University of Wisconsin System (UW-System), and the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU).