

# Power Up Your Energy Career

Webinar series designed for energy industry professionals who want to explore online education options that fit their schedules.

Wednesday, April 15th, 2026

*While we wait to begin - please share in the chat what you are hoping to learn/get out of today's webinar and/or specific programs you are interested in learning more about.*

**Laura**

Vice President, Industry Coalitions



# Agenda



1. EPCE Overview



2. EPCE Programs



3. Tips for Adult Learners



4. Bismarck State College



5. Q & A

# What is EPCE

ENERGY PROVIDERS COALITION FOR EDUCATION

EPCE is a partnership of **energy industry employers, unions and associations** created to address **critical employment needs** in the **energy industry** through online education, founded in 2000.



EPCE Members represent over **two-thirds** of the energy industry across all 50 states!



# EPCE Education: From the Electric Power Technology program in 2000 to our current offerings today.

[www.epceonline.org](http://www.epceonline.org)



<p><b>Generation</b></p>	<p><b>Nuclear Power</b></p> <p>Certificate in Nuclear Power Technology at Bismarck State College</p> <p>AAS in Nuclear Power Technology at Bismarck State College</p> <p>BS in Nuclear Engineering Technology with Concentrations in Nuclear Leadership at Excelsior University</p>	<p><b>Power Generation</b></p> <p>Certificate in Power Generation Technology AAS in Power Generation Technology at Bismarck State College</p>	<p><b>Engineering</b></p> <p>BS in Electrical Engineering Technology (BSEET)</p> <p>BS in Mechanical Engineering Technology: Concentrations in Robotics, Nuclear, and Renewable Energy at Excelsior University</p>
<p><b>Transmission /Distribution</b></p>	<p><b>Electric Power</b></p> <p>Certificate in Electric Power Technology AAS in Electric Power Technology all at Bismarck State College</p> <p>Certificate in Electrical Transmission Systems Technology AAS in Electrical Transmission Systems Technology all at Bismarck State College</p>	<p><b>Instrumentation &amp; Control</b></p> <p>Certificate and AAS in Instrumentation &amp; Control Technology at Bismarck State College</p>	<p><b>Renewable Energy Certificate</b> at Clemson University</p> <p>BS in Electrical Engineering (BSEE) at Clemson University</p> <p>MS and Grad Certificate in Power Systems Management at Worcester Polytechnic Institute</p> <p>MS and Grad Certificate in Power Systems Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute</p>
<p><b>Specialty</b></p>	<p><b>Business</b></p> <p>BPS in Business and Management BS in Business at Excelsior University</p> <p>Executive MBA (hybrid) Master of Business Administration (MBA) at Excelsior University</p>	<p><b>Technology Mgmt.</b></p> <p>BPS in Technology Management with Concentrations in Electrical, Nuclear or Renewable Energy at Excelsior University</p>	<p><b>Water &amp; Wastewater</b></p> <p>Certificate in Water &amp; Wastewater Technology at Bismarck State College</p>
		<p><b>Cybersecurity / Information Technology</b></p> <p>AAS in Computer Technologies BS in Computer Science BS in Cybersecurity BS in Information Technology with Cyber Concentration MS in Cybersecurity at Excelsior University</p>	





## Why EPCE Matters to You



Discounted tuition (up to 20%)



Programs built for utility professionals



Flexible online format



Industry-aligned curriculum



Designed for full-time workers

**This is not random education.  
It's **relevant** education.**

# Designed for Working Adults



**100% online**



**Asynchronous  
options**



**Transferable  
credit**



**Accredited  
institutions**







**Real workplace  
application**



## Why Employees Don't Use Tuition Benefits

Nationally:

-  Fewer than 5% of employees use tuition benefits.
-  Most don't think they have time.
-  Many don't know where to start.
-  Some don't think it applies to them.

Today is about removing those barriers. ↗

# Colleges have Credit for Prior Learning, to earn credit for credentials & experiences outside of the classroom.



## Maximize Your Experience

Colleges have Credit for Prior Learning, also called Prior Learning Assessment, which are programs that will allow you to earn college credit for credentials & experiences you've had outside of the classroom. This can include military training, job training/certifications, and courses completed at other colleges or universities.



**You may be closer to a degree than you think!**

# Tips for Adult Learners: Once you are enrolled



## Advocate for yourself in the online classroom

Ask questions, via email or in discussion boards, if you don't understand something. It is difficult for faculty members to know if you need help if you don't ask (because they can't see your face or body language in course).



## Use the Discussion Boards to bond and learn from other students

Most of the students in your class will be working adults, like you, and you can share the joys and pains of learning together through this period of your life.



## Seek out help

A lot of us in the workplace haven't been writing papers in many years. Ask your advisor or faculty member if you need assistance. Many schools have writing coaches or workshops that can assist you (online).



## Set aside time to study

Make the commitment to study X hours a day. Maybe it is just one hour a day! Starting small is fine.

# EPCE Success Stories - NUPT Program Graduates



**“From electrical science and learning how to read piping and instrumentation diagrams, to learning about the neutron life cycle, this program is very well rounded and would give any student a leg up into the industry.”**

**Earned:** AAS in Nuclear Power Technology  
Rachel Schroeffer, Performance Improvement Coordinator  
Xcel Energy, Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Station

**“The classes have helped to extend my general plant and system knowledge, and I’ve been able to use a lot of that knowledge in my current operator training.”**

**Earned:** AAS in Nuclear Power Technology  
Phillip Washington, Cycle Planner, Work Management Department  
Constellation, Clinton Power Station



# EPCE Success Stories - ELPW Program Graduates

**"The ELPW program was exactly what I needed to bridge the knowledge gap to help me do better in my current role. I was able to apply what I learned in the program to make our mapping better, improve our electric flows, and help me better understand our department in a deeper way."**

**Earned:** AAS in Electric Power Technology  
Brian Dial, Energy Resource Manager  
City of St. George



**"I liked that I could just focus on one course at a time and could 'check it off the list' and then move on to the next, so you felt like you were constantly making progress. I also liked how they offered different specializations the final semester. I took the Substation specialization, which was directly applicable to my current role."**

**Earned:** AAS in Electric Power Technology  
Chelsea Dinallo, Substation Electrician  
Eversource

- Any questions on EPCE before we hand it over to





**BISMARCK**  
STATE COLLEGE

**North Dakota's  
Polytechnic Institution**

# polytechnic.

## Hands-on learning. **WORKFORCE READY.**

At North Dakota's Polytechnic Institution, learning is hands-on and grounded in the principles of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics).

Flexible.  
Affordable.  
Transferable.

### ▶ **MISSION**

As North Dakota's Polytechnic Institution, Bismarck State College Focuses on student success through the delivery of affordable, flexible, high quality, experiential learning enhanced by public-private partnerships.



### **STUDENT**

You choose. You learn.  
You gain practical skills for the workplace and life.



### **EMPLOYER**

You consult. You Support.  
You design curriculum, enhance community and Shape lives.

### ▶ **VISION**

Bismarck State College is a leader in polytechnic education, improving lives and building sustainable communities.



Students learn during internships, through cooperative projects and in state-of-the-art classrooms.



The programs are designed in collaboration with business and industry partners, focusing on high-priority occupations.

# BY THE NUMBERS

**4,000+**  
Students

**20+** Student Clubs  
and Organizations

**120**  
Acre Campus

**100+**  
Programs

**15** Intercollegiate  
Athletic Teams

**6** Residence  
Halls

**3rd** Largest College  
in North Dakota

**14:1** Student-  
Faculty Ratio

**#1 College**  
For North Dakota Freshman

\*Largest enrollment in North Dakota Colleges, including Dual  
Credit and Early Entry Students.

# COST AND AFFORDABILITY

## BSC is Your Affordable College Choice.

- Generous Scholarships
- Financial Aid Packages



### Scholarships

The BSC Foundation provides nearly \$1.7 million in scholarships to students each year. Every student should apply for this scholarship. There are also several programmatic scholarships available.

### FAFSA

Financial Aid comes in the form of grants, Federal Student Loans, and Work Study. Not all aid is need based. There is no income cut off. Even if you don't qualify for grants, you may still be eligible for loans. To find out if you qualify, fill out your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



### Waivers

Must be eligible based on the qualifications of the waiver. Waivers can be applied to tuition, fees, or residence hall costs based on the type of waiver. Apply for as many of the waivers that you think you qualify for.

# BSC ONLINE DEGREE PROGRAMS

## »» Certificates – AAS - BAS

### Certificate and AAS

Power/Process Technology

#### Electric Power Technology

Electrical Transmission Systems Technology Electronics

#### Nuclear Power Technology

Instrumentation & Control Technology

Petroleum Production Technology

Water & Wastewater Technician



### BAS

Energy Management

Operations Management



# ELECTRIC POWER TECHNOLOGY

## »» PATHWAY OPTIONS

### CORE TECHNICAL COURSES

- ELPW 111 – Introduction to the Electrical Industry & Power Grid
- ENRT 106 – DC Fundamentals
- ENRT 108 – AC Fundamentals
- ENRT 114 – Industrial Safety and Health
- ENRT 117 – Technical Communication
- ELPW 105 – Electrical System Fundamentals
- ELPW 112 – Electrical System Components
- ELPW 120 – Industrial prints and diagrams
- ENRT 221 – Applied Electronics
- ENRT 224 – Automation and Control
- ENRT 230 – SCADA
- ELPW 204 – Advanced Electrical Systems
- ELPW 206 – Electrical System Protection

### SPECIALIZATION AREAS

#### LINE CONSTRUCTION

- ELPW210 – Overhead Transmission & Distribution Line Construction
- ELPW 230 – Underground Line Construction
- ELPW 250 – Transformers

#### SUBSTATION

- ELPW 211 – Substation Relays
- ELPW 231 – Substation Operations
- ELPW 251 – Substation Construction & Maintenance

#### SYSTEM DESIGN

- ELPW 208 – Advanced Math
- ELPW 240 – Electrical System Design
- ELPW 252 – Civil Design

#### METERING

- ELPW 208 – Advanced Math
- ELPW 213 – Fundamentals of Metering
- ELPW 233 – Single-phase and Polyphase Metering
- ELPW 253 – Advanced Metering Technology

# NULCEAR POWER TECHNOLOGY

## »» PROGRAM OUTLINE

### **CORE TECHNICAL COURSES**

ENRT 100 – Operations, Safety and Environment

ENRT 109 – Equipment and Systems

ENRT 112 – Print Reading

ENRT 119 – Industry Science

ENRT 116 – Instrumentation and Control

ENRT 120 – Water Purification and Treatment

ENRT 215 – Operations, Troubleshooting and Communiation

NUPT 104 – Nuclear Math and Physics

NUPT 114 – Material and Radiological Concepts

NUPT 222 – Nuclear Industry Science

NUPT 224 – Nuclear Safety and Protection

NUPT 226 – Nuclear Plant Equipment



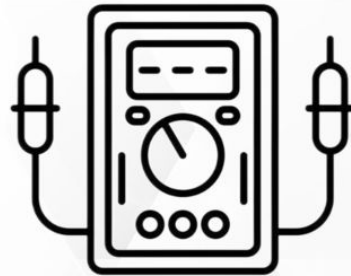
# LEADER IN ONLINE EDUCATION

## Responsive & Engaging

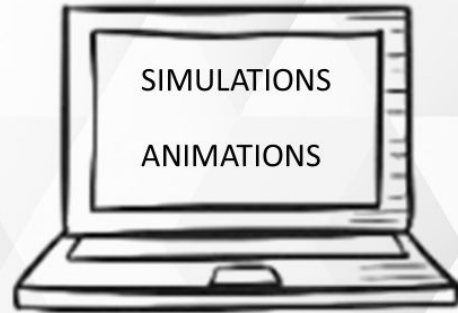
- Regionally accredited college
- Promote accelerated learning
- Responsive to industry needs
- Convenient and flexible
- Offer prior learning assessment
- Provide industry-recognized credentials



## Interactive & Engaging



REMOTE LABORATORIES



# ONLINE LEARNING – DELIVERED BY BSC

## »»» BUILT BY INDUSTRY FOR INDUSTRY

### DELIVERY

- High quality and rigorous curriculum
- Not “computer based training”
- Instructor-led by industry experts
- Highly interactive and state of the art technology
- Small classes with high completion rates
- College credit-bearing
- Consistent across national industry coalition
- Anytime, anywhere delivery
  - ASYNCHRONOUS
  - 24/7
  - BUILT FOR WORKING ADULTS
  - BUILT FOR BALANCE



### COURSE SCHEDULE

- Courses offered at set times each semester
  - SPRING: JANUARY TO MAY
  - SUMMER: MAY TO AUGUST
  - FALL: AUGUST TO DECEMBER
- Courses offered in blocks of 3-5 weeks per course
- Students spend approximately 15-20 hours a week on a course



# EDUCATION **DONE RIGHT**

## »»» STUDENT SUCCESS

### **ACADEMIC ADVISOR**

- Students are assigned a professional academic advisor
- Assist with degree planning, course registration, course withdrawal, transfer questions, and graduation applications.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 1.7 Million BSC Foundation – Scholarships
  - \$250K+ BSC Scholarships and Employer Sponsorships designated for Energy



# LET'S DO THIS

## GET STARTED

### Complete Application

Complete Application online at [bismarckstate.edu/apply](https://bismarckstate.edu/apply)

\*Non-refundable \$35 application fee

### Request Transcripts

Request your official high school, GED, or College Transcript be sent directly to BSC Admissions

## Next Steps

- Apply for scholarships at [bismarckstate.edu/scholarships](https://bismarckstate.edu/scholarships)
- Submit your free application for federal student aid at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)
  - *BSC school code: 002988*





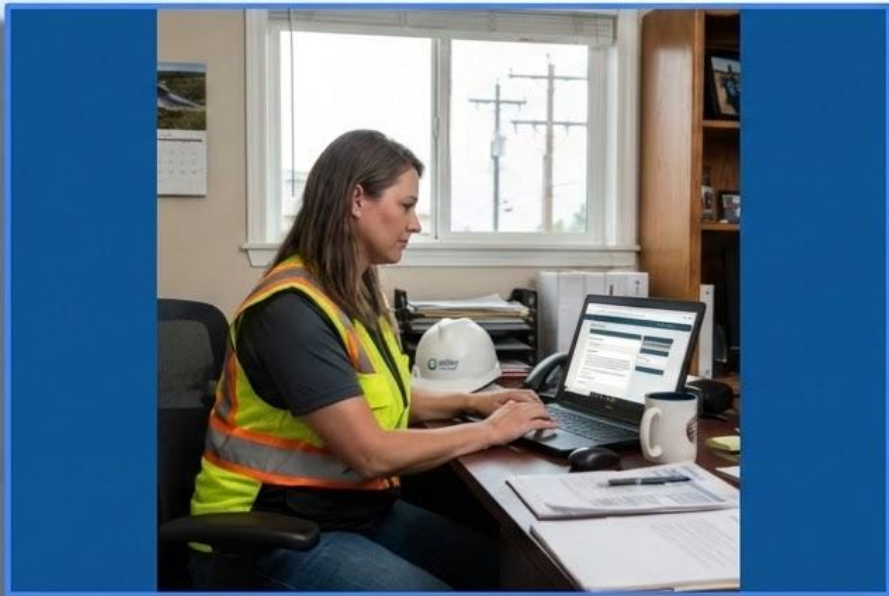
**BISMARCK**  
STATE COLLEGE

**North Dakota's  
Polytechnic Institution**

**QUESTIONS**

# Our gift to you for attending today!

## ADULT LEARNER TOOLKIT



### WHAT IS THE ENERGY PROVIDERS COALITION FOR EDUCATION (EPCE)?

EPCE is a partnership of energy industry employers, unions and associations created to address critical employment needs in the energy industry through online education. As of 2018, becoming your company's an EPCE member, you receive discounted tuition which means your tuition assistance dollars go further.

EPCE's online programs are developed by industry for industry. They identify clear, attainable learning outcomes based on job responsibilities. The course materials are reviewed by subject matter experts, trainers, and managers in the energy field. This access that saves you and your fellow employees money is applicable, current, and relevant to your career, and where you want to go.

## ADULT LEARNER TOOLKIT

This toolkit provides an overview of EPCE, its program offerings, and tips for adult learners. It is meant for employees of EPCE member companies who are interested in earning a certificate, associate, bachelor's or advanced degree to grow their careers.

[epceonline.org](http://epceonline.org)

EPCE  25  
YEARS



# Thank You and Next Steps

Bismarck

ELPW - Ashley

[ashley.placekolson@bismarckstate.edu](mailto:ashley.placekolson@bismarckstate.edu)

NUPT - Greg

[gregory.lugar@bismarckstate.edu](mailto:gregory.lugar@bismarckstate.edu)

EPCE

Laura [lheller@cael.org](mailto:lheller@cael.org)



We will email out  
slide deck/webinar  
recording.



We will send you  
the Adult Learner  
Toolkit as a  
Thank You for  
attending today.



Connect with us  
for any questions.

