

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **PTC establishes new business technology degree and office technology specialist certificate**

PINE CITY, Minn. – Pine Technical College is offering a new associate of applied science degree in business technology that starts this fall, Aug. 22. The program is designed and offered in two parts; a student first will earn an office technology specialist certificate and continue to earn the A.A.S. degree. With just the certificate, a graduate will possess skills and knowledge related to the IT field as well as have the ability to apply project management and planning skills from a business-administrative mindset.

“With our new business technology program, PTC stands ready to provide educated, well-qualified graduates to this relatively newly-defined and unique field,” says Julie Shores, PTC business and accounting instructor. “The field of business technology combines themes, concepts, and applications from office technology, IT and business administration to give a student a hybrid skill set that is very much sought after by today’s business leaders,” Shores explains.

While research proves IT professionals are in high demand, they also must be capable of making strategic business decisions and coordinating IT solutions among a myriad of departments and functions within an organization. PTC’s new program in business technology is a match for students seeking an education with both a business and information technology-rich emphasis, and who have an interest in working with technology to find solutions to technical and business problems.

With an A.A.S. degree in business technology, a graduate will be able to manage technical aspects of the IT field as well as possess project budgeting, leadership, and organizational skills necessary for today’s business practitioner and leadership positions.

“We’re very proud of our new business technology program,” says PTC President Robert Musgrove. “The program offers students a sound education in both the business and information systems environment with an emphasis on project and business management as well as business information management. Graduates will be an asset to any modern office,” Musgrove adds.

Pine Technical College, established in 1965 and accredited by the [Higher Learning Commission](#), serves more than 1,200 students and awards certificates, diplomas and associate degrees. PTC’s notable programs include accounting, American Sign Language, automotive technology, business administration, business technology, computer programming, computer science, early childhood development,

– more –



# Pine Technical College

gunsmithing technology, network administration, practical nursing, precision manufacturing/machining (CNC), public welfare financial worker, and many more.

PTC is a proud member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, which is comprised of 32 state universities and community and technical colleges serving the higher education needs of Minnesota. The system serves about 277,000 students per year in credit-based courses and an additional 157,000 students in noncredit courses. PTC is accepting applications for new students in all programs; fall courses will start Aug. 22. For more information, call 320-629-5100.

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