



New Program Proposal

The following must be submitted to complete a new program request:

Submission Checklist:

- New Program Proposal
- Business Plan (<https://www.ache.edu/index.php/forms/>)
- Undergraduate or Graduate Curriculum Plan (<https://www.ache.edu/index.php/forms/>)

Primary Contact Information

Institution: Wallace State Community College - Hanceville

Contact: Jerry Murcks

Title: Dean of Applied Technologies

Email: jerry.murcks@wallacestate.edu

Telephone: 356-352-8229

Program Information

Date of Proposal Submission: 10/16/2025

Award Level: Associate's Degree

Award Nomenclature (e.g., BS, MBA): AAS

Field of Study/Program Title: Facility Maintenance Technology

CIP Code (6-digit): 46.0401 – Building/Property Maintenance and Management

Administration of the Program

Name of Dean: Jerry Murcks

Name of College/School: Wallace State Community College

Name of Chairperson: Ethan Hallmark

Name of Department/Division: Robotics and Automation Technology

Implementation Information

Proposed Program Implementation Date: 8/3/2026

Anticipated Date of Approval from Institutional Governing Board : 5/13/2026

Anticipated Date of ACHE Meeting to Vote on Proposal: 6/12/2026

SACSCOC Sub Change Requirement (Notification, Approval, or NA): Choose an item.

Other Considerations for Timing and Approval (e.g., upcoming SACSCOC review):



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I. Program Description

A. **Concise Program Summary (one paragraph)** to be included in ACHE Agenda: The Facility Maintenance Technology Associate in Applied Science (AAS) program at Wallace State Community College prepares students for employment as multi-skilled technicians responsible for maintaining, troubleshooting, installing, and repairing systems in industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities. The curriculum integrates electrical, HVAC, mechanical, and automation coursework with safety and communication skills to produce job-ready graduates aligned with Alabama's in-demand occupations.

B. Specific Rationale (Strengths) for the Program

List three (3) to five (5) strengths of the proposed program as specific rationale for recommending approval of this proposal.

1. Meets statewide demand for multi-skilled facility maintenance technicians.
2. Utilizes existing faculty, equipment, and labs from HVAC, Electrical, and Electro-Automation programs.
3. Provides seamless pathway with multiple exit points (Certificate and Short-Term Certificate).
4. Supports regional and state workforce development priorities.

C. External Support (Recommended)

List external entities (more may be added) that may have supplied letters of support attesting to the program's strengths and attach letters with the proposal at the end of this document.

1. Local Industry Partners
2. Wallace State Workforce Advisory Committee
3. North Alabama Works and regional employers in HVAC, electrical, and manufacturing sectors.

D. Student Learning Outcomes

List four (4) to seven (7) of the student learning outcomes of the program.

1. Demonstrate foundational knowledge of electrical, HVAC, mechanical, and automation systems used in facility maintenance.
 2. Apply troubleshooting and diagnostic techniques to install, maintain, repair, and improve facility systems.
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3. Safely utilize tools, equipment, and technology aligned with industry standards.
4. Communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, in technical and professional environments.
5. Interpret technical drawings, schematics, and manuals to perform maintenance and repair tasks.
6. Apply industry-recognized safety practices including OSHA and EPA compliance.
7. Demonstrate readiness for employment in facility and industrial maintenance settings.

E. Similar Programs at Other Alabama Public Institutions

List programs at other Alabama public institutions of the same degree level and the same (or similar) CIP codes. If no similar programs exist within Alabama, list similar programs offered within the 16 SREB states. If the proposed program duplicates, closely resembles, or is similar to any other offerings in the state, provide justification for any potential duplication.

| CIP Code | Degree Title | Institution with Similar Program | Justification for Duplication |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 46.0401 | AAS – Building/Property Maintenance | Coastal Alabama Community College | Facility Maintenance Technology at Wallace State expands access in North Alabama; no duplication in region. |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

F. Relationship to Existing Programs within the Institution

Nearly all new programs have some relationship to existing offerings through shared courses, faculty, facilities, etc. Is the proposed program associated with any existing offerings within the institution, including options within current degree programs? **Yes No**

If **yes**, please describe these relationships including whether or not the program will replace or compete with existing offerings: (**Note:** If this is a graduate program, list any existing undergraduate programs which are directly or indirectly related. If this is a doctoral program, also list related master's programs.)

The proposed program complements existing HVAC, Electrical, and Electro-Automation Technology programs. It leverages shared faculty, labs, and equipment and does not replace or compete with current offerings.

G. Collaboration

Have any collaborations **within your institution** (i.e., research centers, across academic divisions, etc.) been explored? **Yes No**



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If **yes**, provide a brief explanation of the proposed collaboration plan(s) for the program:

Collaborations include shared instruction and facilities within Wallace State's Applied Technologies Division

Have collaborations with **other institutions or external entities** (i.e., local business, industries, etc.) been explored? Yes No

If **yes**, provide a brief explanation of the proposed collaboration plan(s) for the program:

partnerships with local employers for internships, apprenticeships, and work-based learning opportunities

H. Programmatic Accreditation

Select the appropriate program accreditor from the drop-down menu below:

None

Provide a detailed timeline for gaining accreditation (i.e., when will full candidacy be reached?):

I. Professional Licensure

Will the program be considered a Professional Licensure Program based on the following definition: Yes No

Professional Licensure Program: As defined in federal regulations, an instructional program that is designed to meet educational requirements for a specific professional license or certification that is required for employment in an occupation or is advertised as meeting such requirements.

If **yes**, please explain:

Select the appropriate licensure body from the table below:

Choose an item.

Select the appropriate license from the table below:

Choose an item.

J. Professional Certification

Will students earn industry certifications while completing the degree or be prepared for industry certifications upon graduation? Yes No



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If **yes**, please explain: Students may earn or prepare for industry certifications such as OSHA 10

K. Admissions

Provide any additional admissions requirements beyond the institution's standard admissions process/policies for this degree level. Include prerequisites, prior degrees earned, etc.

High school diploma or GED required; standard Wallace State admissions policies apply.

L. Mode of Delivery

Provide the planned delivery format(s) of the program as defined in policy (i.e., in-person, online, hybrid). Please also note whether any program requirements can be completed through competency-based assessment.

In-person and hybrid. No 100% distance education option.

Can students complete the entire degree program through distance education (100% online) based on the following definition? Yes No

M. Instructional Site(s)

Provide the planned location(s) where the program will be delivered (i.e., main campus, satellite campus, off-campus site.) If the program will be offered at an off-campus site, provide the existing site name or submit an **Off-Campus Site Request** if new.

Main campus – Hanceville, Alabama.

Will more than 50% of this program be offered at an off-campus site(s) Yes No

If **yes**, which sites?

N. Industry Need

Using the federal **Standard Occupational Code (SOC) System**, indicate the top three occupational codes related to post-graduation employment from the program. A full list of SOC codes can be found at <https://www.onetcodeconnector.org/find/family/title#17>.

SOC 1: 49-9071 – Maintenance and Repair Workers, General

SOC 2: 49-9041 – Industrial Machinery Mechanics

SOC 3: 49-9021 – Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers

Briefly describe how the program fulfills a specific industry or employment need for the State of Alabama. As appropriate, discuss alignment with Alabama's Statewide or Regional Lists of In-



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Demand Occupations (<https://www.ache.edu/index.php/policy-guidance/>) or with emerging industries as identified by [Innovate Alabama](#) or the [Economic Development Partnership of Alabama](#) (EDPA).

The program fulfills Alabama’s demand for skilled workers in facility and industrial maintenance, identified as in-demand occupations by the Alabama Department of Labor. It supports workforce needs across manufacturing, healthcare, logistics, and education sectors.

O. Additional Education/Training

Please explain whether further education/training is required for graduates of the proposed program to gain entry-level employment in the SOC occupations selected above.

Graduates are prepared for immediate entry into facility maintenance technician roles. Additional certifications are optional but beneficial.

P. Student Demand

Please explain how you projected the student enrollment numbers in the **Business Plan, Lines 24-27** and provide evidence to substantiate student demand (i.e., surveys, enrollments in related courses, etc.).

Strong enrollment in related HVAC, Electrical, and Automation courses demonstrates student interest. Advisory committee input and local employer feedback confirm the need for a structured Facility Maintenance pathway.

| Term | Subject | Course | Enrollees |
|--------|---------|--------|-----------|
| 202420 | ACR | 112 | 6 |
| 202520 | ACR | 112 | 28 |
| 202420 | ACR | 113 | 5 |
| 202520 | ACR | 113 | 16 |
| 202510 | ACR | 147 | 6 |
| 202530 | ACR | 147 | 13 |
| 202610 | ACR | 147 | 7 |
| 202420 | ELT | 110 | 2 |
| 202520 | ELT | 110 | 7 |
| 202610 | ELT | 110 | 2 |
| 202620 | ILT | 110 | 12 |
| 202420 | ILT | 160 | 12 |
| 202510 | ILT | 160 | 46 |
| 202520 | ILT | 160 | 5 |



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| | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|----|
| 202610 | ILT | 160 | 42 |
| 202420 | ILT | 161 | 9 |
| 202510 | ILT | 161 | 39 |
| 202520 | ILT | 161 | 4 |
| 202610 | ILT | 161 | 42 |
| 202420 | ILT | 166 | 2 |
| 202530 | ILT | 166 | 10 |
| 202610 | ILT | 166 | 1 |
| 202420 | ILT | 197 | 15 |
| 202520 | ILT | 197 | 37 |
| 202610 | ILT | 197 | 12 |
| 202620 | ILT | 197 | 26 |



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II. Program Resources and Expenses

A. All Proposed Program Personnel

Provide all personnel counts for the proposed program.

| Employment Status of Program Personnel | | Personnel Information | | |
|--|-------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Count from Proposed Program Department | Count from Other Departments | Subtotal of Personnel |
| Current | Full-Time Faculty | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | Part-Time Faculty | | 1 | 1 |
| | Administration | | 3 | 3 |
| | Support Staff | | | 0 |
| **New To Be Hired | Full-Time Faculty | | | 0 |
| | Part-Time Faculty | | | 0 |
| | Administration | | | 0 |
| | Support Staff | | | 0 |
| Personnel Total | | | | |

Provide justification that the institution has proposed a sufficient number of faculty (full-time and part-time) for the proposed program to ensure curriculum and program quality, integrity, and review:

This program will be led by our Mechatronics department, which also oversees the Electrical program, and will include three full-time instructors. Additional support will be provided by the HVAC program, including one full-time instructor and a part-time lab assistant. Administrative oversight will include the Dean, one full-time administrator, and a department secretary.

Note: Include *any new funds* designated for compensation costs (faculty, administration, and/or support staff to be hired) in the **Business Plan, Line 7 - Personnel Salaries and Benefits**. Current personnel salary/benefits *should not be included* in the Business Plan.



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B. Proposed Faculty Roster*

Complete the following **Faculty Roster** to provide a brief summary and qualifications of current faculty and potential new hires specific to the program.

***Note:** Institutions must maintain and have current as well as additional faculty curriculum vitae available upon ACHE request for as long as the program is active, but CVs are **not** to be submitted with this proposal.

| Current Faculty | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| CURRENT FACULTY NAME (FT, PT) | COURSES TAUGHT including Term, Course Number, Course Title, & Credit Hours (D, UN, UT, G, DU) | ACADEMIC DEGREES and COURSEWORK Relevant to Courses Taught, including Institution and Major; List Specific Graduate Coursework, if needed | OTHER QUALIFICATIONS and COMMENTS Related to Courses Taught and Modality(ies) (IP, OL, HY, OCIS) |
| Ethan Hallmark, FT | | | All IP |
| Brian Hall, FT | | | All IP |
| Ryan Iverson, FT | | | All IP |
| Cody Gore, PT | Lab Assistant | Associates HVAC | |
| IceAlina Wington, PT | Secretary | | |
| Jerry Murcks, FT | Dean | | |
| Deidre Rooker, FT | Administrative Assistant | | |
| Additional Faculty (To Be Hired) | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| FACULTY POSITION (FT, PT) | COURSES TO BE TAUGHT including Term, Course Number, Course Title, & Credit Hours (D, UN, UT, G, DU) | ACADEMIC DEGREES and COURSEWORK Relevant to Courses Taught, including Institution and Major; List Specific Graduate Coursework, if needed | OTHER QUALIFICATIONS and COMMENTS Related to Courses Taught and Modality(ies) (IP, OL, HY, OCIS) |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Abbreviations: (FT, PT): Full-Time, Part-Time; (D, UN, UT, G, DU): Developmental, Undergraduate Nontransferable, Undergraduate Transferable, Graduate, Dual: High School Dual Enrollment
Course Modality: (IP, OL, HY, OCIS): In-Person, Online, Hybrid, Off-Campus Instructional Site



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C. Equipment

Will any special equipment be needed specifically for this program? Yes No

If **yes**, list the special equipment and include all special equipment costs in the **Business Plan, Line 8**:

D. Facilities

Will new facilities or renovations to existing infrastructure be required specifically for the program? Yes No

If **yes**, describe the new facilities or renovations and include all *new* facilities and/or *renovation* costs in the **Business Plan, Line 9**:

E. Assistantships/Fellowships

Will the institution offer any assistantships specifically for this program? Yes No

If **yes**, provide the number of assistantships to be offered and include all *new* costs for assistantships in the **Business Plan, Line 10**.

Explain the function of the Assistantships (i.e., teaching, research, etc.)?:

F. Library

Will any **additional** library resources be purchased to support the program? Yes No

If **yes**, briefly describe new resources to be purchased and include the cost of new library resources in the **Business Plan, Line 11**:

G. Accreditation Expenses

If programmatic accreditation was indicated above, please include all accreditation costs in the **Business Plan, Line 12** and itemize and explain below:

H. Other Costs

Please include all other costs incurred with program implementation, such as marketing or recruitment, in the **Business Plan, Line 13** and explain below:



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III. Program Revenue and Funding

- A. Tuition Revenue:** Please describe how you calculated the tuition revenue that appears in the **Business Plan, Line 17**. Specifically, did you calculate using cost per credit hour or per term? Did you factor in differences between resident and non-resident tuition rates?
Note: Tuition Revenue should be proportional to total enrollment.

Tuition revenue will be calculated by credit hour. No external or reallocated funding required.

- B. External Funding:** Will the proposed program require external funding (e.g., Perkins, Foundation, Federal Grants, Sponsored Research, etc.)? Yes No

If **yes**, please include all external funding in the **Business Plan, Line 18** and explain specific sources and funding below:

- C. Reallocations:** For each year will tuition revenue and/or external funding cover projected expenses? Yes No

If **not**, budget reallocation may be required. Please include all reallocations in the **Business Plan, Line 19** and describe below how your institution will cover any shortfalls in any given year.

ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAM PROPOSAL SUMMARY

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| INSTITUTION: | Wallace State Community College | | |
| PROGRAM NAME: | Facility Maintenance Technology | CIP CODE: | 46.0401 |
| SELECT LEVEL: | UNDERGRADUATE (ASSOCIATE) | | |

ESTIMATED *NEW* EXPENSES TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSED PROGRAM

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Year 7 | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|
| FACULTY | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| ADMINISTRATION/STAFF | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| EQUIPMENT | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| FACILITIES | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| ASSISTANTSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| LIBRARY | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| ACCREDITATION AND OTHER COSTS | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

NEW REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Year 7 | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| REALLOCATIONS | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| EXTERNAL FUNDING | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| TUITION + FEES | \$12,596 | \$118,402 | \$125,960 | \$138,556 | \$151,152 | \$163,748 | \$176,344 | \$886,758 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | \$12,596 | \$118,402 | \$125,960 | \$138,556 | \$151,152 | \$163,748 | \$176,344 | \$886,758 |

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Note: "New Enrollment Headcount" is defined as unduplicated counts across years.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Year 7 | AVERAGE |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT | No data reporting | 9.4 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 11.57 |
| PART-TIME ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| TOTAL ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT | | 9.4 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 11.57 |
| NEW ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT | | 7 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 9.50 |
| Validation of Enrollment | | | YES | YES | NO | NO | NO | |

DEGREE COMPLETION PROJECTIONS

Note: Do not count Lead "0"s and Lead 0 years in computing the average annual degree completions.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Year 7 | AVERAGE |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| DEGREE COMPLETION PROJECTIONS | No data reporting | 7.5 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 10.42 |

Undergraduate Curriculum Plan

Undergraduate Curriculum Checklist:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Overview | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Components | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Options (as required) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

1. Undergraduate Overview

**Enter the credit hour value for all applicable components (N/A if not applicable).
The credit hours MUST match the credit hours in the Curriculum Components table.**

| Curriculum Overview of Proposed Program | |
|--|-----------|
| Credit hours required in General Education | 16 |
| Credit hours required in Program Courses & Required Electives | 51 |
| Credit hours in Program Options (concentrations/specializations/tracks) | |
| Credit hours in Free Electives | |
| Credit hours in required Capstone/Internship/Practicum | |
| Total Credit Hours Required for Completion: | 67 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum number of credits that can be transferred in from another institution and applied to the program: | |
| Intended program duration in semesters for full-time students: | 5 |
| Intended program duration in semesters for part-time students: | 8 |

Does the program require students to demonstrate industry-validated skills, specifically through an embedded industry-recognized certification, structured work-based learning with an employer partner, or alignment with nationally recognized industry standards?:

YES
NO

If **yes**, please explain (i.e., number of hours required, etc.):

YES
NO

Does the program include any concentrations/ tracks/ options?

If **yes**, please explain (i.e., define):

2. Undegradate Components

Please provide all course information as indicated in the following table. Indicate new courses with “Y” in the associated column. If the course includes a required work-based learning component, such as an internship or practicum course, please indicate with a “Y” in the WBL column.

| Insert Additional Rows as Needed | | | | |
|--|---|--------------|----------|----------|
| Institution: | Wallace State Community College - Hanceville | | | |
| Program Name: | Facility Maintenance Technology – AAS | | | |
| Program Level: | UNDERGRADUATE (ASSOCIATE) | | | |
| Curriculum Components of Proposed Program | | | | |
| Course Number | Course Name | Credit Hours | New? (Y) | WBL? (Y) |
| General Education Courses | | | | |
| HIS 101 | Western Civilization I | 3 | N | |
| HUM 101 | Introduction to Humanities | 3 | N | |
| MTH 116 | Mathmatical Applications | 3 | N | |
| ENG 101 | English Composition I | 3 | N | |
| CIS 149 | Digital Literacy | 3 | N | |
| ORI 110 | Freshman Seminar | 1 | N | |
| Program Courses and Required Electives | | | | |
| ILT 160 | DC Fundamentals | 3 | N | |
| ILT 161 | AC Fundamentals | 3 | N | |
| ELT 104 | Distribution System | 3 | N | |
| ILT 166 | Motors and Transformers I | 3 | N | |
| ENT 110 | Wiring Methods | 3 | N | |
| ILT 197 | Motor Controls I | 3 | N | |
| AUT 186 | Industrial Maintenance Welding & Metal Cutting Techniques | 3 | N | |
| ILT 194 | Introduction to PLCs | 3 | N | |
| ILT 175 | Computer Fundamentals for Technology Students | 3 | N | |
| ACR 147 | Refrigerant Recovery & Transition Theory | 3 | N | |
| ILT 240 | Sensors Technology and Applications | 3 | N | |
| ILT 169 | Hydraulics/Pneumatics | 3 | N | |
| ILT 195 | Troubleshooting Techniques I | 3 | N | |
| ILT 196 | Advanced PLCs | 3 | N | |
| ACR 112 | Service Procedures | 3 | N | |
| ACR 113 | Refrigeration Piping Practices | 3 | N | |
| AUT 138 | Principles of Industrial Mechanics | 3 | N | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Program Options (enter total credit hours from all options below) | | | | |
| Free Electives | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Capstone/Internship/Practicum | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Total Credit Hours Required for Completion: | | 67 | | |



MaintenanceTo Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Wallace State Community College and the development of its Facilities Maintenance Course designed for students entering industrial facilities and skilled maintenance positions.

As an (OEM) operating in a highly automated industrial environment, Mazda Toyota Manufacturing places a strong emphasis on recruiting, developing, and retaining skilled facilities maintenance professionals. These roles are critical to sustaining safe operations, equipment reliability, production efficiency, and long-term manufacturing excellence. As an OEM industry, our workforce needs continue to focus on facilities and industrial maintenance positions that directly support plant operations, automation, and overall manufacturing performance.

The demand for well-prepared facilities maintenance technicians with strong foundational technical knowledge continues to grow across the manufacturing sector. Programs such as this Facilities Maintenance Course directly align with industry needs by preparing students for real-world industrial environments. This type of structured academic training, combined with practical application, creates a strong pipeline of candidates who are better prepared for employment opportunities as well as apprenticeship-style, on-the-job training programs within OEM manufacturing facilities.

From both an industry and personal perspective, I strongly support initiatives that bridge education and manufacturing. This program will help strengthen hiring pipelines, reduce onboarding and training gaps, and allow students to enter the workforce with a clearer understanding of industrial standards, safety culture, and technical expectations. Partnerships between educational institutions and OEM manufacturers are essential in developing a skilled, reliable workforce for the future.

I commend Wallace State Community College for its commitment to workforce development and for proactively supporting students pursuing careers in industrial facilities and maintenance. Programs such as this play a vital role in sustaining the future of manufacturing, skilled trades, and long-term industry growth.

Thank you for your continued efforts in preparing the next generation of industrial professionals. Please feel free to contact me should additional information or clarification be required.

Sincerely,
Daniel Smith
Central Maintenance Manager
Mazda Toyota Manufacturing

Building trust and loyalty through innovation and collaboration.

9000 Greenbrier Parkway NW / Madison, AL 35756 / www.MazdaToyota.com



Y-TEC KEYLEX TOYOTETSU ALABAMA

YKTA
9000 Greenbrier Parkway NW Unit 84
Madison, Alabama 35756
Tel: 938.200.2600

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of YKTA, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the proposed Facility Maintenance pathway submitted by Wallace State Community College to the Alabama Community College System (ACCS).

As a manufacturing organization, YKTA recognizes the critical role that skilled facility maintenance professionals play in ensuring safe, efficient, and reliable operations. The demand for workers with strong foundational knowledge in mechanical systems, electrical fundamentals, safety protocols, and preventative maintenance continues to grow across industrial and manufacturing environments. This proposed pathway directly addresses those workforce needs.

Wallace State Community College has demonstrated a strong commitment to aligning educational programming with real-world industry requirements. The Facility Maintenance pathway reflects that commitment by emphasizing hands-on learning, practical skill development, and industry-relevant competencies that prepare students for immediate employment while also supporting long-term career advancement.

YKTA fully supports this initiative and views it as an important step in strengthening the local and regional talent pipeline. By preparing individuals with the skills necessary to maintain and support modern facilities, this pathway will benefit employers, learners, and the broader workforce ecosystem across Alabama.

We appreciate the collaborative partnership with Wallace State Community College and strongly encourage ACCS to approve and support the implementation of this Facility Maintenance pathway.

Sincerely,

Shawn Merritt
YKTA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SM', is written over the printed name. Below the signature, the date '1-28-26' is handwritten in black ink.