

SAN JACINTO COLLEGESM

Summer 2023 • Volume 4 • Issue 2

CareerFocus

**SAN JAC SECURES
FIRST, SECOND PLACE
AT NAPTA COMPETITION**



**MOTHER-DAUGHTER
DUO SUPPORT EACH
OTHER FROM
ENROLLMENT TO
COMMENCEMENT**



**POWER OF MINORITY
MALE EDUCATORS
IN THE CLASSROOM**

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Bachelor of Applied Science in Education

CareerFocus



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SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

Questions about San Jacinto College programs and services described in this publication should be directed to the Contact Center at 281-998-6150. Comments or questions about the publication can be directed to the San Jacinto College External Relations Department at 281-998-6152.

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About San Jacinto College

Surrounded by monuments of history, evolving industries, maritime enterprises of today, and the space age of tomorrow, San Jacinto College has served the people of East Harris County, Texas, since 1961. The College is one of the top five community colleges in the nation as designated by the Aspen Institute, and was named an Achieving the Dream Leader College of Distinction in 2020. The College is a Hispanic-Serving Institution that spans five campuses, serving approximately 41,000 credit and non-credit students annually. It offers more than 200 degrees and certificates across eight major areas of study that put students on a path to transfer to four-year institutions or enter the workforce. The College is fiscally sound, holding bond ratings of AA and Aa2 by Standard & Poor's and Moody's.

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NEWS AND NOTES

FROM AROUND THE COLLEGE

Future Promise Scholars, it's time to enroll at San Jac

Current high school seniors who live in San Jacinto College's taxing district have just one more step to qualify for the Promise @ San Jac Scholarship.

If you've met all deadlines so far — pledging, applying to San Jac, and completing your FAFSA — the scholarship is yours if you enroll and register for full-time classes by Thursday, July 13. Register early for best course selection.

Promise @ San Jac covers an associate degree or certificate at San Jac 100% after other financial aid, meaning less stress and a debt-free start on your future. Other benefits:

- Available to all in-district high school seniors, regardless of GPA or household income
- Books covered up to \$600/semester
- Quality education near home
- Better career options after graduation

More than 4,600 high school seniors, or 64% of all eligible, are on track to become Promise Scholars this fall.

San Jac expanded the scholarship to every in-district high school in 2022. Although some Promise Scholars have already graduated, nearly 2,200 more are currently earning degrees and certificates without student loans.

► Learn more at sanjac.edu/promise or contact promise@sjcd.edu.

San Jac announces new mascot

The wait is over! San Jacinto College introduces the community to its new mascot: Poe the Raven.

In 2022, San Jac recognized the time to unify the College with one mascot representing its diverse students, employees, and alumni.

More than 1,700 community members submitted ideas, with Ravens and Jaguars standing out as the two top contenders.

Last fall, the San Jac community voted. In one month, 6,200 San Jac community members cast their votes, with the Raven soaring to the top.

In early spring, students got to name the Raven. More than 100 students submitted names, and 3,500 people cast their votes for the final winner – Poe!

San Jac welcomes the new Raven era and the traditions and memories ahead as a unified College, while remembering its storied past with different campus mascots.



San Jac recognized as national top 10 community college

San Jacinto College once again ranks among the top 10 community colleges in the nation, according to the Aspen Institute.

The 2023 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence top 10 finalist announcement follows the College's recognition as an Aspen Prize Finalist with

Distinction in 2021, Aspen Prize Finalist in 2019, and Aspen Prize Rising Star in 2017.

Since 2011, San Jac has increased the number of certificates and degrees awarded by nearly 72%.

The Aspen Prize finalists (including the two winners of the \$1 million prize) are:

- › Amarillo College, Texas (winner)
- › Broward College, Florida
- › Imperial Valley College, California (winner)
- › Hostos Community College, New York
- › Kingsborough Community College, New York
- › Moorpark College, California
- › Northwest Iowa Community College, Iowa
- › San Jacinto College, Texas
- › South Puget Sound Community College, Washington
- › Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, Wisconsin



Photo by Courtney Morris

Monica Manthey, BSN grad

'IT'S TIME'

NURSING ALUMNA

FULFILLS BSN GOAL AT SAN JAC 25 YEARS LATER

| By Courtney Morris

Almost 25 years into her nursing career, Monica Manthey was done waiting.

Manthey called a family meeting to discuss the next year with her husband and teen: She had been accepted into San Jacinto College's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. She was not backing out this time.

"I've registered, and the classes are paid for," she said. "You'll have to figure out what's for dinner and run the household."

Manthey was finally continuing her education to pursue a career dream: earning her BSN to become a clinical instructor.

Driven to dream

As a proud San Jac alumna, Manthey, a Nurse Clinician III at Ben Taub

Hospital, looked to her alma mater to advance her career.

"My education at San Jac helped me succeed prior to my BSN," she said. "The integrity, responsibility, and purpose that was instilled in us as a group — I took those to heart in my years of practice."

In spring 2021, Manthey started her prerequisites. Not only did her family adjust, but so did she.

She got a separate internet connection so she could study while her son was gaming. After work, she and an online study buddy completed BSN projects together while busting brain fog on FaceTime.

"We'd stop and play music videos to each other," Manthey said. "After 10-15 minutes, our brains started

functioning again, and we could finish our assignments."

BSN faculty helped her fit her classes and projects around work so she could finish on time in summer 2022. Now Manthey serves as a liaison between Ben Taub administrators and staff and looks forward to advocating more for patients and nurses.

"With my BSN, I can take on more administrative positions and be a stronger bedside leader," she said. "I'll have the groundwork to lead projects and task forces."

High quality, low cost

If you're a working registered nurse ready to take the next step in your career, you too can earn your RN-to-BSN degree conveniently and affordably at San Jac.

The three-semester program (31 credit hours) builds on your experience through fully online eight-week courses focused on health care trends, public/global health policy, community health, ethics, and leadership.

Tuition is around \$2,600 for in-district students and \$6,900 for out-of-district. Every BSN student will receive a scholarship.

"We designed the program to help all nurses in the community pursue higher education to support upward mobility within the nursing profession," said Dr. Rhonda Bell, Central Campus dean of health and natural sciences.

After earning your BSN degree, you may specialize in advanced practice or leadership positions from public health and education to management and more.

BSNs in demand

Today, more health care employers seek BSN-prepared nurses to keep pace with evolving health care. With the BSN program, San Jac meets not only area workforce needs but also busy RNs' needs.

Manthey is proof. While pursuing her BSN, she navigated 12-hour nursing shifts, work committees, a husband who worked evenings, and two sons in their senior years of high school and college.

"I completed the BSN program despite having a busy life," Manthey said. "Life did pop up, and I had to learn how to deal with that as well as stay on task. But I completed my degree in the time allotted, and it flew by. If I was able to do it, anyone can."

APPLY

by Aug. 17 for the fall 2023 cohort. Learn more at sanjac.edu/bsn or email sanjacbsn@sjcd.edu.

Ladder of Nursing

San Jac offers you multiple ways to enter nursing or advance your career:

Vocational Nursing:

Fast-track your nursing career. Once licensed as a vocational nurse, you may work while pursuing more education. (Three terms, North/South Campuses)

Associate Degree Nursing:

Gain the skills and experience to become a registered nurse. (Five terms, Central/North Campuses)

LVN/Paramedic to ADN

Transition: Advance your career from LVN or certified paramedic to an RN. (Three terms, South Campus)

Bachelor of Science in

Nursing: As a working RN, expand your leadership skills and career options. (Three terms, Central Campus)

MOTHER-DAUGHTER DUO

SUPPORT EACH OTHER FROM ENROLLMENT TO COMMENCEMENT

| By Melissa Trevizo

San Jacinto College students Eva Lux and Kayli Perry are a mother and daughter who have shared a seven-year journey through college, cheering each other on every step of the way.

“I’m so proud of my mom. We have been each other’s support throughout college,” said Perry. “At times we have each wanted to quit, but we would pull each other back up and keep going. It means even more to know that we are doing this together.”

Each with her own motivation, Lux and Perry enrolled at San Jac in 2015.

“It’s been an emotional journey for me,” said Lux. “After my first marriage ended, I had the freedom to do something for myself. I got married very young and never graduated from high school, so this was important to me.”

Equally important for Perry was proving wrong those who underestimated her.

“I wanted to make my name mean something,” Perry said. “It’s why I have stuck in for so long and didn’t give up, even though I wanted to.”

The pair grew even closer, supporting each other whenever one of them felt like throwing in the towel.

“I would come to my mom and say, ‘I’m done,’ and she would be right there telling me, ‘You’ve got this,’” Perry said. “The next semester, she would come to me and say, ‘I’m quitting,’ and I would encourage her.”

Perry experienced much self-doubt and struggled with balance, working many jobs while attending San Jac. Her mom’s encouragement helped her stick with it.



Eva Lux and Kayli Perry

“I LEARNED THAT THE INSTRUCTOR YOU CHOOSE CAN BE VITAL TO YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE COURSE. HAVING THOSE KEY PROFESSORS GOT BOTH OF US THROUGH SOME TOUGH TIMES.”

– EVA LUX

“We have pulled and pushed each other through the last seven years,” said Lux. “We both had to take breaks at times because of the curveballs life throws at you, and fear played a part too. Algebra terrified me to the point that it became a bad word in our household.”

Lux struggled with algebra over two semesters and decided to pursue another dream to boost her self-esteem. She became a competitive bodybuilder, with her final competition in June 2021.

“Some key people in my life told me fear does not come from God and I could do anything I put my mind to,” Lux said. “I have lived by those words and passed them on to others for the last few years. After walking that

competition stage twice, it gave me the confidence to try again.”

Through Perry’s recommendation, Lux enrolled in a summer semester college algebra course with professor Gregory Steele and passed.

“I learned that the instructor you choose can be vital to your understanding of the course,” Lux said. “Having those key professors got both of us through some tough times.”

One instructor who inspired both Lux and Perry is psychology professor Clare Zaborowski. Based on their experiences with Zaborowski, the mother-daughter duo both chose social and behavioral science as their major.

“Professor Zaborowski had such an impact that I went back and took as many classes from her as I could,” said Perry. “It got to the point where the courses were considered extra credit since they weren’t in my core curriculum.”

Lux and Perry graduated May 19, each with an associate degree in social and behavioral science. As for the future, neither are sure whether they will pursue any further degrees.

“I’m not going to say I’m done because anything could happen,” Lux said. “But for right now, it’s enough for both of us to say we did it. It’s a very proud moment for us.” ■



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Kenneth Bryant Jr.

POWER OF MINORITY MALE EDUCATORS IN THE CLASSROOM

| By Melissa Trevizo

Representation matters. It's a phrase most of us are familiar with, but what does it look like in education?

Caresal Bolds, San Jacinto College child development program director, hopes to encourage more men, especially minorities to enter the profession.

"Diversifying the educator workforce represents a key step toward promoting greater equity in schools," said Bolds.

Black men represent less than 2% of the entire teacher workforce, according

to the National Center for Education Statistics, but their presence in the classroom improves outcomes for students.

Why does representation matter?

A 2017 study by the Institute of Labor Economics found that low-income Black students who have a Black teacher, regardless of gender, for at least one year in elementary school are less likely to drop out of high school and more likely to consider college. Still, only 7% of teachers nationwide are Black.

Local educators Kenneth Bryant Jr. and Anthony Felder know this struggle from experience.

“When students are in the company of educators who look like them and who understand their needs, we can have greater impact,” said Bryant, North Shore Tenth Grade Center principal. “We can plant a seed to help them change their generational direction when it comes to their education. They use us as a reference for an educator who was active in their life as a positive male role model.”

Bryant began his career as a substitute teacher in Fort Bend ISD to earn extra income while completing his undergraduate education at Texas Southern University.

“I quickly realized the need for strong male African American leadership in the educational system,” Bryant said.

Felder, lead teacher at Galena Park ISD, became an educator to fulfill a dream of inspiring the future.

“One of my first teaching jobs was as an in-school suspension teacher at an alternative school, and I loved that job,” Felder said. “It was an entire school dedicated to second chances. It was important for me to encourage the kids that even though they have made mistakes their future is bright.”

A new national study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Early Education and Development* found that children taught by teachers of the same race develop better learning and problem-solving skills by the time they turn 7. The impact was felt most in Black and Latino children.

One San Jac student who understands the impact he will have later in his career is Montè Bell.

“I chose a career in teaching because a lot of my family members are in education,” Bell said. “I saw how they give back to their community, and I wanted to do that as well. It was instilled in me at a young age that education is important, and I internalized that. I want to impact the

“ONE OF MY FIRST TEACHING JOBS WAS AS AN IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION TEACHER AT AN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL, AND I LOVED THAT JOB IT WAS AN ENTIRE SCHOOL DEDICATED TO SECOND CHANCES. IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR ME TO ENCOURAGE THE KIDS THAT EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE MADE MISTAKES THEIR FUTURE IS BRIGHT.”

– ANTHONY FELDER

future generation of leaders, just as they did with me.”

San Jac offers associate degrees in teaching for early childhood through sixth grade and for grades seven through 12, each a total of 60 credit hours. These courses are available online and at the Generation Park, Central, North, and South Campuses.

“We need educators who reflect our community to mentor our students – to

guide them in the right direction,” said Jorge Embil, San Jac education professor. “The way you change lives with a degree in education brings immeasurable reward.”

▶ To hear more from these educators, visit youtu.be/vJuvT0xy_6s.



CPD OFFERS TRAINING MADE TO SUIT YOUR BUSINESS

| By Melissa Trevizo

The San Jacinto College Continuing and Professional Development business workforce development training offers courses in three areas: business operations, supply chain management, and entrepreneurship.

“We offer specialized training to students and for corporations pursuing further development of their current employees,” said Sheila Simon, CPD director. “If your company has a need for training, we would love to discuss the possibility of customized courses tailored to you.”

This corporate training allows companies to handpick courses that can be combined and customized to create unique course packages.

This spring, CPD partnered with the Harris County Toll Road Authority for upskill training. This training in partnership with the HCTRA Opportunity Career Academy provides unique education and employment opportunities within HCTRA for Harris County residents.

“We follow trends and industry and create courses where we see a need,” Simon said. “We can meet with industry and develop a custom plan to fulfill their training needs.”

Another addition to CPD business is the Service Wire cable industry leader’s management program. The program has now seen two successful cohorts graduate since 2021.

“Collaborative partnerships are crucial to ensure we provide effective, valuable

workforce development programs,” Simon said. “Feedback and engagement from our community partners help to drive our program success.”

One area that has seen success is Ed2Go six-week online courses.

“Our Ed2Go portal offers 100% online courses in accounting, PMP

project management, leadership, sales/marketing, communications, human resources, and much more,” Simon said. “These flexible courses can be taken anywhere, anytime.”

Most courses in CPD business operations, supply chain management, and entrepreneurship lead to industry certifications.

Currently, students will find courses in accounting, finance, business, cosmetology, human resources, project management, sales/marketing, supervision, and supply chain.

► For more information, contact CPD at 281-542-2020.



**“WE FOLLOW TRENDS AND INDUSTRY AND
CREATE COURSES WHERE WE SEE A NEED.**

**WE CAN MEET WITH INDUSTRY AND DEVELOP A
CUSTOM PLAN TO FULFILL THEIR TRAINING NEEDS”**

– SHEILA SIMON



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SAN JAC SECURES FIRST, SECOND PLACE AT NAPTA COMPETITION

| By Melissa Trevizo

San Jacinto College students took first and second place at the 2023 North American Process Technology Alliance Troubleshooting Skills Competition April 11 — the College's sixth consecutive year to participate.

Hosted at the LyondellBasell Center for Petrochemical, Energy, & Technology, the competition saw 12 teams face off to earn the top spot.

The teams were tasked with troubleshooting a variety of energy industry-related scenarios using

computer-based simulation and virtual plant environment software. Students also met with industry professionals and participated in hands-on experiences in CPET's 19 labs.

All registered teams participated in an open round on Friday, with eight teams

qualifying for the finals competition rounds on Saturday.

"I couldn't be prouder of our San Jac teams," said Jim Griffin, CPET associate vice chancellor/senior vice president. "They worked hard in preparation for this national competition. These seven students are excellent examples of student success."

Leading up to the event, the teams spent months training and preparing under the guidance of professor G.C. Shah. Student Derrick Bryan served as the first-place team's captain.

"When they called our team's name, I couldn't believe it," Bryan said. "I know everyone at San Jac is very proud of us. I'm happy we got to show off the education we have been working so hard toward."

After working on heavy equipment for years, Bryan was feeling burnt out. Through recommendations from friends and family, he found San Jac.

"After talking to some friends who'd gone to the College, they told me how much they liked what they were doing and the money they made," Bryan said. "I decided to do some research. I live





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an hour away, and there are closer schools to me, but this one had the best program, hands-on labs, and instructors.”

Bryan — along with other first-place teammates Luis Alvarez, Justin Espinoza, and Austin Self — graduated in May and looks forward to a future in the petrochemical industry.

Currently working as an educator and coach, Self served as the San Jac Process Technology Club chair and maintained a 4.0 GPA during college.

“After the recent economic downturn and with a growing family, my wife and I began to consider careers that were more financially viable,” he said. “I wouldn’t mind putting 30 years in operations and then coming back to San Jac as a process technology professor. As for now, I’ve had a few interviews, and I hope to secure a job soon.”

The San Jac second-place team included Rueben Llanas, Zachary Burch, and Tyler Duke.

A history of success

San Jac has an established record with the NAPTA competition, also placing first in 2017, 2018, and 2019.

The standard-bearer of process technology curriculum, NAPTA maintains a comprehensive set of process technology textbooks used nationwide, audits U.S. process technology degree programs, and endorses those that meet its criteria. Several colleges have received the NAPTA endorsement, including San Jac.

“At NAPTA, we work with industry, educational institutions, and other stakeholders to develop

a diverse, well-qualified talent pool to meet the needs of our industry partners,” said Shannon Burke, NAPTA executive director. “This competition promotes the development of important troubleshooting skills and serves as a venue for advanced process technology students to demonstrate hands-on skills in real time.”

Enhanced problem-solving and troubleshooting skills help with students’ understanding and encourages them to be safer employees and better team players. All these traits are high on the list for employers in their search for entry level employees.

“Troubleshooting skills are necessary for developing a highly competent petrochemical workforce in the U.S.,” said Burke. “These skills also help the workforce maintain consistent high-quality production, and contribute to the security, safety, and regulatory compliance of our facilities.

“I COULDN’T BE PROUDER OF OUR SAN JAC TEAMS.

THEY WORKED HARD IN PREPARATION FOR THIS NATIONAL COMPETITION. THESE SEVEN STUDENTS ARE EXCELLENT EXAMPLES OF STUDENT SUCCESS.”

– JIM GRIFFIN, CPET ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR/SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

YOUR NEW CAREER AWAITS: AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES, BIOTECHNOLOGY, AND MORE

By Courtney Morris

Houston, we have a solution!

If you want to pick up career-ready skills for booming industries in the Houston and Gulf Coast region, San Jacinto College's new certificate and degree programs may be your answer.

Rolling out in fall 2023 are ...

- Autonomous vehicle (certificate)
- Engineering technology (Associate of Applied Science degree)
- Heavy diesel equipment/crane technician (certificate and A.A.S. degree)
- Medical laboratory assistant (certificate)
- Plumbing technology (certificate)

Coming in spring 2024 are ...

- Bachelor of Applied Science in education
- Biotechnology (certificate and A.A.S. degree)

"We are always looking for ways to improve and expand what we offer to our students and the community," said Dr. Laurel Williamson, deputy chancellor and College president. "These new programs not only meet regional workforce needs but also help students secure in-demand jobs at family-sustaining wages."

Check out these new technical, health science, and education programs:

Autonomous vehicle (certificate of technology)

With the autonomous vehicle field growing, companies need skilled junior fleet technicians to keep up with the demand. Learn how to maintain and manage driverless vehicles that can sense their environment.

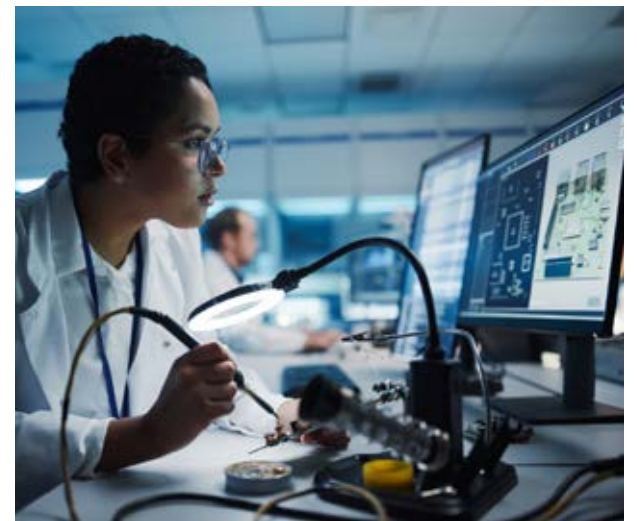
Offered in partnership with Nuro, this program includes in-class demos and practice lab skill sets for hands-on, real-world experience. Through the Earn While You Learn program, you may also work in the automotive field while taking classes.

Your training will prepare you for the Automotive Service Excellence exam to become a desired candidate at any auto facility.

Length: Three terms

Location: Central Campus

Salary Potential: \$37,440, plus bonus eligibility (Nuro)



Engineering technology (A.A.S. degree)

Want to work on an engineering project from design to completion? You could join a growing, diverse field as an engineering technician. You'll apply basic engineering principles and technical skills to support engineers in various projects.

Learn about safety, processes, systems, tools, and techniques to construct, refine, operate, and maintain an engineering design.

Length: Two years

Location: South Campus

Salary Potential: \$61,949 (median wages for engineering technologists and technicians, Gulf Coast region, [texaswages.com](https://www.texaswages.com), 2021)

Heavy diesel equipment/crane technician (certificate of technology and A.A.S. degree)

Enjoy working with your hands and getting a little dirty? Learn to maintain and repair large diesel engines, construction equipment, and cranes. You'll also learn about engine components, hydraulics, and electrical.

If you're looking for a stable career with problem solving and teamwork, heavy diesel equipment/crane technician may be perfect for you.

Length: Three terms to two years

Location: North Campus

Salary Potential: \$53,571 (median wages for heavy equipment field technicians, Gulf Coast region, [texaswages.com](https://www.texaswages.com), 2021)



Plumbing technology (occupational certificate)

If you like working with your hands, solving problems, and helping others, a plumbing career may be the perfect fit. Our program will teach you to identify water supply systems, read and sketch blueprints, understand plumbing codes, install and maintain plumbing piping and fixtures, and use special tools and equipment.

As a plumber, you can see projects through from start to finish, work with little to no supervision, and stay on top of the latest construction technology.

Length: One term

Location: North Campus

Salary Potential: \$56,182 (median wages for plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters, [texaswages.com](https://www.texaswages.com), 2021)

Medical laboratory assistant (occupational certificate)

Work behind the scenes in health care. In this program, you'll learn how to collect and process specimens, report lab data, and perform simple tests in a health care setting. You'll also work with other health care disciplines.

Train in the classroom, in labs, and at partner hospitals. After completing this program, you may take the American Medical Technologists' national certification exam.

Length: One year

Location: Central Campus

Salary Potential: \$53,244 (median wages for medical laboratory assistants, Gulf Coast region, [texaswages.com](https://www.texaswages.com), 2021)



Bachelor of Applied Science in education

If you're a paraeducator/paraprofessional or early childhood educator, consider San Jac's new Bachelor of Applied Science in education with an emphasis on early childhood, coming in spring 2024.

This degree will prepare you to work with young children from six weeks through third grade. You'll also be eligible to work in an early childhood organization, such as Head Start, or apply for teacher certification to teach preschool through third grade in public schools.

Length: Four terms (with already completed Associate of Applied Science in child development/early childhood studies)

Location: Central Campus

Salary Potential: \$62,424 (median wages for elementary school teachers, [texaswages.com](https://www.texaswages.com), 2021)



Biotechnology (certificate and A.A.S. degree)

In spring 2024, the Generation Park Campus offers you the chance to start the National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training's biotech training program. You'll get hands-on, real-world experience in a pilot-scale bioprocessing center that includes upstream, downstream, and fill-finish training and cutting-edge equipment.

The curriculum includes cell and gene therapy and other innovative, developing industry sectors. Afterward, you can transfer the skills you learn to most advanced biomanufacturing operations today.

This new hands-on facility comes thanks to a partnership between San Jac and McCord Development.

Length: Two years

Location: Generation Park Campus

Salary Potential: \$39,384 (median wages for biological technicians, [texaswages.com](https://www.texaswages.com), 2021)

Learn more

At San Jac, you can gain the skills to enter the evolving job market with confidence. For more information about these new programs, visit [sanjac.edu](https://www.sanjac.edu).



AIR CONDITIONING TECH ALUM DONATES

TRAINING UNIT TO PROGRAM

| By Melissa Trevizo

Texcellent team installing AC unit at South Campus

Actions speak louder than words, then San Jacinto College alum Terry McWilliams shouted to the rooftops after a recent visit to the South Campus air conditioning technology facility.

“I was in the area on a service call, and I decided to stop into the new training facility for a quick tour,” McWilliams said. “I was impressed by the use of space for mock home installations and the variety of residential and commercial equipment, but I noticed they didn’t have any high-efficiency systems.”

With ever-changing efficiency standards and federal regulations, these systems will be the most common in the future, according to McWilliams.

“I felt a responsibility to my craft to fulfill the need of the program,” he said. “I want students to get exposure to the technology now so they can be more ready when they encounter it in the field.”

McWilliams, who owns Texcellent Heating and Cooling in Deer Park, made a call to his distributor and manufacturer to donate a high-efficiency specialty training system to the program.

With Allied Air Enterprises and Johnson Supply on board, McWilliams and his team completed the unit installation in April.

“This new unit will give our students an even broader range of experience working with technology that is the future of our profession,” said James Fairleigh, air conditioning technology

instructor. “I appreciate when someone in the industry, especially a former student, sees a need and meets it for our program. Terry and his team did a high-quality, meticulous installation of the unit. He’s a great example for our students.”

McWilliams graduated from San Jac in 2015 with an Associate of Applied

Science degree in air conditioning technology. He also serves on the HVACR advisory committee, advising on curriculum, instructor qualifications, and equipment and facility requirements to ensure graduates have appropriate skills for employment.

“I’m proud to give back to our local community college and to our industry,” McWilliams said. “My company hopes to cultivate a consistent standard of high quality in our craft by playing an active role in our community. I look forward to seeing craftsmen come out of this program that holds the industry to a high standard and strives to be the best.”

Fairleigh sees the value in tapping into alumni for mentorship and leadership for his students.

“Out of the seven instructors in our program, five are San Jac alumni, including myself,” he said. “As former students, we believe in the program and its future. We are building the program for future students, and it’s rewarding to see those who have come before giving back.”



Terry McWilliams

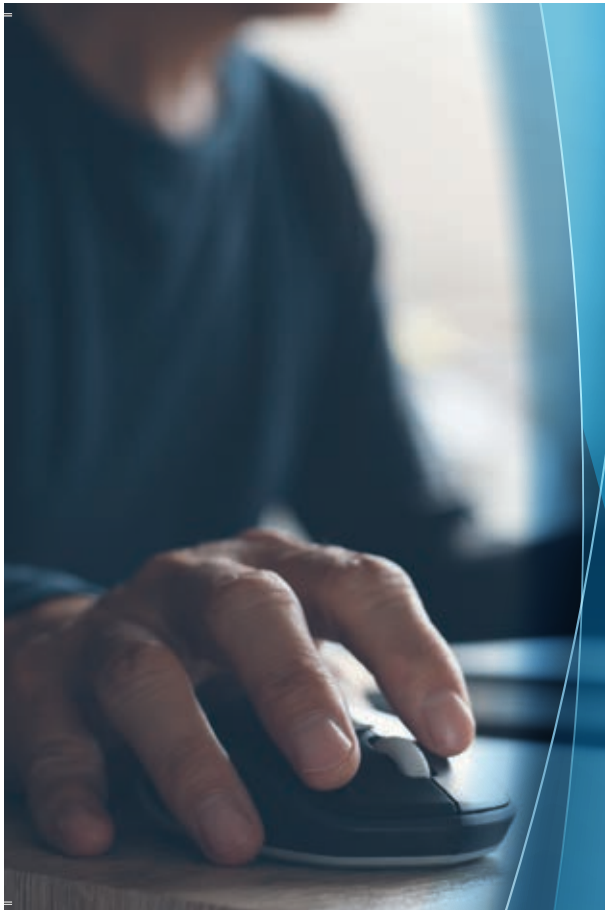


MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES HELPING OTHERS

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4 MYTHS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT BEATING THE HEAT

By Courtney Morris

True or false?

- Your body overheats more in dry heat, not humid.
- You can't suffer heat exhaustion while swimming.
- Drink once you feel thirsty.

If you answered true to any of these, think again.

San Jacinto College's Kristine Kern, emergency medical services program instructor, busts myths about preventing and responding to the top three heat-related illnesses.

Heat cramps are muscle pain/spasms with heavy sweating that follow intense activity.

These can progress to heat exhaustion, when you still sweat but also experience headache, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, clammy skin, and more.

With life-threatening heat stroke, your body can no longer sweat to cool off. Your temperature climbs to 103 degrees or higher, and you may pass out.

Do you know how to beat the heat?

Myth 1: I don't have to worry until Texas heat reaches triple digits.

Kern: Anybody who has temperature regulation problems already, works outside and gets dehydrated, or works in a high-heat, high-humidity environment is at risk. It can happen when you're dehydrated or don't have the right balance of electrolytes. If you have diabetes and your sugar is too high, you'll also get dehydrated.

If you fall and are lying on the asphalt, that can be 20-30 degrees hotter than the ambient air. The inside of parked cars is even warmer — about 40 degrees hotter than the outside temperature. Both of those scenarios can be dangerous when it's 80 degrees outside.

But we should stay especially vigilant in Texas summers. In high heat and humidity, our bodies don't manage temperature as well.

Myth 2: I won't suffer heat exhaustion if I'm swimming.

Kern: We breathe water out of our body. When you're thirsty, you're probably dehydrated and already behind the ball.

From the beach to the pool, you should remain hydrated, stay covered, and don't do things that cause sunburn.

Myth 3: I should pour cold water on someone who is experiencing heat exhaustion/stroke.

Kern: No, they will shiver to produce heat, and their body will get hotter. Remove them from the heat. Use tepid water on the groin, chest, nape of neck, and armpits to slowly bring their temperature down.

Have them sit down, drink cool water, and eat fruit like grapes and oranges for electrolytes. Don't let them resume activities. Don't give any drink to someone who is unconscious.

Call 911 if someone is suffering heat stroke, and call if you're alone and already suffering heat exhaustion.

Myth 4: Heat stroke won't happen to me.

Kern: It can happen to anyone. The key to heat-related is to be proactive:

- Have cold water readily available in your fridge or in a cooler in your car.
- Keep a Ziploc bag with wet washcloths in your fridge. Put them on your neck if you're working outside.
- Watch the heat index and avoid working or exercising outside from 12-5 from April through September.
- Wear clothes that wick and dry quickly to keep you cool.

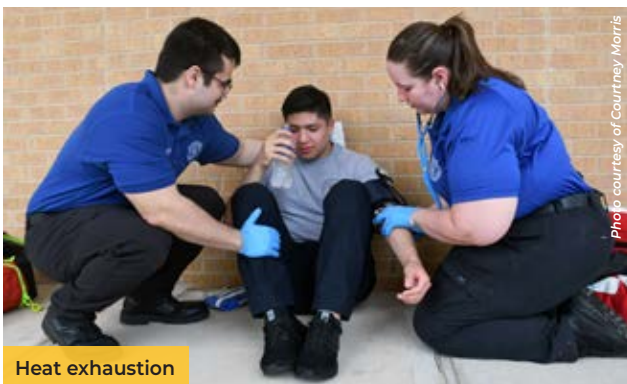
Start every day ahead — drink water all the time in Texas. Don't go over your limits and try to be Superman. It's hot here. Get out of the heat when you need to, not when it's too late.

Path to Paramedic

Want to help others in a fast-paced work environment with job security? In two years, you can earn your degree and become a paramedic through San Jacinto College's emergency medical services program. With continued education, advance your health career as a nurse, physician assistant, anesthesiologist, and more.

A Texas Department of State Health Services EMS scholarship currently covers tuition, books, and materials for EMT and paramedic training.

Contact sylvia.gallegos@sjcd.edu for more information.



Heat exhaustion



Heat exhaustion

CHOOSE YOUR PATH

At San Jacinto College, we empower you to achieve your goals, redefine expectations, and explore new opportunities. With our 200-plus degrees and certificates across eight areas of study, you can get the training and tools to find a rewarding career and pursue the life you've always wanted.

Before registering, discuss your career goals with a San Jac advisor. Whether you pursue workforce training or earn an associate degree to transfer, we'll connect you to the program that's perfect for you. Learn more at sanjac.edu or call us at 281-998-6150. ■



Art, Humanities, Communication, and Design

- Art and Design
- Audio Engineering
- Communications
- Dance
- English
- Interior Design
- Modern Languages
- Music
- Speech
- Theatre and Film

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Art, Drama, and Music Teachers (Postsecondary)	\$76,793
Broadcast Technicians	\$40,050
Choreographers	\$50,323
Editors	\$58,786
English Language and Literature Teachers (Postsecondary)	\$78,129
Film and Video Editors	\$51,822
Graphic Designers	\$47,943
Interior Designers	\$60,798
Interpreters/Translators	\$43,179
Lighting Technicians	\$50,000
Media and Communication Equipment Workers	\$57,861
Music Directors and Composers	\$78,581
News Analysts, Reporters and Journalists	\$54,920
Producers and Directors	\$57,874
Proofreaders and Copy Markers	\$36,483
Public Relations Specialists	\$59,635
Sound Engineering Technicians	\$61,800
Special Effects Artists and Animators	\$62,244
Technical Writers	\$77,026



Business

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Business Management
- Business Office Systems and Support
- Economics
- Entrepreneur
- Long Term Care Administration
- Paralegal
- Real Estate

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Accountants and Auditors	\$79,540
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$46,117
Budget Analysts	\$89,086
Credit Analysts	\$74,966
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	\$61,638
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	\$42,572
Human Resources Specialists	\$61,567
Insurance Underwriters	\$75,191
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$59,375
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	\$48,087
Project Management Specialists	\$97,802
Real Estate Brokers	\$58,317
Real Estate Sales Agents	\$38,337



Construction, Industry Manufacturing, and Transportation

- Air Conditioning Technology (HVAC)
- Automotive Technology
- Biomedical Clinical Equipment Technician
- Construction Management Technology
- Diesel Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Electronics Technology
- Environmental Health and Safety Technology
- Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Instrumentation
- Maritime Transportation
- Non-destructive Testing
- Pipefitting
- Process Technology
- Welding Technology

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Automotive Body and Related Repairers	\$46,837
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$46,706
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$49,625
Captains, Mates, and Pilots of Water Vessels	\$111,098
Chemical Plant and Systems Operators (Process Technology)	\$81,190
Construction Managers	\$98,969
Electricians	\$52,204
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians (Including Health)	\$49,830
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$49,087
Medical Equipment Repairers	\$54,966
NDT Technicians Level I	\$74,392
Occupational Health and Safety Technicians ..	\$56,766
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	\$56,182
Sailors and Marine Oilers	\$46,794
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$49,118



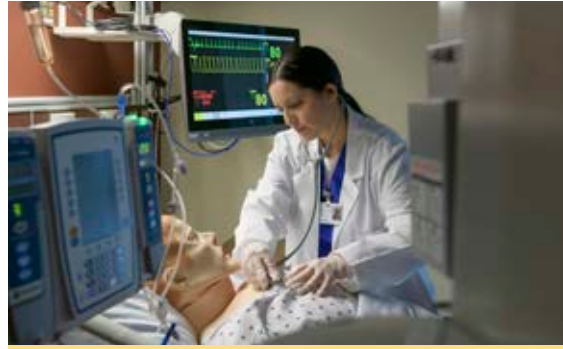
Education

Child Development / Early Childhood Studies
Teaching

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Career/Technical Education Teachers (Secondary)	\$62,424
Child Care Workers	\$22,752
Education and Child Care Administrators, Preschool and Daycare	\$51,458
Elementary School Teachers (Except Special Ed)	\$62,424
Preschool Teachers (Except Special Ed)	\$28,696
Secondary School Teachers (Except Special Ed and CTE)	\$62,424
Substitute Teachers (Short-term)	\$28,558
Teaching Assistants (Except Postsecondary)	\$23,243



Health Sciences

Cancer Data Management
Diagnostic Medical Sonography
Emergency Medical Services
Eye Care Technology
Health Information Management
Medical Assisting
Medical Billing
Medical Coding
Medical Laboratory Technology
Medical Radiography
Mental Health Services
Nursing
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Personal Trainer
Pharmacy Technician
Physical Therapist Assistant
Respiratory Care
Surgical Technician

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Certified Ophthalmic Assistants	\$42,500
Certified Tumor Registrars	\$54,049
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	\$55,323
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$77,036
Emergency Medical Technicians	\$36,355
Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	\$38,635
Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars	\$74,805
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$50,912
Medical Assistants	\$36,763
Medical Records Specialists	\$43,571
Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$75,737
Ophthalmic Medical Technicians	\$36,156
Paramedics	\$40,495
Pharmacy Technicians	\$37,309
Physical Therapist Assistants	\$71,899
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	\$62,881
Registered Nurses	\$78,962
Respiratory Therapists	\$64,236
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$46,833
Surgical Technologists	\$58,436



Public Safety and Human/Consumer Services

Chef Training
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Fire Protection Technology
Massage Therapy
Pastry Chef
Personal Trainer
Restaurant Management

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Bakers	\$27,151
Chefs and Head Cooks (Including Pastry Chefs)	\$38,773
Firefighters	\$47,678
Food Service Managers	\$60,453
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	\$26,374
Massage Therapists	\$42,861
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$61,968
Private Detectives and Investigators	\$63,841
Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists	\$48,221
Skin Care Specialists (Estheticians)	\$36,360



Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

Applications / Programming
 Biology
 Chemistry
 Cloud Computing
 Computer Science
 Computer Simulation and Game Design
 Cyber Security
 Desktop Support and Network Administration
 Engineering
 Engineering Design Graphics (Drafting)
 Environmental Science
 Geology
 Mathematics
 Microsoft and CISCO
 Physics
 Web Design

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Agricultural Technicians	\$35,334
Architectural and Civil Drafters	\$60,255
Chemical Engineers	\$154,811
Chemical Technicians.....	\$77,610
Civil Engineers	\$98,025
Computer Network Support Specialists	\$62,457
Computer Programmers	\$93,140
Computer User Support Specialists	\$48,391
Database Administrators	\$94,981
Environmental Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$40,923
Food Science Technicians	\$39,434
Information Security Analysts	\$101,380
Mechanical Drafters	\$66,209
Software Developers (Applications)	\$102,567
Web and Digital Interface Designers	\$76,515
Web Developers	\$62,458



Social and Behavioral Science

Anthropology
 Government
 History
 Philosophy
 Psychology
 Sociology

Career Opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)**

Anthropologists and Archeologists	\$60,924
Clergy	\$53,456
Clinical and Counseling Psychologists	\$78,994
Museum Technicians and Conservators	\$43,946
Philosophy and Religion Teachers (Postsecondary)	\$78,015
Political Scientists	\$95,888 ^(statewide)
Psychologists (All Other)	\$109,470
School Psychologists	\$78,749
Social Science Research Assistants	\$44,272
Sociology Teachers (Postsecondary)	\$77,327

* Salary source: texaswages.com, Gulf Coast Region, 2021 Annual WDA Wages

** Salary source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Noncredit Classes for Professional and Life Long Learners

Whether you're preparing for a career or picking up a new hobby, the San Jacinto College Continuing and Professional Development Division offers a variety of noncredit courses for workforce training and lifelong learning. Workforce courses keep employees up to date on the latest industry technology and are available through contract training, open enrollment, and grant funding. You can also pick up new skills you've been eager to learn. CPD offers lifelong learning courses to promote leisure learning and to help you extend your horizons. Learn more at sanjac.edu/cpd.

Workforce Development and Job Training

Applied Technology and Trades
 Business and Professions
 Computers, IT, CNC, PLC, and Robotics
 Health Occupations
 Maritime

Corporate Training and Consulting

Task/Job/Organizational Performance Analysis
 Training Needs/Gap Analysis
 Measuring Training Effectiveness and ROI
 Implementing Effective On-the-Job Training
 Apprenticeships
 Transitioning Training from a Functional Unit to a Business Unit
 Train-the-Trainer for Regulatory Compliance
 Strategies for Selecting, Training, and Qualifying Shift/Relief Supervisors
 Approaches to Team Training and Diagnostics
 Organizational and Human Performance Needs Assessments

Community Programs

Aerospace Education and Workforce Education
 Life Long Learning
 Youth Programs

Grants

Adult Education and Literacy
 Health Career Pathways Partnership Grant
 TPEG
 TWC Business Funding Opportunities

^^ Salary source: PQNDT 2019 Salary Survey

^^^ Salary source: Payscale, Houston Region

CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE BOOSTS CAREER MOTIVATION

By Neesha Hosein



Photo courtesy of Joanne Jones

Joanne Jones

For one San Jacinto College alumna, her life's eureka moment came one day while sitting near the water in San Leon, wondering what the future had in store. The sunlight cascaded a beautiful amber across the sky, and Joanne Jones realized her purpose.

"I was at an in-between stage, feeling like I'd completed a season in my life but didn't know what direction to go next," Jones said. "I'm sitting there, having a personal moment with God, thinking, 'Tell me what to do. I'm lost. I need help.'"

In the amber sky, the message was clear: "Start a business, name it Amber Skies, and devote your life to advocating for others."

While the moment seemed spontaneous, the inspiration began long before.

Journey to discovery

Before earning her associate degree in general studies from the Central Campus in 2015, Jones was a busy

"Don't let fear stop you because we're not promised tomorrow."

working mother and psychology major with no plan. Aptitude and personality tests helped narrow her career focus.

"Cultural anthropology was a really good fit for me," Jones said. "I've always been intrigued by studies about how humanity evolved, why things exist as they are today, and where we're heading."

To Jones, education was a golden ticket. One San Jac course introduced her to short films, writing documentaries, story planning, storyboarding, and creating YouTube videos, giving her the motivation she needed.

"I was one of the two student leaders, and I learned about team building," Jones said. "I was a producer, and I wrote the storyline for a small film project. We delegated duties to other team members. It was well organized, and everyone fulfilled their responsibilities. I had a great experience with leadership and self-accountability."

Jones credits her class experience and sales background for showing her there is a need for understanding "how people think, learn, and develop based on their belief systems and environment — all things that affect us greatly."

Turning points

A pedestrian accident left Jones's mom with a severe leg injury. Jones was her mother's primary caretaker while juggling her other roles as employee, mother, and student.

Long after her mother's recovery, Jones still felt the effects of her role. In an essay, she wrote about how difficult it was to be a caretaker while managing her own responsibilities. Moved by her story, a professor who owned a home health company offered an opportunity that would become a milestone in her career journey.

Jones became a community liaison for three years, learning about senior care services. She moved back and forth from home health to hospice with titles like marketing director for a skilled nursing facility and alternative administrator for personal care services.

It was then she found her calling in the amber sky.

Finding life's purpose

With a passion for senior services, Jones started her own business in 2022, Amber Skies Solutions, specializing

in Medicare, small-employer group insurance, and individual and family insurance. With 20 years in the health care industry, Jones has learned "life is a lot shorter than you think it is."

"I've learned you have to have a passion for what you're doing to be successful," she said. "In this business, you see the value of life. Before you know it, 75 years can pass. That's 75 Christmases, 75 birthdays. Minus childhood and early adulthood, only about 35 of those are spent working. If you don't start becoming successful until your mid-40s and 50s, you've got 25 years to get some substantial things in place so you can retire comfortably."

Jones believes people should follow their passion.

"Don't let fear stop you because we're not promised tomorrow," she said.

"CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY WAS A REALLY GOOD FIT FOR ME.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN INTRIGUED BY STUDIES ABOUT HOW HUMANITY EVOLVED, WHY THINGS EXIST AS THEY ARE TODAY, AND WHERE WE'RE HEADING."

— JOANNE JONES



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