**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February XX, 2017

**Career and Technical Education Programs Play a Vital Role in Meeting Workforce Demands**

*(LOCATION)* – Career and Technical Education (CTE) prepares individuals for high-skill, in-demand jobs that further Illinois’ global competitiveness. These programs are at the core of the community college’s mission to provide educational opportunities tailored to local business and industry needs. Last year roughly two-thirds (65.3%) of all Illinois community college graduates earned a CTE degree or certificate.

*(COLLEGE NAME)* joins with community colleges throughout the state to celebrate Career and Technical Education Month. *(Insert local college specifics)*

*(Local college quote)*

“CTE programs are investing in students and providing them with the latest technology and skills that will prepare them to become successful employees and future leaders.” said ICCB executive director Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson.

In recognition of Career and Technical Education Month, *(College Name)* is *(insert any planned activities with specific day, time, and location information)*

For more information about postsecondary career and technical education programs and services at *(College Name*) visit *(Local Website)*. For information on career and technical education throughout Illinois visit <https://www.iccb.org/cte>.

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