



**News release**

May 20, 2021

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**Gateway apprentice students receive  
Tools of the Trade scholarships**

Five Gateway Technical College apprentice students were each awarded a \$1,500 Tools of the Trade scholarships to help them cover out-of-pocket expenses such as tuition, tools and clothing so that they are able to complete their training.

For the eighth straight year, Ascendium Education Group has recognized the important role of apprenticeships in preparing students for in-demand jobs by providing scholarships through the Tools of the Trade Scholarship program.

This year, the following Gateway student apprentices will receive a scholarship:

- Matthew Jefferson, Electrical and Instrumentation
- Garrett Pallesen, Machinist/Tool and Die/Moldmaker/Toolmaker
- Michael Rothering, Electrician
- Antonio Salinas, Machinist/Tool and Die/Moldmaker/Toolmaker
- Kevin Tover, Electrician

This year, Ascendium awarded a total of \$375,000 in scholarships to 250 construction and industrial trade apprentices from 15 Wisconsin Technical

College System institutions. Over the course of eight years, Ascendium has provided nearly \$2 million in scholarships to apprentices with financial need.

“Ascendium is proud to continue to support apprentices in the Wisconsin Technical College System,” said Amy Kerwin, Vice President of Education Philanthropy at Ascendium. “By helping these learners overcome financial barriers, they can focus on successfully completing their apprenticeship and securing in-demand jobs.”

**Gateway Technical College's** mission is to deliver industry-focused education that is flexible, accessible and affordable for our diverse community. The college collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the changing needs of students, employers and communities. For more information, visit [www.gtc.edu](http://www.gtc.edu).

**Ascendium Education Group** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to helping people reach the education and career goals that matter to them. Ascendium invests in initiatives designed to increase the number of students from low-income backgrounds who complete postsecondary degrees, certificates and workforce training programs, with an emphasis on first-generation students, incarcerated adults, rural community members, students of color and veterans. Ascendium's work identifies, validates and expands best practices to promote large-scale change at the institutional, system and state levels, with the intention of elevating opportunity for all. For more information, visit [ascendiumphilanthropy.org](http://ascendiumphilanthropy.org).

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