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Emily Griffith Technical College Increases Focus on Apprenticeships as State and National Government Work to Expand Programs

Kelsey Glass promoted to Associate Dean of Apprenticeships at the college

DENVER - [Emily Griffith Technical College](#) (Emily Griffith) currently provides apprenticeship opportunities with ten organizations for Coloradans who attend the school through their “learn and earn” model where they encourage students to participate in apprenticeships to get hands-on experience while they earn an income. Aligning with the state’s increased focus on the importance of apprenticeships - and the recent bill presented to the House in February to create a State Apprenticeship Agency - the college has created a new position, Associate Dean of Apprenticeships, and promoted Kelsey Glass to fill the role.

Emily Griffith Technical College has had an apprenticeship program since 1916 and is currently the largest apprenticeship provider in Colorado. The college works with local chapters of national organizations to create hands-on, paid job opportunities for Coloradans. “For many, this is a new way of thinking - to use education providers and industry organizations to fill key positions, like welders and electricians, for example,” said Linda Van Doren, Vice President of Education at Emily Griffith Technical College. “We are thrilled to see the state and national government’s increased focus on apprenticeships because it is something we have been doing for decades. Because we have had a focus on apprenticeships for so long, we are ahead of our peers in adapting to and advocating for the apprenticeship model, but we also continue to evolve our own program as opportunities arise.”

The Associate Dean of Apprenticeships is a new position which will allow the college to continue to grow their apprenticeship programming, and support current partners. Kelsey Glass has been with Emily Griffith Technical College for five years, first as the Associate Dean of Adult Education and currently as the Associate Dean of Trades, Industry and Professional Studies. In her time at Emily Griffith, she has brought her extensive knowledge of higher education in to help streamline operations and processes.

“Kelsey is strategically focused, goal-oriented and results driven, with expertise in program development, instructional design, adult learning theory, evidence-based instructional practices and evaluations,” said Vivian Jeffcoat, Dean of Trades, Industry and Professional Studies. “She also has a strong background in and knowledge of project management, strategic planning, partnership development, and facilitation of the discovery and solution process.”



Glass has been chosen to sit on the board for the national nonprofit Desk Free Nation. Desk Free Nation is an organization dedicated to reducing the stigma of going into the skilled trades, and to educating students, parents and secondary staff about the robust career paths available to young people in the trades. This work directly aligns with supporting the college's apprenticeship programs and will be an asset to the Associate Dean of Apprenticeship role.

Emily Griffith Technical College has touched so many lives in Colorado, helped to start thousands of small businesses, and has consistently jumpstarted individuals into new careers. Emily Griffith is an institution that continues to power Colorado's economy and workforce. For more information about Emily Griffith visit EmilyGriffith.edu. To follow the progress, visit facebook.com/EmilyGriffithTech/.

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About Emily Griffith Technical College

The mission of Emily Griffith Technical College is to prepare students for today's workforce and tomorrow's opportunities. Each year, Emily Griffith serves approximately 8,000 students through 25 career training certification programs, 13 apprenticeships and a robust adult education and English language program. In 1916, Emily Griffith founded the *Opportunity School* which was later renamed *Emily Griffith Opportunity School* in her honor and, in 2011, renamed *Emily Griffith Technical College* to better represent the mission of the school. Emily Griffith was ahead of her time because she envisioned the school before technical colleges were even a concept. Over the past 100+ years, the college has educated nearly 2 million students who seek pathways toward long-term career advancement. EmilyGriffith.edu