# One of the official logo's of Pierce College. Job & Career Connections Newsletter Winter Edition 1 – 2021

Your Job & Career Connectionssupports ALL students, alumni, staff & community members through a variety of direct and self-guided resources and services.

***We are serving individuals remotely and can be contacted by email or phone.*** Contact information can be found in our Staff Directory on the last page. ***In-person service is temporarily closed.***

## The PC Job Connect/Myinterfase has changed. Same system, new look!

The job posting system available to Pierce College students and alumni, recently migrated to a fresh, new platform. With this change, students and job seekers will see a more visually appealing view, with better ease of access.

**Do I need to register again to use the site?**

If you already had a log in on the site, no. You can use the email and password originally used. First time users will need to create a profile when they first use the system.

**I have never used the site. What do I do?**

Setting up a profile is easy and free. Students, alumni, and job seekers are welcome to use the site.

**What does it do?**

Users can search for jobs, internships, work study jobs, and volunteer positions. Postings include a job description, requirements, and application instructions to follow.

**I am not looking for a job. Why should I use this?**

Students can view upcoming career events or job fairs, explore occupations by looking at postings, search for employers to contact for internship or informational interview, or upload a resume for quick application to jobs.

**Will my resume be reviewed?**

Yes! Resumes and documents are reviewed by Job & Career Connections staff prior to being marked as active. Staff can provide feedback prior to uploading or if a resume is marked as needing revision.

**What does it cost?**

This system is free to use!

**What if I have questions?**

Contact Job & Career Connections at [JCC@pierce.ctc.edu](mailto:JCC@pierce.ctc.edu) or call 253-964-6265.

Access the system [here](https://candidate.gradleaders.com/PierceCTC/Candidates/Login.aspx?pid=4863) or connect on the Job & Career Connections website <https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/workforce-connections>.

## The Career Center is open!

Job & Career Connections continues to offer services to students, alumni, staff, and community members remotely. We offer assistance with resumes, cover letters, mock interviews, class presentations, career exploration, and more!

# **Food Insecurity Among Students Rises Due to the Impact of COVID-19 & Changes in the Economy**

***Did you know that…you may be eligible for food assistance?***

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), called **Basic Food** in Washington, helps people with low incomes make ends meet by providing monthly benefits to buy food.

**Not sure if you’re eligible?** DSHS has a benefits estimator you can use as a guide: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/basic-food>. You can also visit [washingtonconnection.org](https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/) to do a pre-screening for what programs or services you or your family may be qualified to receive from various state, federal, or local sources.

You can apply for Basic Food Assistance online at [washingtonconnection.org](https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/) or by phone **at 1-877-501-2233.**

***Did you know that…DSHS implemented supplemental funding for recipients of food assistance due to the impacts of COVID-19?***

These benefits started April 4, 2020 and have continued on a month-to-month basis with federal approval. Recipients get the difference between their regular monthly benefit and the maximum amount for their household size. For example, a two-person household that typically gets $200 per month in food benefits will receive an additional $174 in emergency benefits bringing the monthly total to $374. For more information please visit: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/policy-changes-response-covid-19>.

***Did you know that… if you are receiving food assistance and you are attending college you could be eligible for BFET?***

**How can BFET participation support me?**

* Qualify for [Basic Food Assistance](https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/basic-food) (SNAP) through BFET instead of working 20 hours per week
* Assistance with qualifying for DSHS-subsidized childcare
* Assistance with identifying possible funding sources
* Referrals to on-campus and off-campus resources

More information can be found here: [BFET Program](https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/workforce-bfet)

Website References:

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/os/office-communications/media-release/dshs-receives-supplemental-funding-boost-benefits-basic-food-recipients>

Washington Connection: Your Link to Services

<https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/>

## Workforce Staff Directory

***Diana Baker****, Job & Career Connections/Worker Retraining Manager* [*dbaker@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:dbaker@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-3641*

***Adriana Tsapralis****, Interim BFET/WorkFirst Manager* [*atsapralis@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:atsapralis@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext. 5017*

***Annette Sawyer-Sisseck****, Business/Accounting Navigator* [*asawyer-sisseck@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:asawyer-sisseck@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-864-3362*

***Denise Green****, Workforce Coordinator* [*dgreen@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:dgreen@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-864-3385*

***Eleni Palmisano****, Metropolitan Development Council (MDC) Collocated Staff* [*epalmisano@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:epalmisano@pierce.ctc.edu)

*253-722-3429*

***Jayna Pettersen****, Computer Information Systems/Computer Network Engineering (CIS/CNE) Navigator* [*jpettersen@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:jpettersen@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext. 8612*

***Lori Kelly****, WorkSource/ESD Collocated Staff* [*lkelly@esd.wa.gov*](mailto:lkelly@esd.wa.gov) *253-680-7844*

***Mary Allason****, Social Service Mental Health Navigator* [*mallason@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:mallason@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext. 5884*

***Mindy Mason****, Workforce Coordinator* [*mmason@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:mmason@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-912-2399 ext. 5964*

***Roxanne Cassidy****, Puyallup Opportunity Grant/HEET Coordinator* [*rcassidy@pierce.ctc.edu*](mailto:rcassidy@pierce.ctc.edu) *253-840-8329*

*\*We are currently available remotely through email or by phone. We look forward to hearing from you.*

*In-person service is temporarily closed.*

**FS (Fort Steilacoom)** Welcome Center, Cascade bldg. 3rd fl.

**PY (Puyallup)** Student Success Center, Gaspard Administration bldg., A106

**Funding Eligibility:** [*www.startnextquarter.org*](https://www.startnextquarter.org/Survey/snqsurvey.aspx)   
**Jobs & Internships:** [*PC Job Connect*](https://candidate.gradleaders.com/PierceCTC/Candidates/Login.aspx?pid=4863)

**Pierce College Job & Career Connections Facebook:** [*www.facebook.com/groups/1151589171538211/*](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1151589171538211/)