

College of the Mainland®

# Horizons

## Magazine

FALL 2021

BACK TO WORK ISSUE



Let's get  
you **back**  
**to work**

Quick programs  
In-demand skills  
**Free tuition\***

\*Learn more beginning on page 6.

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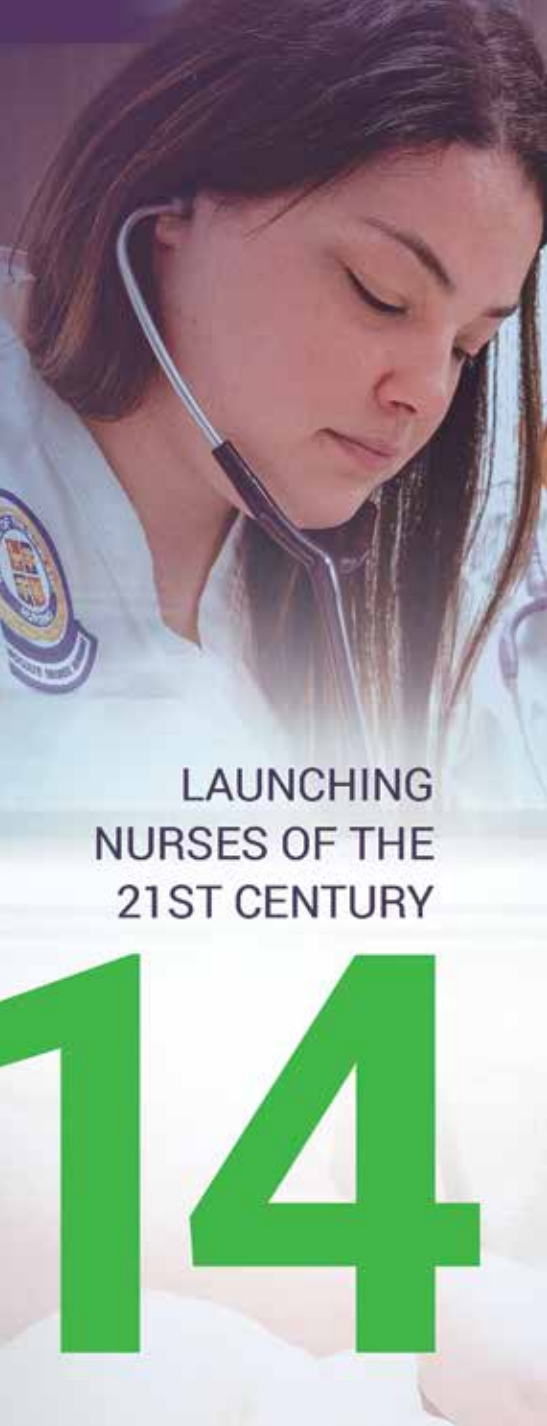
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LET'S GET YOU BACK TO WORK  
TUITION FREE  
PARTICIPATING PROGRAM

College of the Mainland is a learning-centered, comprehensive community college dedicated to student success and the intellectual and economic prosperity of the diverse communities we serve.

The college district includes Texas City, Dickinson, Hitchcock, La Marque, and Santa Fe. The service area includes League City, Friendswood, Kemah, Bacliff and San Leon.





LAUNCHING  
NURSES OF THE  
21ST CENTURY



A LIFETIME  
OF GIVING:  
DOYLE FAMILY  
SPOTLIGHT



OPENING  
DOORS  
PROMISE  
SCHOLARSHIP:  
ATTEND COM  
WITH TUITION  
AND FEES  
COVERED

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# AN ENGINE FOR RECOVERY, A TIME OF CHANGE

To refer to this last year as “challenging” would be an understatement for most of us. Faced with unprecedented setbacks and a fluctuating employment environment, our experiences throughout the pandemic have shown us that change is truly the only constant. Always ready to adapt to that change, College of the Mainland continues to demonstrate that we are an agile college, focused on student success no matter where a person may find themselves on their life journey. This time has taught us that our college is well equipped to respond to the evolving needs of our students and community. And now, more than ever, is the perfect time to rethink higher education.

As a community college, we are in a unique position to rapidly reskill displaced and underemployed workers with the training needed to fill critical industry needs. With a proven track record for adapting to fluctuating circumstances, our work allows us to serve as a catalyst for change as we respond to the immediate industry and job recovery needs in our region. To that end, we’re excited to have recently launched our new workforce training and reskilling initiative spotlighting the many programs COM offers to get our neighbors back to work quickly. Through tuition-free programs, accelerated

# GE

courses, flexible learning modalities and longstanding partnerships with local industry, I am confident that, upon completion, these programs will give our students the competitive edge needed when looking to reenter the workforce.

Looking toward the job market of the future, we understand the need to provide high-quality and innovative learning options is paramount. Whether a student is looking to transfer to a university, attain a baccalaureate-level degree or prepare for a new career or trade, obtaining the skills to perform a multitude of jobs in various industries is driving the work of our college. Recognizing the high demand for nurses, particularly in the health care hub that is the Houston/Galveston region, College of the Mainland is proud to have recently launched our first baccalaureate degree, the RN to Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN). This fall, we welcomed a cohort of 19 BSN students who eagerly embarked on this historic journey.

While this moment has been a long time coming, it is only the first of many steps we're taking as a college to be responsive to growing industry needs and ensure that our students are job ready. I hope this work inspires you just as much as it inspires me, as it demonstrates our steadfast commitment to our vision of serving as a valued and vital community partner by enriching our community and preparing our students to thrive in a diverse, dynamic and global environment.

While the very landscape of the community college learning experience is rapidly transforming, we welcome this period of discovery, growth and innovation. As you continue reading this issue of *Horizons Magazine*, I invite you to explore our college through a new lens — a lens of hopeful optimism and change. With innovative programs and endless opportunities right at your doorstep,

the sky is  
**truly**  
the limit

for a COM student to reach unparalleled success.

Explore the possibilities and discover where COM can take you!

Sincerely,



Dr. Warren Nichols  
President, College of the Mainland







# Let's get you **back** **to work.**

Quick programs  
In-demand skills  
**Free tuition\***

\*Free tuition offer is available while funding lasts. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need.

This past year has been one like no other. At the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the unemployment rate in Texas skyrocketed to 12.9%, with Galveston County soaring even higher to 15.9%. We witnessed many of our neighbors face unprecedented job loss. To this day, many Texans still face challenges with reentering the workforce. There are great opportunities out there, and we want to help displaced individuals quickly reenter the workforce stronger than ever before.

College of the Mainland is pleased to do our part to rebuild our community and contribute to a vibrant workforce through Let's Get You Back to Work, an initiative to rapidly equip displaced and underemployed workers with the skills needed to fill critical industry needs. Through a robust offering of accelerated training and educational resources, we are here to prepare workers in less than a year for careers with labor market value while building permanent talent pipelines to support thriving industries throughout the Gulf Coast region.

We know that with access to the right skills-based training, you would thrive in a new career. We also know that time and money are two very real obstacles that many of our neighbors face when considering higher education. That's why there has never been a better time to level up for the job you want in one of COM's accelerated programs. **WITH SOME OR ALL TUITION AND FEES COVERED**, our featured fast-track programs are the ultimate key to unlocking your future in a hurry.

Through a diverse range of programs in health care, public service, industrial careers and more, College of the Mainland has just what you're looking for to get the skills you need for the job you want. All of our fast-track programs support jobs in high demand, can be completed in a short period of time and lead to financially rewarding careers.

Ready to get back to work? Keep reading to explore our featured accelerated programs!



## Quick programs

Get in, get trained and get back to work in a matter of weeks or months. Because we know your time is too valuable to waste.



## In-demand skills

Our programs were designed in collaboration with local industry to ensure that you have the skills employers seek.



## Free tuition

Through special funding, some or all tuition and fees are covered for students who enroll in one of our featured accelerated programs. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need. Offer is available while funding lasts.





\*Free tuition offer is available while funding lasts. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need.

# HEALTH CARE CAREERS

Pursue a new career in the booming health care industry! If you have a compassionate heart and find patient care motivating, we have the perfect career for you. Through a combination of online learning, hands-on classes and clinical instruction, students gain real-world experience for careers in high demand at hospitals, pharmacies, clinics, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospices and more. Our robust selection of fast-track health care programs is a great launching pad to further your career aspirations in the health care field. Designed with you in mind, all programs can be completed in less than a year and yield promising employment opportunities and high-earning salaries.

“I worked in retail since I was 16, and I wanted a change of direction. I was living paycheck to paycheck and wanted something that would secure me for my future. With the hospital, it worked out for me. COM really prepared me. The instructors were fantastic! I have a very good foundation.”

**Misty Fagerstone**  
COM Pharmacy Technician  
Graduate

Here's a snapshot of our rewarding health care programs:

## Phlebotomy

Duration: Two Semesters

Students learn types of blood collections, proper techniques and universal precautions in the clinical setting, allowing them to apply the skills and knowledge learned in the classroom.

## Medical Assisting

Duration: Three Semesters

Learn anatomy and physiology, human disease and pathophysiology, medical terminology, medical insurance, medical law, pharmacology and administration of medicine, clinical procedures and laboratory procedures.

## Certified Nursing Aide (CNA)

Duration: Two Months

CNAs help patients perform basic daily tasks under a nurse's supervision. They are active and may need to help lift or move patients. Attention to safety, compassion, communication and critical-thinking skills are essential because patients depend on your care.

## EKG Technician

Duration: Three Months

Students learn about the heart and the implications of decreased cardiac output. Students apply the skills learned in the classroom in their clinical experience.

## Pharmacy Technician

Duration: Two Semesters

Take part in hands-on classes learning how to measure, label, mix and dispense prescription medications while working under licensed pharmacists.

# Like what you see?

Scan the QR code to start you



\*Free tuition offer is available while funding lasts. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need.

# PUBLIC SERVICE CAREERS



BACK TO WORK

Are you looking to make a purposeful impact on your community and want to help others in an exciting yet meaningful way? Look no further! College of the Mainland's array of public service programs will equip you with the skills you need that you can quickly put into action for a personally rewarding and enriching career in public service. In accordance with state and local requirements, students can land the job that they've always wanted in a fast-paced and dynamic community-based environment.



These instructors all have experience in the fire service, and that's what you want. You want to learn from the guys who have done it. Everything's hands on in the class, then you come out here and do it for real."

**Daniel Barkley**  
COM Fire Academy Graduate

Take a glimpse at our public service careers:

## Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Duration: Two Semesters

Aligning with the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system, students learn to implement the emergency capabilities of the hospital at the scene of an emergency to initiate care of patients. This program is a combination of basic and advanced EMT.

## Law Enforcement

Duration: One Semester

The Peace Officer Academy is designed to provide graduates with the necessary basic training to obtain a position as an entry-level police officer, constable, deputy sheriff or any other licensed peace officer position within the state of Texas.

## Day Fire Academy

Duration: Four Months

Racing to meet the increased demand for fire service personnel, the Fire Academy program allows students to learn from industry-trained professionals as they navigate core fire protection and safety scenarios.

your journey to a rewarding future or visit [com.edu/backtowork](http://com.edu/backtowork)





\*Free tuition offer is available while funding lasts. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need.

# INDUSTRIAL CAREERS

Enroll in one of our hands-on industrial careers programs to enter or advance in the workforce quickly. Industry professionals advise each program so you gain the skills that employers seek, and, upon completion, you will receive a certificate that is recognized in industry. If you enjoy troubleshooting and working with your hands, check out our industrial careers programs to land the job that you've been searching for.



I would absolutely recommend the HVAC program at COM. They're not just somebody who came out of the industry 20 years ago. They are still in it. They understand, and they're really good about walking you through scenarios."

**Robert Boyssel**  
COM HVAC Graduate

Here's a look at our exciting industrial career programs:

## Pipefitting

Duration: 36 Weeks

Students prepare for a successful career in an entry-level position as a pipefitter helper. Learn to lay out, assemble, install and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases for industrial production and process systems. The program prepares students for employment in a growing occupation. Each course combines classroom instruction with hands-on technical training, a critical part of building skills for this field.

## Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC)

Duration: 37 Weeks

Students prepare for a successful career as an HVAC technician and/or installer through hands-on training. HVAC technicians work with systems in commercial offices, industrial complexes, manufacturing plants, schools, hospitals, hotels, restaurants, construction and residential homes. Students train in less than one year to enter a high-skill, high-growth occupation. This program combines classroom instruction and hands-on work that is taught by instructors with years of industry experience.

## Like what you see?

Scan the QR code to start you



\*Free tuition offer is available while funding lasts. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need.

# WEB DESIGN



BACK TO WORK

Are you a visual storyteller who enjoys communicating ideas through images, color and form? Dive into COM's highly regarded web design program where you can put your creativity to work!

“I was a 26-year-old stay-at-home mom, and I decided I wanted a career change. I started doing research for a full-time program once my three-year-old was able to go to school full time. I started the web design program full time at College of the Mainland. It was a complete blessing. The web design program at COM is very well rounded.”

**Melissa Harmon**  
COM Web Design Graduate

Design your own destiny!

## Web Design

Duration: Two Semesters

Our concentrated one-year web design program prepares students for careers in web design and video production. Through hands-on training, students learn what the pros know about web design including site navigation, information architecture, preparing images for the web, color on the web and typography for the screen. Students will design and develop small business websites using both HTML and CSS layouts. Students will also design and develop interactive web sites using industry standard 2D animation software. Our program is designed to get you back to work with all the essential skills and experience top employers are looking for.

your journey to a rewarding future or visit [com.edu/backtowork](https://com.edu/backtowork)







\*Free tuition offer is available while funding lasts. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need.

# MASSAGE THERAPY

Dig into our hands-on massage program:

## Massage Therapy

Duration: 12 Months

If helping others and working in a relaxing, tranquil environment is calling your name, massage therapy is the perfect fit for you. Launch a new career in this versatile industry in one year with our massage therapy program.

Through hands-on labs and classes, students learn to manipulate the soft tissue of one's body by hand or through a mechanical or electrical apparatus for therapeutic purposes. A licensed massage therapist works in an array of settings, such as spas, franchised clinics, physicians' offices, hotels, cruise ships and fitness centers. Some massage therapists also travel to clients' homes or offices to give a massage. With exceptionally high earning potential and promising employment opportunities, graduates of the program are in high demand immediately after graduation.

## Like what you see?

Scan the QR code to start you

\*Free tuition offer is available while funding lasts. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial need.

# ADULT EDUCATION



BACK TO WORK

Whether you're here to pursue a better job, earn more money at work, learn English or finish your high school diploma, our Adult Education programs make it possible. Our comprehensive programs are designed to prepare adults 16 and older to take their High School Equivalency (HSE) and/or English as a Second Language (ESL) exams. And with our Career Pathways program, students can enroll in one of a select offering of workforce programs at the same time as they are enrolled in the HSE or ESL program.

Explore our Adult Education programs:

## High School Equivalency

Duration: Eight Weeks

High school equivalency classes develop the reading, writing and math skills needed to pass a Texas high school equivalency exam. These classes are also a great place to improve skills to move into a workforce training program at COM.

## English as a Second Language

Duration: Eight Weeks

English as a second language classes help students improve their everyday English, get ready to attend college or learn new job skills. Classes cover reading, writing, listening and speaking the English language.

## Inglés como segundo idioma

Duración: Ocho semanas

Las clases de inglés como segundo idioma les ayudan a los estudiantes a mejorar su inglés cotidiano, a prepararse para asistir a la universidad o a aprender nuevas habilidades laborales. Las clases abarcan la lectura, la escritura, la comprensión y la expresión oral del idioma inglés.

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# LAUNCHING OF THE 21ST





In Texas, where there has been a longtime demand for nurses, the need has only climbed since the COVID-19 pandemic began. And as many hospitals are facing crippling staffing shortages due to the growing health crisis, nurses are now an even hotter commodity.

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies projects that the Gulf Coast Texas region will see an unmet demand of more than 18,000 registered nurses by 2030. College of the Mainland is meeting these needs now and into the future with the launch of its new Registered Nurse (RN) to Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN) program this fall.

Prompted by the high demand from hospitals for nurses with baccalaureate-level preparation, the RN to BSN degree allows nurses to expand their professional roles in health care and gain access to leadership opportunities. Students in the program gain a broader understanding of the nursing

# G N U R S E S T C E N T U R Y

profession and learn to effectively navigate complex situations through a comprehensive research project focused on national quality standards for patient care.

The program features an extensive research project that students will start the first semester and can then be fully implemented after graduation. Looking at both the global and community aspects of health care, the program promotes collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, resulting in a well-rounded learning experience for students.

While COM already holds an impressive track record in its highly regarded Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (ADN), vocational nursing (VN) and licensed vocational nurse (LVN to RN) programs, the BSN route offers a stronger focus on acquiring a higher level of clinical knowledge and judgment, as well as preparing students to implement evidence-based practices. This focus is becoming an increasingly desired skill set for employers representing the large concentration of Magnet-recognized hospitals in the Houston/Galveston region,

## RN TO BSN PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Can be completed in as little as three, eight-week semesters

Small class sizes

Tutors available for individual and group sessions at no cost to the student

Supports the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators (NDNQI)

Accredited by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing

a designation allocated to health care organizations who align their nursing strategic goals to improve patient outcomes.

“The baccalaureate degree is a preferred degree for hospitals that are Magnet recognized,” explained Debra Bauer, RN to BSN program coordinator. “Magnet recognition is very much focused on the evidence-based outcomes and the higher percentage of baccalaureate-prepared nurses in any hospital have demonstrated that skill. Because hospitals in our area are encouraging all their associate degree nurses to get their baccalaureate degree, that’s why our program is such a good fit.”

With technology at the forefront of today’s evolving health care world, COM’s new state-of-the-art learning facility allows nursing students to keep pace with current industry standards in a real-world environment to meet the complex challenges of modern patient care. And that facility is like no other. Housed in the new Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) building, COM’s nursing lab features 10 individual simulation rooms where students learn to navigate complex nursing scenarios through hands-on practice performed on sophisticated, life-sized anatomical human models.

“We have our beautiful simulation lab with all the high-tech, high-fidelity manikins,” Bauer said. “We have resources for physical assessment too. Our Anatomage Table [3D anatomy visualization and virtual dissection model] is an amazing tool for us to be able to illustrate some of the assessment abnormalities.”

The RN to BSN is the first of five baccalaureate degree programs that can now be offered at COM through the recent passing of House Bill 3348 which increased the numbers of bachelor's degrees that can be offered by community colleges from three to five. Offering convenient and flexible learning pipelines tailored to meet the diverse needs of students, the community college route has become increasingly popular for students seeking a more affordable alternative to a traditional four-year university. To that end, the move allows COM to further its student reach and continue its current path of responding to growing industry needs by offering new degrees and academic programs.

“College of the Mainland serves the citizens of the mainland and Galveston County, and we are a responsive college,” said Dr. Jerry Fliger, COM vice president for instruction. “Whether that’s getting someone an industry certification in as short as a weekend or whether that’s taking them through four years of education, all of our programs directly serve the workforce needs of our community.”

The RN to BSN program is a hybrid transition program for individuals who have already attained an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing and who hold an active and unencumbered registered nurse license. The program is taught in a virtual learning format, the nursing laboratory, and through clinical experiences at health care facilities and in the community.

This fall, COM introduced its first cohort of students looking to embark on this historic journey. The second cohort of students will be admitted, tentatively, in the fall 2022 semester. Admission will be offered in fall, spring and summer semesters the second year the RN to BSN program is offered.

“This is a historical moment for College of the Mainland,” Bauer said. “It’s a very exciting time to be here at COM.”



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academics/nursing/  
bsn.html](https://com.edu/academics/nursing/bsn.html)



# BUILDING TOMORROW'S WORKERS INDUSTRIAL CAREERS

As Galveston County continues to grow at a rapid pace, big changes are on the horizon for the region. With new businesses and industries moving in, the need for skilled workers is on a steady rise. COM is responding to that demand in a major way through its new state-of-the-art Industrial Careers Building (ICB). The building will offer an innovative and dynamic learning and training environment that is attractive and responsive to local industry and workforce needs.



FEB. 2021



MAY 2021





# WORKFORCE: TECHNICAL BUILDING

**Groundbreaking:**  
Spring 2021

**Projected Completion Date:**  
Fall 2022

## QUICK FACTS

90,264 Square Feet

Three stories

20 classrooms

## SPECIAL FEATURES

Expanded PTEC Lab Spaces

Campus Data Center

Educational Technology  
Suite

Study and Collaboration  
Stations

Tutoring Center



AUG. 2021





# INDUSTRIAL CAREERS BUILDING (CONTINUED)

Since construction began for the ICB in early 2021, more than 512,000 cubic feet of dirt has been moved, 3,500 cubic yards of concrete placed and 370 tons of steel erected. Made possible with the overwhelming approval of voters during our \$162.5 million bond program in 2018, the new classrooms, expanded instructional capacity and upgraded technology that will be housed in the new facility demonstrates COM's never-ending commitment to growing the opportunities for students to maximize their learning experiences in new and innovative ways.

COM's Process Technology (PTEC) program – the first of its kind in the country – will be able to expand in the new learning facility. Space in the 90,000-square-foot building will also be allotted for the relocation of the Gulf Coast Safety Institute as well as the Occupational Hygiene and Safety Technician, HVAC and Collegiate High School programs.

Offering cutting-edge technology and instructional areas for students, here's a snapshot of the dynamic program offerings the new Industrial Careers Building will house:



## Process Technology (PTEC)

The College of the Mainland PTEC program, which was one of the first of its kind in the nation to offer an associate degree, provides innovative and dynamic learning opportunities for students through labs, hands-on classes and industry-grade operating equipment. With the growth of the petrochemical industry on a steady rise in the Gulf Coast region, the upgraded facility will help to ensure that students in the program are equipped with the training needed in the popular industry.

## Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC)

COM's Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) program prepares students for a successful career as an HVAC technician and/or installer through hands-on training. Students train in less than one year to enter the in-demand occupation through a combination of classroom instruction and hands-on work that is taught by instructors with years of industry experience.





## Occupational Safety and Health Technology (OSHT)

The Occupational Safety and Health Technology program prepares students for a successful career of preventing incidents and saving lives by identifying, analyzing and controlling workplace hazards. Students learn to manage safety and health programs, perform safety inspections and audits, develop safety controls, and ensure compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards and regulations.



## Collegiate High School (CHS)

With the increasing popularity of COM's Collegiate High School program, the new building will offer more classroom space for student instruction. Helping students reach their goals by connecting their career aspirations to their educational experience, students looking to jump start their higher education journey are able to take collegiate-level coursework taught by college faculty at reduced tuition costs. While in the program, CHS students can earn an associate degree while simultaneously completing a high school diploma.



# A Lifetime of

## DOYLE FAMILY

It's often said that it is better to give than to receive, and nowhere do those words ring truer than with Charles T. "Chuck" and Mary Ellen Doyle. Through their time, talents and lifetime of contributions, the couple's work spotlights an unwavering commitment to improving the community around them through civic service, leadership and volunteering. This work continues to leave an undeniable impact on education, government and the College of the Mainland community.

Chuck and Mary Ellen's work spans almost six decades. Since settling their family in Texas City in 1960, the pair have devoted their lives to the banking business, raising their five children and helping others in the community.

Chuck, who has served in a variety of leadership roles, including mayor of Texas City from 1990-2000, currently serves as chairman of the board of Texas First Bank as well as chairman of Texas Independent Bancshares Inc. A staunch supporter of education, Mary Ellen has worked diligently throughout the years to enrich the lives of young people

through her work with Texas City Independent School District's educational foundation and such initiatives as the Mainland Youth at Risk project.

And while their work is expansive, their continued focus on education is truly unmatched. The couple's recent donation to College of the Mainland in the amount of \$1 million underlines their ongoing commitment to advancing the College's mission for student success.

"We're proud to be a part of playing the role with College of the Mainland to help our young people achieve success in life," Chuck said.

For the Doyles, their connection with the College is a very personal one. As Mary Ellen explains, COM holds a special place in their hearts that runs generations deep for the family.

"College of the Mainland has been a special place to us, and it has been since it was built," said Mary Ellen. "Our children have come here. Our grandchildren have come here. And it has been a tremendous resource for all of us."

And like their parents, the Doyle children all work passionately to follow in their parents' footsteps of service. Through their work in education, banking, government, and community and civic leadership, Matthew, David, Denise, Patrick and Christopher have dedicated significant time, energy and resources to leave a lasting imprint on the lives of those around them.

Together, the family looks forward to continuing to inspire future generations of scholars to strive to become lifelong learners and leaders.



# of Giving

## LY SPOTLIGHT

In recognition of the family's significant and considerable contributions to education, government and the COM community, College of the Mainland has recently named the school's new Administration building in honor of the family. The 63,000-square-foot space, which will now be known as the Doyle Family Administration Building, serves as a one-stop comprehensive network of student services to support a successful college journey.

Photo:  
Charles T. "Chuck" and  
Mary Ellen Doyle





# HELP WRITE 100 stories

## Are you ready to change a future?

These students have a promising future because of  
**DONORS JUST LIKE YOU!**

RIGHT:

**Mariana Rivas**  
Criminal Justice

Recipient:  
Carmage and Martha  
Ann Walls Scholarship



BELOW:

**Omar Nunez**  
Petrochemical Process  
Technology

Recipient:  
Marathon Petroleum  
PTEC Scholarship



RIGHT:

**Ashton Whitby**  
Petrochemical Process  
Technology

Recipient:  
LyondellBasell PTEC  
Scholarship



LEFT:

**Mia Rodriguez**  
Business

Recipient:  
Doyle Family Scholarship



ABOVE:

**Aaron Barnett**  
Petrochemical Process  
Technology

Recipient:  
Maurice Moore and  
Ray Gonzalez Memorial  
Scholarship



Visit [com.edu/give](https://com.edu/give) to  
change a student's future.

# COM Alumni News

## WHERE IS SHE NOW?



### Ronishia Bradford

CLASS OF 2017, NURSING

As a child, it was always a dream to become a nurse. My mother and maternal grandmother are two of my greatest motivational factors. My late grandmother was a registered nurse, and my mother has been one for the past 32 years. The feeling is truly rewarding to witness the many lives that are impacted. Reminiscing, it was an indescribable experience to get a glimpse at what the profession entails. Although I have finally obtained my Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), I persevered through several obstacles to become the nurse that I am today.

During my freshman year of college, my grandmother suffered from a hemorrhagic stroke and eventually regained consciousness after being in a coma for two weeks. In 2011, I obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in chemistry from Texas Southern University. During my third semester in a nursing program in 2014, my grandmother succumbed to a rare cancer, Mucinous Adenocarcinoma. This was the only period in my life that my desire for nursing was questioned.



## Did you attend COM?

Let us know what's happening in your life for a chance to be featured. Email us at: [horizons@com.edu](mailto:horizons@com.edu)

To read Ronishia's full story, visit:  
[horizons.com.edu/2021/fall/com-alumni-news-2/](https://horizons.com.edu/2021/fall/com-alumni-news-2/)



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

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Lifetime donations to the

## TEXAS LONE STAR

Level \$5 million and up

- Awaiting gracious donors

## TEXAS LONGHORN

Level \$1 million to 4,999,999

- Charles T. and Mary Ellen Doyle
- City of Texas City
- Texas Mutual Insurance Company

## KING RANCHER

Level \$500,000 to 999,999

- BP
- Houston Endowment

## SILVER SPUR

Level \$250,000 to 499,999

- College of the Mainland Employees
- Dickinson Management District
- Mainland Medical Center Auxiliary
- Marathon Petroleum Co., LP
- Shell Oil Company

## COWBOY

Level \$100,000 to 249,999

- Frank Webb and June Godard Webb
- Greater Texas Foundation
- Ivan and Linda Langford
- Logical Innovations, Inc.
- Meadows Foundation, Inc.
- The Brown Foundation
- The Carmage and Martha Ann Walls Foundation
- The McDaniel Charitable Foundation

## MUSTANG

Level \$50,000 to 99,999

- A.J. and Lynn Amato
- Anonymous Donor
- Dr. Bill and Mrs. Genevieve McGarvey
- Consulate General of Mexico in Houston
- Dow Chemical
- ExxonMobil Foundation
- Galveston County AFL-CIO
- Joe and Elizabeth Amato
- Linde
- Rockwell Fund, Inc.
- Smith Barney
- Texas Book Company
- Trellis Company
- Valero Refining, Texas City

## YELLOW ROSE

Level \$25,000 to 49,999

- AMOCO Federal Credit Union
- Austin Industrial
- Carolyn and Oscar Robinson
- City of Santa Fe
- Craig and Melissa Eiland
- COM-Unity
- Del Papa Distributing Company
- Galveston County Daily News
- Hitchcock Industrial Development Corporation
- HCA Houston Healthcare Mainland
- John P. McGovern Foundation
- LyondellBasell Corporation
- Marianne Duncanson
- Matthew and Debra Doyle
- Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
- Moody Foundation
- North American Process Technology Alliance (NAPTA)
- PBK, Inc.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## College of the Mainland Foundation

### **YELLOW ROSE** (continued)

- Randy and Peggy Dietel
- Texas Association of Community Colleges
- Texas New Mexico Power
- The Lubrizol Foundation
- Verizon Foundation
- Dr. Warren Nichols, Jr. and Mrs. Chris Nichols
- The William Gammon Henry Charitable Trust
- Ziegler's Foods

### **BLUEBONNET**

#### **Level \$10,000 to 24,999**

- A&A Machine & Fabrication, LLC
- Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
- Associated Credit Union
- Barbara Austin
- Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC
- Bruce Latimer
- Catherine Moran
- CBRE
- Dr. Clen and Michelle Burton
- Coast Foundation, Inc.
- Commercial Metals Company #303
- COMPeers
- Darrell and Debra Booth
- Dorothy Godard
- Douglas and Dr. Crystal Alvarez
- Ernie and Kathy Deats
- Eva Rowe
- Fidelity Investments
- Fred Sandberg
- Dr. Gary E. and Diane Wilson
- Gary and Catherine Potter
- Jack McConnell
- Mayor James and Carol Yarbrough
- Jason and Angie Bass
- Jeanette Godard Robbins
- Dr. Jere Hammer

### **BLUEBONNET** (continued)

- John Glowczwski
- Karsten Interior Services, L.P.
- Kathleen Cailloux Foundation
- Ken and Carolyn Adams
- Larry Smith
- Lawrence and Sue Edrozo
- Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation
- Mary Ann and Eric Amelang
- CDR Maxine Wilcox, USCG Ret
- MGC, Inc.
- Moody National Bank
- On the Run, Inc.
- Peter and Henrietta Doak
- Ralph and Linda Holm
- Robert C. and Pat Updegrove
- Robert Handy and Janet Ward
- Ronald Shelby
- Santa Fe Texas Education Foundation
- Scholarship America
- Terrence and Rosalie Kettler
- Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce
- Texas First Bank
- Texas Pioneer Foundation
- Trevino Group, Inc.
- Twilight & Marc Freedman Foundation
- Dr. Vicki Stanfield and Mr. Richard Stanfield
- Dr. Yolanda Waters and Mr. Alan Waters

# OPENING DOORS PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

The Opening Doors Promise Scholarship is a last-dollar scholarship that allows local high school seniors of the Class of 2022 to attend College of the Mainland with **ALL TUITION AND FEES COVERED** for up to two years beginning fall 2022.

## What is a Last-Dollar Scholarship?

A last-dollar award means that all other grant and scholarship monies will be applied for tuition and fees before the Promise Scholarship funds are used. The Promise Scholarship does not cover books or supplies.

## Who's Eligible?

- Class of 2022 graduates
- Texas City, La Marque, Hitchcock, Dickinson or Santa Fe residing high school seniors
- La Marque High School students, regardless of residence
- GED, public, private, home or charter school students
- GED students must be between the ages of 17-19
- No income or high school GPA requirement

## Participating Communities

- Texas City
- La Marque
- Hitchcock
- Santa Fe
- Dickinson

For more information, contact:

**Financial Aid Office**  
409-933-8274  
finaid@com.edu

Apply today by completing these simple steps before July 1, 2022.



### Step 1:

Apply for admission through [goapplytexas.org](http://goapplytexas.org) and choose "College of the Mainland."



### Step 2:

Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) or Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) at <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/DocID/PDF/12712.PDF>. List "College of the Mainland" or enter code 007096 on your application.

College of the Mainland les promete matrícula gratuita a los estudiantes que se graduarán de bachillerato o que recientemente obtuvieron un GED. Para obtener más información, vaya a [WWW.COM.EDU/PROMESA](http://WWW.COM.EDU/PROMESA)



Scan the QR code to unlock your promising future today!

Or visit [com.edu/promise](http://com.edu/promise)

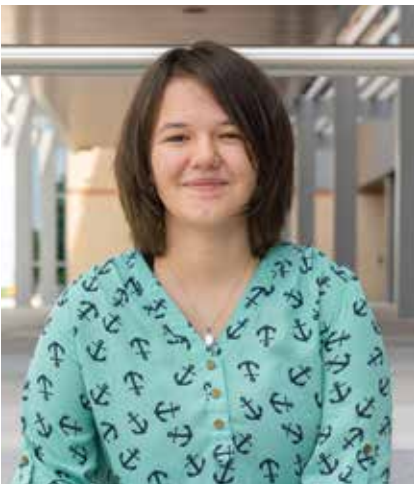
# Opening Doors One Student at a Time: See What Our Students Are Saying

Facing the financial challenges of pursuing higher education is a tough reality for many college students. College of the Mainland is helping to alleviate that burden through its tuition-free college initiative, the Opening Doors Promise Scholarship. Since launching last year, the scholarship has grown to now include 241 students representing the cities within COM's taxing district. Check out what our students have to say about taking their first step toward a promising tomorrow:

## Koral Hairgrove

Dickinson High School,  
Class of 2021

"Because of the Promise Scholarship, I don't have to worry about student loans or paying them off. I can just focus on my studies and my schooling. If you have a financial need for college, and you are eligible for the Promise Scholarship, I would say go for it!"



## Jason Iraheta

Texas City High School,  
Class of 2020

"Being able to save money, especially in the environment that we're in right now, I think that's very good. I'll be able to help my family out saving money and just get further. College of the Mainland has a lot to offer, and it's definitely a good college for students that want to get started on the right track. Being a community college, that helps out a lot of kids. COM was the right choice for me because it's a couple of minutes from my house. It's ideal. It's very close to home. It's affordable. What more can you ask for?"

## Jimena Medina

Dickinson High School,  
Class of 2021

"I decided to take advantage of this scholarship because I'm doing it on my own, not getting any financial help from anybody else. The Promise program was a huge opportunity. Since I don't have to pay for college out of my pocket, it allows me to focus more on my education and my schoolwork. I feel like now there are more opportunities for us to attend college, and not make the expenses an excuse. Students should apply for the Promise Scholarship because it's free money, free money toward your education. And I believe your education opens up more doors for your future. I will be the first one in my family to graduate from college. I want to be able to make my family and friends proud and be able to make my parents' sacrifice worth it."



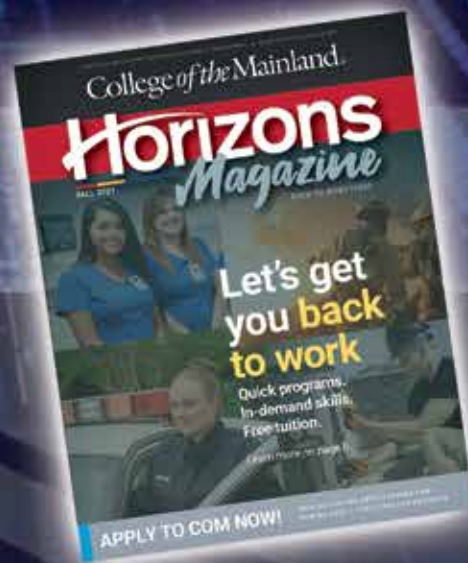


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# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT COM?

# A lot!

There's never a dull moment here at College of the Mainland. We're putting the fun in your college experience. Mark your calendar. Here's a small preview of the BIG THINGS we have in store!

## ANNUAL STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

On view through Dec. 1, 2021  
[com.edu/art-gallery](http://com.edu/art-gallery)



## COM VOCAL ARTS CONCERT

DEC. 3, 2021 AT 7:30 P.M.  
[COM.EDU/MUSIC](http://com.edu/music)

## Fall 2021 Virtual Commencement

Dec. 11, 2021 at 10 a.m.  
[com.edu/graduates](http://com.edu/graduates)



## SPRING 2022 REGISTRATION DEADLINE

# JAN. 14 2022

## Spring 2022 CLASSES BEGIN

JAN. 18, 2022



## GCIC ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM 2022

APR. 1 2022  
9AM-2PM  
[COM.EDU/SYMPOSIUM](http://com.edu/symposium)

## COM Theatre presents: GODSPELL

[com.edu/  
theatre](http://com.edu/theatre)



JAN. 27-  
FEB. 13,  
2022



## Student Life

Visit [com.edu/multicultural](http://com.edu/multicultural)  
to explore our uniquely  
diverse campus activities  
hosted throughout the year!





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Scan the code to apply to COM today!

