The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in unprecedented economic hardship for many of the 2.3 million residents of Queens, including the students of LaGuardia Community College and their families. LaGuardia’s Division of Adult & Continuing Education (ACE) is poised to help rebuild NYC’s economy by providing opportunities for Queens residents to learn new skills, acquire industry-recognized credentials, and transition into well-paying career paths.

LaGuardia is leading this effort with a new scholarship fund for ACE students. The LaGuardia Community College Foundation is committed to helping hundreds of Queens residents get back to work through the ACE Scholarship Fund.
**LaGuardia’s Long History of Providing Workforce Training, ESL & Pre-College Instruction**

The ACE division trains over 15,000 individuals each year, providing high-quality accelerated workforce training, professional certificate training programs and small business assistance, as well as high school equivalency, adult basic skills, and NYC’s largest English as a Second Language (ESL) programs. Adult Education and Pre-College programs also prepare local residents – especially immigrants and others whose native language is not English – to continue their education. Many of the College’s students start out in ACE.

The average cost of a LaGuardia Certification course is $1,600 – putting it beyond the reach of many unemployed, low-income Queens residents in need of the education and training required to re-enter the NYC workforce. The government does not currently provide any direct financial aid to students in non-credit workforce training programs.

**The ACE Scholarship Fund**

The ACE Scholarship Fund of the LaGuardia Community College Foundation will open up access to a wide variety of pre-college, basic skills, and workforce training programs to low-wage workers who have lost jobs due to COVID-19, young adults looking to break into the labor market, older workers in need of new skills, CUNY degree students and alumni looking for a competitive edge in a changing economy, and the diverse immigrant communities of Queens.

**The ACE Scholarship may be used to fund:**
- A portion of ACE tuition for qualifying low-income students.
- First semester tuition for ACE alumni who matriculate into a LaGuardia degree program.
- Other education costs such as books, technology, tools, devices, uniforms, and exam fees.

**Students served:**
- Must reside in the tristate area.
- Low-Income unemployed or under-employed individuals.
- Adults without a high school diploma.
- Low-wage workers who have lost jobs due to COVID-19.
- Minimum wage workers looking to switch to in-demand career paths.
- LaGuardia degree-seeking students and alumni who want to earn industry-recognized credentials.
Programs of Focus

The ACE Scholarship Fund currently focuses on programs that lead directly to employment or college, meet the labor market needs of today’s economy, and have a track record of success.

English Language/Pre-College
- The English Language Center (TELC) English as a Second Language
- High School Equivalency (HSE)

Healthcare
- Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (Medical Terminology, EKG, and Phlebotomy)
- Certified Medical Administrative Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Medical Coding

Technology
- IT Support Specialist
- Network Technology
- SOC Analyst (Cybersecurity)
- Data Analytics: SQL, Python, and Tableau (Finance, Healthcare, Marketing)

Operations
- Supply Chain and Logistics Management (Transportation, Airport Redevelopment)

Electrical
- Electrical Level 1

"The support of my instructor and classmates gave me the confidence to pursue my goals and dreams. In five years, I see myself leading a team that improves security and business continuity in Accenture."

- Fabianna Rodriguez-Mercado
SOC Analyst (Cybersecurity)

"My instructor would always encourage not only me but all of his students to set our goals high, to be courageous, and to be persistent."

- Maribel Coronel Alvarez
Certified Clinical Medical Assistant

For more information visit www.laguardia.edu/donors/#ACE
A generous donor has pledged $5 million if we can raise $10 million by December 31, 2021. Help us meet the $15 Million LaGuardia Challenge. Learn more at www.laguardia.edu/challenge