Maryland Energy Administration

Presents

Blue Collar STEM Conference

January 24, 2026

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Howard Community College

10901 Little Patuxent Parkway

Columbia Maryland 21044

What is the Blue Collar STEM Conference?

Increasingly, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) provide one of the most reliable paths to economic security. However, many people believe that the only way to obtain a good STEM job is by earning a four-year college degree, even though this path is not the best option for everyone.

The purpose of this event is to raise awareness of the many STEM careers that do not require a traditional four-year degree. Alternative pathways include community colleges, trade schools, apprenticeships, internships, and other hands-on training programs. These careers span a wide range of fields, including manufacturing, construction, healthcare, and more.

We hope attendees leave with a better understanding of these career opportunities and the pathways that lead to them.

Agenda

- Registration, Breakfast, and Networking (9:00-9:30 am): Connect with industry professionals and fellow attendees. Light breakfast will be served.

- Keynote Speaker and Career Discussion Panel (9:30– 10:45 am): Gain insights into the event's goals and the importance of blue-collar STEM careers.   Maryland Secretary of Commerce Harry Coker, Jr. will be the keynote speaker.

- Tour of HCC facilities and information booth (10:45 am — 12:00 PM): Participate in discussions and sessions led by experts in various fields.

  Pizza Lunch/networking (12:00 PM – 12:30 PM)

Panel Participants

- Allison Eastbrook, Earlbrook, Gas and Technology

- Sean Hammer, MDOT - Maryland Aviation Administration

- Nick Modha, Monkey in the Metal

- Jazmin Rodriiguez, The Maryland Center for Construction Education & Innovation

- Howard Counry Chief Fire Chief Lou Winston

Participating Organizations

Maryland Energy Administration
BGE
Whiting Turner
Toyota
Maryland Environmental Service
Axis Communications
US Air Force
Buckley Cable Construction
Maryland Center for Construction Education and Innovation
Howard County Department of Public Works
SECOM
Earlbeck Gas and Technologies
MDOT - Maryland Aviation Administration
Howard County Fire and Rescue Services
IBEW local 24
Early Charm
Howard County Department of Economic Development
Harbor Designs and Manufacturing
Unmanned Safety Institute
Baltimore American Society for Quality Section
Schuster Concrete
Power52
UMGC
Game4Good
Maryland Department of Labor
Central Scholarship
Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory

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