



GWINNETT TECH FOUNDATION



IMPACT 2025 REPORT



Alumni of the Year

Darcie Johnson, '10

Darcie Johnson, Gwinnett Tech's 2025 Alumni of the Year, is a proud 2010 graduate who earned her Associate Degree in Business Technology. Her career has come full circle, as she now serves as the Executive Director of the Gwinnett Tech Foundation, leading efforts that directly support students and college initiatives. Darcie's dedication to education, community impact, and student success continues to reflect the values she embodied as a student. Her professional journey is a powerful example of how Gwinnett Tech graduates help shape the future of the college and the community it serves.



The Power of Paying It Forward



Dilan Gonzalez's story is what Gwinnett Tech is all about! Our Commercial Construction Program equipped him with skills for success, leading to an internship and full-time position at JE Dunn. Now, Dilan is establishing a scholarship to help other students achieve their dreams. This is how we build strong communities — one student, one opportunity at a time!



Thanks

The Gwinnett Tech Foundation sincerely thanks Logic Speak and its team for their generous \$10,000 donation to support student scholarships. This meaningful investment helps reduce financial hardships, remove barriers to education, and bring students one step closer to reaching their academic goals and graduating.

Role Model Board



Thank You to Our Outgoing Board Chair, Kali Boatright



The Gwinnett Tech Foundation extends our deepest gratitude to Kali Boatright for her extraordinary leadership and dedicated service as our Chair of the Board of Trustees for 2025–2026, Co-Chair from 2023–2024, and for completing two impactful terms on the Foundation Board.

Throughout her tenure, Kali has exemplified what it means to lead with vision, integrity, and heart. She has been a steadfast advocate for Gwinnett Technical College and for the essential role that technical education plays in strengthening Georgia’s workforce and expanding opportunity for students of all backgrounds. Her commitment goes far beyond the boardroom—Kali is a true ambassador for our mission, championing the college throughout the community and actively engaging others in supporting student success.

Under her leadership, the Foundation has strengthened its strategic direction, expanded its reach, and deepened its impact. Kali’s thoughtful guidance, collaborative approach, and unwavering belief in the power of education have helped position Gwinnett Tech for continued growth and innovation. She consistently brought energy, insight, and a spirit of partnership to every initiative.

We are profoundly grateful for Kali’s service, her leadership example, and her continued dedication

to advancing opportunities for students. While her terms on the Board of Trustees come to a close, her influence—and her legacy of advocacy—will continue to shape the Foundation for years to come.

Thank you, Kali, for your remarkable service to the Gwinnett Tech Foundation and the students we proudly serve.

“It has been both a pleasure and an honor to work alongside Kali Boatright. Her leadership has shaped me in profound and lasting ways—she has generously shared her wisdom, challenged me to think boldly, and offered insight that has strengthened every aspect of our Foundation’s work. Kali’s dedication, her steady guidance, and her unwavering belief in our mission have been invaluable. I hold the deepest respect and regard for her—not only as a remarkable leader and trusted partner, but also as a friend whose support has meant more than words can express.”

— Darcie Johnson, Executive Director,
Institutional Advancement

“We are deeply grateful for Kali Boatright’s steadfast commitment to the College and the community we serve. Her leadership has inspired collaboration, fueled progress, and strengthened workforce development efforts that ensure our students have the skills and support they need to thrive.”

– Dr. D. Glen Cannon, President,
Gwinnett Technical College



\$9 million endowment
Largest Foundation in the TCSG system



GWINNETT TECH
FOUNDATION

Scholarship List

These scholarships are proof that partnership works. When businesses and community members invest in education, the return is exponential – stronger students, stronger families, and a stronger workforce. The following scholarships represent that shared commitment to opportunity and progress.

AAUW North Fulton Scholarship
 AES Clean Technology Welding Scholarship
 Anker Nursing Scholarship
 Assistance League of Atlanta Scholarship
 Atlanta Gas Light Scholarship
 Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association
 Barbara T. King
 Blanche Ellington Chambliss Memorial Scholarship
 Buford Lanier Woman’s Club Early Childhood Care Scholarship
 Buford Lanier Woman’s Club Nursing Scholarship
 Chrysler Mopar CAP Scholarship
 CIS Advisory Board Scholarship
 Clarke Family Nursing Scholarship
 CleanSpark
 Clyde & Sandra Strickland General Scholarship
 Clyde & Sandra Strickland Health Sciences & Public Safety Scholarship
 CRSI Foundation Southeast Region Trade Scholarship
 Diane Coker
 Discovery Point Scholarship
 E.B. Parker Memorial Scholarship
 Ekam Atlanta Scholarship

Gabriel “Gabe” A. White Memorial Scholarship
 Georgia Power
 Gen-One Pathfinder Scholarship
 Georgia Banking Company
 Georgia DOT Civil Engineering Scholarship
 Georgia United Credit Union Foundation Scholarship
 Gwinnett County Veterinary Medical Association
 Guy Webb
 Hennessey General Automotive Scholarship
 Holtkamp Family Foundation Heating & Air Scholarship
 Hughes Commercial Real Estate / Hughes Commercial Contractors Scholarship
 Ina Wheeler Norton Scholarship
 Irene Fowler Memorial Scholarship
 J.R. Hobbs Non-Traditional
 Kaiser Permanente Nursing Scholarship
 Lawrenceville Kennel Club Scholarship
 Lilburn Woman’s Club Scholarship
 Logic Speak Scholarship
 Marshall Boutwell Cybersecurity Scholarship
 Michael Upchurch
 Millennium Mat Scholarship

Mingledorff’s HVAC Scholarship
 NBRC Scholarship
 Northside Hospital Nursing Scholarship
 Northside Hospital Radiologic Scholarship
 Peden Nursing Scholarship
 Primerica Foundation Scholarship
 Residential Construction Management Scholarship
 Rick Davis Scholarship - Peach State Federal Credit
 Rising Industry Star Scholarship
 Roentgen Scholarship
 Sarah Rebecca Bonner Memorial Scholarship
 Sawnee EMC Foundation Scholarship
 Scott Hudgens Scholarship
 Sharon J. Bartels Scholarship
 Sunright-Bighorn Scholarship
 Susan Arnold Interiors Scholarship
 The GBC – Bruce Kiser Memorial Scholarship
 The Gonzalez Family Scholarship
 True North 400
 Willie Frank Bailey Memorial Scholarship
 Women in Technology Scholarship



GRYPHON GRATITUDE BREAKFAST

We are grateful to



for being our presenting sponsor for this event!

Last Fall, the Foundation proudly hosted the **Gryphon Gratitude Breakfast** to recognize the recipients of the Gryphon Gratitude Award — steadfast partners whose consistent generosity over the years has fueled student success. Their ongoing investment in scholarships does far more than provide financial support — it opens doors, removes barriers, and creates life-changing opportunities for the students we serve. This gathering was our way of honoring their enduring commitment and celebrating the powerful impact of long-term partnership.



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With gratitude for your steadfast and lasting impact to the Gwinnett Tech Foundation.



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Gwinnett Tech Foundation is



Thank you to



The Gwinnett Tech Foundation would like to give a huge thank-you to **True North 400** for their incredible \$50,000 gift supporting scholarships and serving as the presenting sponsor for the **2026 PNx/Preview Night Experience** at our Alpharetta-North Fulton campus!



Gwinnett Tech faculty and staff are deeply committed to our students and mission. Their support both in service and in giving demonstrates their belief in the College and inspires others to invest in our shared success.



In December, our faculty and staff participated in a *Mugs & Masterpieces* event organized by Human Resources and sponsored by the Gwinnett Tech Foundation. As they enjoyed their warm drinks, they crafted ornaments to donate to a Northside Hospital cancer treatment center in Gwinnett.



making lasting impacts.

GWINNETT CHAMBER **moxie** Awards



Multiple Gwinnett Tech staff members, including Foundation Executive Director Darcie Johnson, and the Gwinnett Tech Foundation were chosen as Moxie Award finalists through the Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce. The Moxie Awards recognize leadership and impact in Gwinnett business.



The Special Populations department partnered with the Gwinnett Tech Foundation to distribute laptops to selected students through a \$30,000 **Embark** grant. The grant provides essential academic tools, including laptops and bags, to support student success. Staff and student IT volunteers were on-site to assist with setup and troubleshooting, reinforcing the college's commitment to access and achievement.

★ **PREVIEW NIGHT!**



The Alpharetta-North Fulton campus hosted *Preview Night* in March 2025. Prospective students and their parents visited the campus to learn more about our programs of study and tour the facilities. Attendees even had the opportunity to apply on-site for free. We thank **Wellstar Health System** for sponsoring this event!



The Lawrenceville campus hosted their own *Preview Night* in October. Prospective students got a taste of the Gwinnett Tech spirit, exploring programs, meeting faculty, and envisioning their future here. We were grateful for the support of **Mingledorff's**, our Presenting Gryphon Sponsor. **Piedmont Eastside, AT&T, Vystar, Waffle House, Hennessy Automobile Group**, and **Batson-Cook** were also sponsors.



By the Numbers in FY25

383

students applied for scholarships.

241

students received scholarships.

The number of scholarships offered has increased

55%

from Spring 2024 to Spring 2025.

\$1,000

average scholarship amount.

\$250

minimum scholarship amount.

\$34,435

Emergency Student Assistance

supporting students seeking support with tuition, books, program supplies, and living expenses.

78

Total number of students assisted.

\$441

Average assistance for each student

17 with tuition

47 program supplies

14 living expense and transportation

Redzone

is an initiative that covers up to **\$600** in tuition balances. The Foundation provided the following funds:

\$87,725

\$192 Average amount of assistance

455 Students assisted

Fall 2024
\$22,477

Spring 2025
\$41,176

Summer 2025
\$24,071

Investing in Student Success

Scholarships do more than ease financial burden — they open doors. This year, our scholarship recipients demonstrated academic commitment, resilience, and a clear drive to achieve their goals. Through donor support, these students received critical assistance that helps them remain enrolled, continue progressing in their programs, and pursue meaningful career pathways. Their success is a direct reflection of the impact made possible through philanthropic investment in education.



Scholarship Recipient Assistance League of Atlanta Scholarship

“My academic goals are to continue excelling in my coursework and to gain hands-on experience in the field of cybersecurity, an area that has

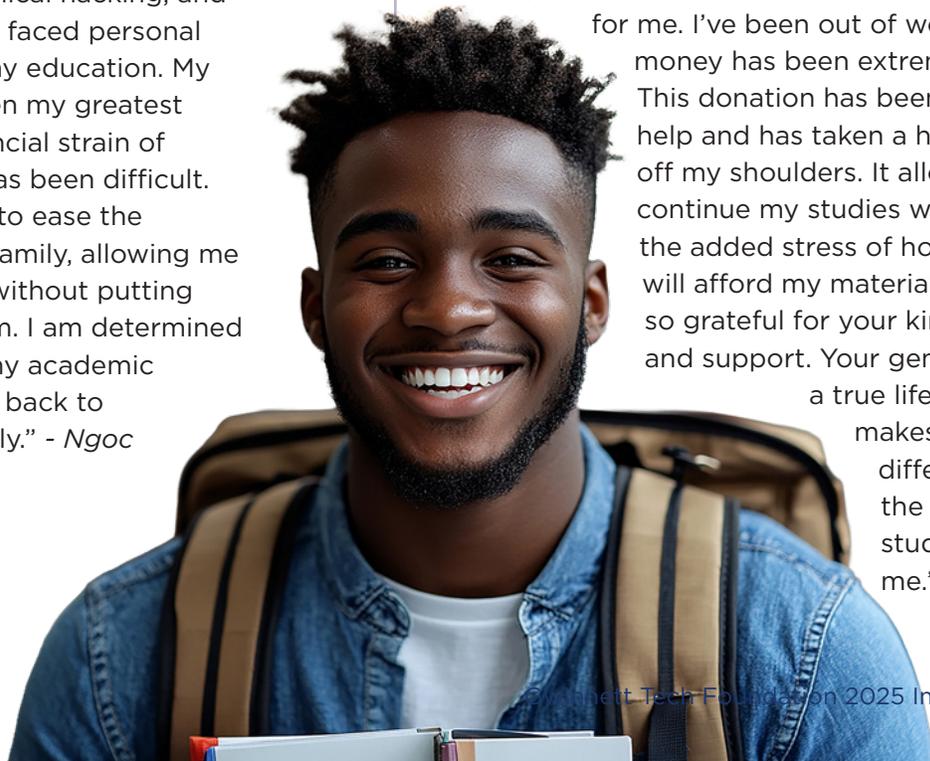
become increasingly critical in today’s digital economy. With a perfect GPA of 4.0 in my current program, I am committed to maintaining high academic standards while expanding my technical knowledge in areas like network security, ethical hacking, and risk management. I have faced personal challenges as I pursue my education. My parents have always been my greatest supporters, but the financial strain of funding my education has been difficult. This scholarship helped to ease the financial burden on my family, allowing me to continue my studies without putting additional stress on them. I am determined to not only succeed in my academic pursuits but also to give back to my community and family.” - Ngoc Phuong

Emergency Student Assistance Recipient

“I recently got a job after being jobless since January. Bills have piled up since and VA benefits will help but they aren’t processed yet for school. I do not have money for my books and I can’t access the books in several classes since 09/02/25. I requested assistance in getting my books for class this semester.”

“Thank you so much for your incredibly generous donation. I was approved for the emergency assistance fund, and your gift of \$400 for my books means more than words can say.

The past six months have been a real struggle for me. I’ve been out of work, and money has been extremely tight. This donation has been a massive help and has taken a huge weight off my shoulders. It allows me to continue my studies without the added stress of how I will afford my materials. I am so grateful for your kindness and support. Your generosity is a true lifeline and makes a genuine difference in the lives of students like me.” - Tristan



Scholarship Recipient - **Barbara T. King** Scholarship for Women



"I have a GPA of 3.85 and it has been a struggle for me, but I am dedicated and study hard since I have been out of school for over 30 years. It was a huge step and very scary to jump back into school after so long.

I want to better myself and my goal is to become an RN. I love Gwinnett Tech because it has given me so much hope and I enjoy all of the classes and taking in all of the new information from all of my classes. I have also enjoyed meeting new people from varied backgrounds and getting to know more about their culture, home life and goals and aspirations. College has really enlightened me on a whole new world of opportunity and growth and it has lit a fire in my soul. I now believe that I can make it and be successful and I am working very hard to make sure that I maintain good grades. This scholarship has allowed some of the burden of finances to lift its weight off of my shoulders and allow me to continue to strive for greatness in all areas of my life." - *Tonia*

Scholarship Recipient - **Mingledorff's HVAC** Scholarship



"We came to the United States looking for a better way of life for our family. The adventure was more than we imagined or anticipated. There has been a lot of material put forward about the benefits of higher education, and what a difference it makes to the quality of life, and economic prospects for those who complete college or university. I chose to become a Building Automation Specialist, which is the integration of Air Conditioning Technologies with computers to provide comfortable, safe, and productive environments while minimizing the environmental impact of our buildings and spaces. This scholarship from the Gwinnett Tech Foundation means I have the opportunity to continue my journey at a pace that is comfortable, satisfying and includes the rich reward of giving my best effort toward my education, while at the same time trying to positively influence my colleagues, classmates and our community." - *Steve*

Emergency Student Assistance Recipient

"I am requesting emergency assistance to cover my current account balance of \$486.69. This balance was unexpected and the result of miscommunications and charges from the summer and fall semesters. I am in the final semester of my Cardiovascular Technology program, graduating December 13, 2025. At this time, I am completing clinical rotations four days a week while preparing for the RCIS registry exam. Because of these commitments, I am unable to work enough hours to afford this balance. Receiving this assistance would allow me to stay focused on completing my program and achieving my goal of becoming a Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist."



I am deeply grateful for the emergency assistance I received through the Foundation. As a Cardiovascular Technology student in my final semester, I am balancing clinical rotations and preparing for my national registry exam. This support lifted a major financial stress and allows me to fully focus on completing my program and graduating in December. Thank you for believing in me and investing in students like me. - *Cydney*

Emergency Student Assistance Recipient

"I receive Pell however it still isn't enough to cover the cost of my books for my program and I need help purchasing my book so that I don't fall behind."

I just wanted to personally thank you for the generous donation that will help me to succeed in my class, so that I wouldn't fall behind until I was able to come up with the money to purchase my book. Once again, I truly thank you for your generous donation.

- *Janasha*

*I just wanted to personally thank you for the generous donation that will help me to **succeed** in my class...*



Emergency Student Assistance Recipient



“Since my husband passed away, the limited finances I have are used to cover basic living expenses. I ran out of aid last semester, and with graduation approaching after this fall, I’m seeking assistance to help me complete my education. Without

financial assistance, I won’t be able to continue my education.”

Because of your kindness and generosity, I will be able to graduate after the Fall 2025 semester. I can’t begin to express how much that means to me. Earlier this year, I lost my spouse, and the emotional and financial toll was overwhelming. I truly didn’t know how I was going to finish my last semester. Your support came at a time when I needed it most—when I was unsure of how to move forward. Thanks to you, I now have hope. I’ll be able to complete my education, achieve a dream I’ve worked so hard for, and honor the journey my spouse and I started together. From the depths of my heart, thank you. Your generosity is not just financial—it’s life-changing. - *Angelette*

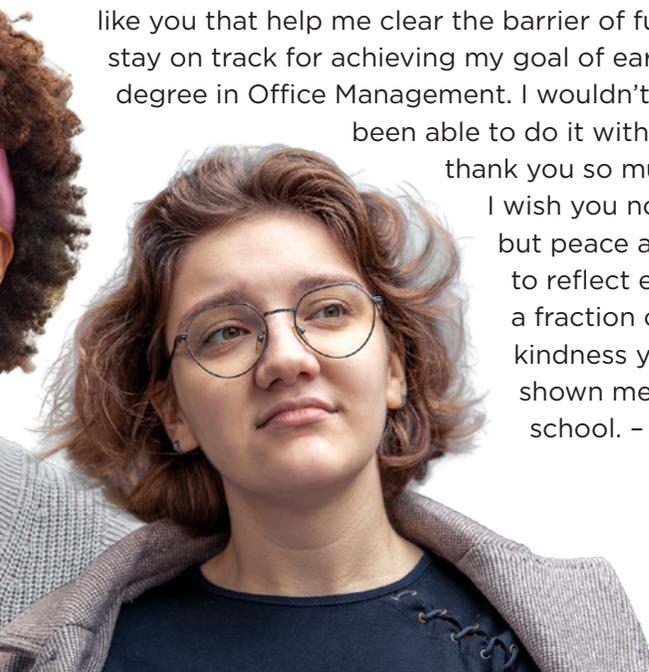
Emergency Student Assistance Recipient

“I am in need of assistance with purchasing my books to ensure I can continue my education. The assistance would help make sure I can continue with my goals.”

Thank you for this opportunity to continue to grow and learn. With your help I’m going into my third semester of school, of which the first two semesters I have gotten straight A’s, including 2 perfect scores. I’m so lucky to have those out there like you that help me clear the barrier of funds to stay on track for achieving my goal of earning a degree in Office Management. I wouldn’t have

been able to do it without you; thank you so much and

I wish you nothing but peace and love to reflect even just a fraction of the kindness you’ve shown me and this school. - Tracy



Scholarship Recipient - Lawrenceville Kennel Club Scholarship



“Balancing school, studying, work, a social life, and my mental health has tested my discipline. It has been a privilege to pursue what I love even during these obstacles. Learning in the classroom and then applying those lessons in real practices has

been invaluable. Entering this program with no prior veterinary experience, everything was new to me. Gaining hands-on skills like running diagnostics, preparing for surgery, monitoring anesthesia, providing post operative care, and communicating with owners has given me a strong base in patient assessment and clinical decision-making. Easing the financial burden would allow me to explore all areas of veterinary medicine and strengthen the foundation of my career. My long-term goals are either specializing in veterinary dentistry or behavioral medicine, with oncology as another emerging interest. Financial assistance will now help me pursue these goals and empower me to make an impact within the field of canine veterinary medicine.” - Emily

Scholarship Recipient - Residential Construction Management Scholarship



I am pursuing a career in construction management because I am passionate about building and improving communities. This field is exciting because it blends hands-on work with leadership, problem-solving, and a chance to make a real difference. Being part of a project that turns a blueprint into a home gives me a sense of pride and accomplishment. Financial challenges have shaped my journey, and my family depends on me. I often balance work with my studies to help at home and support my siblings. There have been times when I paused my education to put my family first, but I always return with greater determination. Receiving this scholarship helped to relieve some of that pressure, allowing me to dedicate myself to my education and future. I am committed to giving back to my community and being a positive role model for my siblings and others. - *Diego*



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