I have been the College and Career Success Coordinator (CCSC) at Kennebec Valley Community College since August of 2022, and I have worked in the field of Adult Education since 2006. For 16 years, I hoped to see a program that would put an adult education presence on each community college campus before this position became a reality. I have been honored to work with students in this role and hope you will see how important it is to continue to fund these positions. The work all the CCSCs have done is of tremendous value to students, adult education programs and staff, as well as the Maine Community College System.

Sincerely,

Carolyn E. Haskell

## Summary of College and Career Success Coordinator's Impact at Kennebec Valley Community College

- Adult education students have a dedicated contact on campus who helps them through the process of applying, enrolling, and registering for classes and who checks in with them to make sure they have what they need to be successful.
- These students benefit from the College and Career Success Coordinator's advocacy skills on their behalf as well as the knowledge of instructors, courses, and programs she has gained from being immersed in the culture of KVCC.
- The College and Career Success Coordinator (CCSC) refers current KVCC students who have ongoing academic challenges and need a more intense level of academic support to adult education whenever possible. She provides academic support as well and meets with students as they adjust to college, especially those who are taking online classes. The services that adult education and the CCSC provide are extremely beneficial to post-secondary student success and retention.
- Early College students have a dedicated contact on campus to:
  - o provide guidance on class choice
  - complete the registration process
  - monitor their progress throughout the semester
  - o provide academic and/or college success support

## 21 Early College (EC) Students from Fall of 2022 to Present

6 enrolled in the current semester

AE Programs: Augusta, Kennebec Neighbors, Lawrence, MMRACE, MSAD 54, RSU #3

7 completed an EC course and enrolled at KVCC

AE Programs: Augusta, Five Towns CSD, Lawrence, MMRACE,

MSAD 54, RSU #3, Five Towns CSD

6 are still enrolled

1 left due to personal reasons

1 completed an EC course and is enrolled in Fall of 2025

AE Program: MMRACE

1 completed an EC course and enrolled at EMCC

AE Program: Belfast

Unable to verify if student is still enrolled

1 failed despite outreach

AE Program: RSU#3

5 withdrew

AE Programs:

Augusta, Lawrence, MMRACE, MSAD #54

1 was passing but had a life challenge come up

4 due to attendance and/or work completion despite outreach

- The CCSC refers KVCC students to adult education for math, digital literacy, English, and science skill building prior to or while enrolled at the college.
- The CCSC initiated and helped coordinate Brighter Futures, an event just for adult education students that was held in March of 2024 and 2025.
- Adult education programs have a contact person who is actively trying to increase collaboration with KVCC and who is privy to all the happenings on the campus. Having the CCSC as the adult education liaison is invaluable to improving the partnership with KVCC.

## From Adult Education Students:

- ◆ Carolyn has guided me from the very start. While I was completing my HiSET program, she went above and beyond in guiding me toward my path to KVCC. Carolyn told me about the FAFSA program and helped me with that, as well as assisting me in applying to KVCC and choosing programs to take. I felt like a stray alley cat in the dark, but she is the bright light that has been guiding me to achieve my own personal success. Without her guidance, I would have been completely lost in determining what my next steps should be.
- ♦ I really appreciate everything you do for me and how great of an asset you are. Words cannot express how thankful I am for you.
- ♦ Carolyn is very kind and helpful she helped me sign up for all the classes I needed and described them well and assigned the ones she thought were best for me. She also helped me when I decided college was too difficult right now with life and withdrawal she's all around very kind and helpful.

The CCSC received this in an email after seeing the student on her way to the rehearsal for the Phi Theta Kappa inductee night:

"I just wanted you to know that I am sincere. I would not be receiving an award without your support. Stand by me support."

Recently, a staff member at KVCC had this to say about the CCSC's work with students:

"You always go above and beyond when you work with a student. You are kind, empathetic, and students love working with you. You have a wonderful sense of humor and your concern for each and every one of them shines through your interactions with them. I don't think we can count the number of students who have been successful because of your work with them. Most importantly you help students that so need your support, and you make a difference in their lives. I value working with you and have learned many things. I respect your work ethic and dedication."

## Student Highlight:

The first multilingual learner that the CCSC worked with at KVCC will be graduating from the Radiological Technology Program in May. Initially, the CCSC provided academic and college success support. Once he transitioned to program specific classes and clinicals, the CCSC provided encouragement and help with document submission for the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program (CSSP). Right after classes started this semester, the CCSC found out that he was struggling to find the money to replace his laptop. She immediately reached out to his CSSP Advisor since computers are usually an allowable expense. Shortly after this, the student had a brand-new laptop and was set up for success for his final semester. The CCSC has been honored to be a part of this student's amazing journey. Despite language challenges and caretaking duties for his disabled mother and severely mentally ill brother, he has persevered to reach his goal and was able to achieve a G.P.A. that qualified him to join the National Honor Society.