



**ALLEGANY COLLEGE**  
*of MARYLAND*  
PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING OFFICE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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ARC GRANT ENABLES ACM'S AUTO TECH PROGRAM TO ADD DIESEL SERVICE TRAINING

CUMBERLAND, Md. (July 25, 2018) – A federal Appalachian Regional Commission grant will allow Allegany College of Maryland's automotive technology program to add diesel service training and widen the employment options of its graduates.

The \$107,000 in ARC funds will allow for equipment that augments existing auto tech degree and certificate programs and qualify graduates for an increasing number of jobs in diesel vehicle maintenance.

The measures reflect the college's ongoing commitment to help meet education and training needs, promote workforce development and encourage economic growth.

The monies will purchase two diesel engines and related equipment to augment seven existing courses in the automotive technology program.

The college offers one associate degree and two certificate programs, one of which can be completed in a semester of full-time study. All three curricula carry certification by the ASE [Automotive Service Excellence] Education Foundation, formerly NATEF.

They are housed in the college's state-of-the-art automotive technology lab facility, which provides students hands-on training in support of classroom instruction.

The addition of diesel service to ACM's longstanding automotive technology program fills an unmet need in the region for diesel technician training.

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Employment opportunities are expected to increase by nine percent through 2026, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The agency predicts opportunities for the estimated 25,800 job openings to be best for those with post-secondary training.

The transportation industry attributes increased demand for new technicians to vacancies created by the retirement of longtime employees and the recent added complexity of heavy duty trucks, buses and other diesel powered vehicles. Technology to meet more stringent diesel emission requirements account for much of this complexity, according to industry analysts.

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