**Power Careers Program**

**What is the Power Careers Program?**
The Power Careers Program is designed to attract the most promising high school and community college talent, provide students an introduction to the business of power plant operations, support students’ completion of targeted two year Associate Degrees and ultimately provide a career opportunity in the utility industry.

**How does it work?**
The program expands traditional recruiting through intensive education and information sharing of our staffing needs with high school and community college faculty. With awareness of our needs and careers in the utility industry, high school faculty can channel high academic students with interest in to these career paths and broaden our diversity of qualified craft workers.

Secondly, we are working with community and technical colleges to enhance existing programs and offer new curriculums to prepare students for careers in power plant operations. A general outline includes the following:

- Students must be nominated by a member of the school faculty and meet certain academic requirements including a 3.0 or higher GPA to participate in the Power Careers Program
- Students must enroll in selected specialized 2-year associate’s degree programs that are relevant to a career in power plant operations
- Nominated students can apply for a Duke Energy Carolinas scholarship awarded at $650 per semester for a qualifying student

Selected high school graduates or first year community college students will be eligible for temporary full-time summer employment at a designated power plant.

**What are the hours of work for the student worker?**
The student can work up to 20 hours per week for 11 weeks during each semester and 40 hours per week during the summer months. Plans are to rotate the student worker through I & C, Mechanic, and Operator positions every six months. Students selected out of high school can work two summers and four semesters.

If a student is selected after completing one year of study at a community college he or she must be able to work one summer and two semesters as a student worker. Students are eligible for a $650 dollar scholarship each semester if a 3.0 or higher grade point average is maintained and on-the-job evaluations are good.

**Will all students be offered a job?**
Not all students will be offered a job with Duke Energy Carolinas as job offers are based on academic performance, on the job evaluations, overall experience and available vacancies at the time of graduation. Experience gained in the program should assist students in finding jobs in related industries if not employed by Duke Energy Carolinas. This ongoing selection and training will provide a more versatile, diverse, better-trained and immediately productive entry-level employee. Participation as a Student Worker in the Power Careers Program does not guarantee full employment upon school graduation with a two-year degree. However, because of retirements and growth, the odds are good that the utility industry will have openings available for which the student can apply.

Why a Power Careers Program?
Supporting research shows an aging workforce industry wide, a lessened interest by high school and community college students in the skills trades and limited formal training in craft skills. Current statistics show that due to our aging workforce there will be a significant number of craft jobs to be filled over the next 10 years in the utility industry.

What are the qualifications for the program?
- Students must enroll in a qualifying 2-year AAS degree curriculums at a community/technical college
- Students must have a demonstrated interest in pursuing a craft career in power plant operations
- Students must be a high school graduate, 18 years of age and have a valid driver’s license
  3.0 grade point average or higher

What is the course of study to be considered for the program?
The relevant programs that students can take to be eligible for our program include the Electrical-Electronics Technology 2-year AAS degree and the Industrial Systems Technology 2-year AAS degree. Both are offered in most of our community or technical colleges in the Carolina’s. A third curriculum, Electric Power Production Technology is now available at Piedmont Community College (Roxboro, NC).

What are some of the advantages of the Program?
Many students today believe the only avenue to success is a four-year college education, but skills work combined with higher education can provide a better choice and a great opportunity for the right individuals.

Working at a power plant is indeed a challenging and rewarding career choice - one that enables a student with a 2-year AAS degree to be highly successful.

For additional information or questions contact:

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