

October 14, 2016 **FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT**

BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO HOST INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR COLLEGE'S NEW LIFE SCIENCES DEGREE PROGRAM AT ALL BCC LOCATIONS

Bristol Community College will hold information sessions for the College's new Life Sciences Biology, and Biotechnology degree programs at all BCC Locations. The information sessions are free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided.

The engaging sessions will inform students about the Life Sciences programs, discuss future opportunities for transfer to a four-year institution, as well as employment opportunities in the field.

The new Life Sciences program is made up of two concentrations, a Biotechnology and Forensics DNA concentration, which will prepare graduates for immediate employment in the job market, and a Biology concentration, which will prepare graduates for further education to acquire a bachelor's degree.

The College's introduction of the Life Sciences program is based on labor-market reports showing that in Bristol County there are 45 different STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) occupations for which trained employees are needed with 29 percent of these opportunities requiring an associate degree. The Biotechnology and Forensic DNA concentration specifically will address a local workforce shortage. Employment of biological technicians is projected to grow 10 percent from 2012 to 2022.*

Date and locations for BCC Life Sciences Information Sessions:

BCC Fall River Campus: Wednesday, October 26, from 2 -3:30 p.m. in room J221, 777 Elsbree St.

BCC New Bedford Campus: Wednesday, November 2, from 2-3:30 p.m. in Room 313, 800 Purchase St.

BCC Attleboro Campus: Wednesday, November 2, 2-3:30 p.m. in Room 146, 11 Field Rd.

BCC Taunton Center: To be determined.

For more information, please contact Michael W. Sipala at 508.678.2811, ext. 3633.

*Source: http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/Occupation_Projection_jobsSTEM.asp