



**NORTHERN
PENNSYLVANIA
REGIONAL COLLEGE**

NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT SNELICK

Our Fall 2025 term is in full swing here at Northern Pennsylvania Regional College. We are thrilled to have welcomed so many new students to NPRC, but also know this term is bittersweet. Over 20 paraeducators through Cameron, Elk, McKean, and Potter Counties will complete their associate degrees as a part of the Paraeducators Pathway Program. We couldn't be prouder of this dedicated group of professionals and wish them continued success in their educational journey!

Continuing good news, our financial aid department has worked incredibly hard, and we are proud to be Title IV eligible for our students. This provides students with valuable options to finance their education and make their dreams a reality. The work behind the scenes by our academic division with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) is continuing to go well, and we look forward to our visit from the team this fall.

In Workforce Development, it's been a pleasure to see our Nurse Aide Program find success and help professionals enter the healthcare industry in just a few short weeks. The department also continues to benefit residents across Pennsylvania in the area of public safety, and we are thrilled these offerings continue to educate those heroes serving our communities.

In recent months, we have established a community development team that has provided a variety of community enrichment courses in our region for individuals of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy. The Homesteading Series in Kane will continue into February, and we know this will remain a hit.

We are working extremely hard every single day to continue to support our students and communities with opportunities for even brighter futures. As we continue into the homestretch of 2025, we know that so many wonderful opportunities are on the horizon, and I cannot thank our team members, board members, students, and community champions who continue to make NPRC a better institution day-by-day. We are always #NPRCProud!

My best,

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

October 4 — Community Egg Drop Competition

GALETON

October 6 — Registration Deadline

INSURANCE AGENT

October 6 — Registration Deadline

CDL - MANSFIELD

October 14 — Registration Deadline

WASTEWATER MODULE 9

October 20 — Registration Deadline

CDL - ST. MARYS

October 22 — Open Registration Begins

SPRING 2026 TERM

October 29 — Homesteading Series: Herbal Remedies and Natural Wellness

KANE

November 3 — Registration Deadline

INSURANCE AGENT

November 3 — Registration Deadline

CDL - MANSFIELD

November 4 — Registration Deadline

WASTEWATER MODULE 10

November 17 — Registration Deadline

CDL - ST. MARYS

November 19 — Homemade Cleaning Products

KANE

December 8 — Registration Deadline

INSURANCE AGENT

NPRC NOTEWORTHY NEWS

TITLE IV OVERVIEW

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (NPRC) is proud to announce that it has received official approval from the U.S. Department of Education to participate in Title IV federal student aid programs under the Higher Education Act (HEA). This significant milestone enables NPRC students to apply for and receive federal financial aid to help cover the cost of their education.

Beginning immediately, current and prospective students can complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using NPRC's federal school code: 043159. This will allow eligible students to access a range of federal financial aid options, including Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), Federal Work-Study, and Federal Direct Student Loans.

"This approval marks a major step forward for NPRC and the communities we serve," said Susan Gleason, Director of Financial Aid. "Access to federal financial aid increases opportunity and affordability for our students throughout our rural areas. We are proud to support them in this critical way."

Head [online](#) for more information about this milestone for the College!



STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

NPRC recently introduced a new five-year strategic plan that the institution will work to meet over the next five years. The four pillars of the strategic plan at NPRC include:

- 1. Putting Students First:** Being committed to creating a seamless, supportive student experience that is easy to navigate. We meet students' academic, career, and personal needs where they are – boosting enrollment, retention, and graduation.
- 2. Investing in Career Pathways:** By aligning curriculum with real workforce needs and expanding opportunities like apprenticeships and credentials, we ensure students build practical skills and gain early exposure to career options – helping them succeed now and grow into the future.
- 3. Engaging with the Community:** Through partnerships with local businesses and organizations, we address shared challenges, respond to evolving community needs, and support growth that creates a more resilient, connected, and informed region.
- 4. Creating Financial Stability:** Investments in sustainable growth and diversified funding are making education more affordable through flexible payment options and pathways to debt-free degrees – supporting long-term growth and student success.

For more about Northern Pennsylvania Regional College's strategic plan, visit our [website](#).



ENERGIZING COMMUNITY EDUCATION GRANT

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (NPRC) was selected as the recipient of the Energizing Community Education Project Grant, funded through the West Penn Energy Fund. The amount of \$41,000.00 was received by the College to be used in community programming over the next 12 months.

The program is expected to benefit residents in Cameron, Elk, McKean, and Potter Counties by enhancing their knowledge and skills, promoting the adoption of renewable energy sources, and contributing to the overall economic development and quality of life in the West Penn Power communities in northcentral Pennsylvania. The educational programs will be conducted at Six & Kane in Kane, Pennsylvania, and the Cameron County Chamber of Commerce in Emporium, Pennsylvania. The project will involve collaboration between NPRC, local school districts, and community organizations.

Learn more about what this means for NPRC and local communities [here](#).



NURSE AIDE PROGRAM

NPRC has now completed its first two Nurse Aide Training courses in Titusville in partnership with Titusville Nursing and Rehabilitation. Our Nurse Aide program provides instruction in basic nursing assistant skills and principles of restorative care. The program's overall objective is to equip students with the training necessary to deliver respectful, effective care to residents in a facility setting.

Students begin with classroom instruction and hands-on learning in our skills lab. They then move on to clinical studies, gaining additional experience for a total of 129 hours of training over four weeks.

Nurse Aide program graduate, Catie Boulgier, shared how this program has changed her life and brightened her future. "For so long I struggled with what to do with my life, what direction I should take. I had kids young and have been just barely making it for so long. I also struggled in high school, so I thought that school just wasn't for me. I wish I had done something like this sooner in my life. People have always told me you should be a nurse because I take care of people, I love to do it. Having this class available and a job ready for me after was just such a blessing. Our teacher Shelly Haag was so amazing. She was so patient, kind, and knowledgeable. It made the classroom an easy place to learn and a very enjoyable place to be. I'm so incredibly happy for this knowledge and a job working with truly wonderful human beings."

Head [online](#) for more about this program!



NPRC OFFERS AFFORDABLE EDUCATION

Rising student loan costs have become a significant concern for students attending both two-year and four-year institutions, not just in Pennsylvania, but nationwide. With tuition fees steadily increasing, many students find themselves burdened with substantial debt upon graduation. This financial strain not only affects their immediate post-graduation plans but also has long-term implications for their career choices and overall quality of life.

Pennsylvania ranks among the highest in the nation for student loan debt, with graduates from public universities carrying an average debt of over \$39,000. Counterparts who received a private institution education face an average debt of nearly \$48,000 upon completion. This alarming figure is a result of several factors, including reduced state funding for higher education and the rising cost of tuition and fees. As a result, students and their families are increasingly struggling to afford the cost of college, leading to a growing student debt crisis.

However, amidst this challenging landscape, Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (NPRC) stands out as a beacon of hope. NPRC has made it its mission to provide affordable and accessible education to students in northwestern Pennsylvania. The college's Board of Trustees and the team of professionals serving the organization have taken significant steps to ensure that education remains within reach for all students, regardless of their financial background.

Learn more about how the College is providing affordable and accessible education [here](#).



DUAL ENROLLMENT UPDATE

NPRC welcomed over 50 dual enrollment students for the Fall 2025 term. This group of students is the largest in NPRC's history for a single term. Students this term and through the summer of 2027, can enroll in courses for no cost thanks to one million dollars in funding from the Dual Credit Innovation Grant.

This term also marked the launch of asynchronous courses for NPRC's dual enrollment population. This has allowed students to balance achieving college credits not just during their school day, but also on their own time. Our Runways Program also grew in the 2025-2026 school year and now includes partnerships with several new schools around the region.

To learn more about how students can begin earning dual enrollment credits as soon as the Spring 2026 term, contact the NPRC admissions team at admissions@rrcnpa.org or head online to begin an [application](#).



BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPOTLIGHT

RYAN BETTS

Ryan Betts began his service on Northern Pennsylvania Regional College's Board of Trustees in June and has brought business and manufacturing experience to an already stacked room of professionals. Betts is currently employed as the Executive Vice President for Betts Industries, Inc. in Warren.

Betts is a graduate of Jamestown Business College and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration/Management. He is deeply rooted in his native Warren County and his volunteer work includes serving on the Board of Directors for Betts Industries, Inc., Family Services of Warren County, the Warren-Forest Higher Education Council, Warren County Crimestoppers, Kinzua Youth Development Center, the Richard T. Betts Family Foundation, and the Warren County Career Center's General Advisory Committee.

When speaking about his home county and what joining another local non-profit meant to him, he shared "Warren was truly blessed to be chosen as the home of NPRC, and I'm grateful for the vision and dedication of the local leaders who made that possible. The College's work laid a strong foundation for something incredibly impactful. I'm honored to serve on the board, representing Warren County, and to help guide NPRC toward its full potential. As a community member and business leader, I've seen the positive influence NPRC has had on our region and I'm proud to contribute to its continued success."

Learn more about NPRC's Board of Trustees [here](#).



WFD INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT

JAMES FRY

Instructor of Culinary Arts James “Jamie” Fry has been an incredible acquisition for the NPRC team in 2025. His leadership, expertise, and patience with learners in our classrooms in Tioga County doesn't go unnoticed.

Fry is experienced not just as a chef, but also as a restaurant operator and food service innovator. When he's not helping NPRC students in the classroom at Rookie Cooks Academy in Wellsboro, he works as the Food Director for Dandy Mini Mart as a leader in the business's food culinary operations, menu development, quality improvement initiatives, and leader in training and operational efficiencies. He also previously served as the Owner and Chef at The Wren's Nest in Mansfield for over a decade; a farm-to-table restaurant with seasonal menus built on using local ingredients and products.

Fry's own journey through education took him to nearby Mansfield University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He went back to school a few years later and graduated from the Baltimore International Culinary College and holds an Associate of Arts in Culinary Arts from the institution. His skills in the kitchen, accompanied by his savviness as a businessman, have paired well in his career as he has balanced a plethora of opportunities over his career.

His service to the community has not just been limited to his creations in the kitchen and as an instructor. He also served as an Advisory Board Member for the School of Hospitality at the Pennsylvania College of Technology. “Mentoring for me is not just about teaching skill, it's also about sharing knowledge, giving encouragement, offering perspective, and helping the student grow personally and professionally.”

Learn more about NPRC's culinary offerings [here](#).



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ALLY PAVLOCK

Ally Pavlock began her journey as a college student in 2018 at none other than NPRC. Her career has now come full circle as she has returned to the College this summer as an admissions counselor.

“It has been a dream come true to come back and work for NPRC,” noted Pavlock. “When I came to NPRC, I was not confident in myself or my future. But then I met people like the former president of NPRC, Dr. Nairn, my student success specialist, Dannielle Fickenworth, and Professor Thomas who taught sociology who all helped me figure out what direction to take my future. It means the world to me that I now work here.”

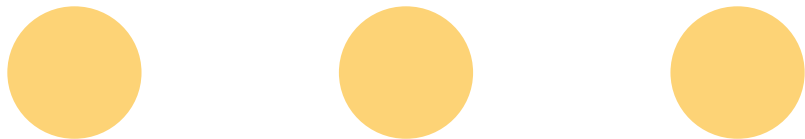
After her time at NPRC, Pavlock transferred to the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and earned dual degrees in sociology and anthropology and criminal justice. While at RIT, she was a student ambassador and worker for the admissions office. After wrapping up this chapter, she returned to Warren County to work for Beacon Light Behavioral Health System as a Behavioral Health Technician. This role allowed her to advocate for mental health programs in public schools and gain more experience in education.

When the admissions office was hiring, Pavlock wasted no time applying for the opportunity and is thrilled to keep learning more about education and admissions in particular. Pavlock is just a few credits shy of completing a master's degree in criminal justice administration from Mercyhurst University and will enroll at NPRC in the spring of 2026 to earn a business information systems certificate to help in her current role.

“So many great things happened back in 2018 when I enrolled at NPRC, and they are now happening again. I couldn't be more excited to see what's in store as my time at the College continues.”



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



VALERIE WOODS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMICS

Hello! I'm Valerie Woods, and I joined the NPRC team in June as the Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Academics. I'm no stranger to education as I previously worked for the Corry Area School District as a paraprofessional primarily working with first graders. Education is a gateway to growth, and I love that I got to see that in my previous role and also now at the College.

As for my own educational journey, I'm a graduate of Corry Area High School and went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Relations with a minor in business management and accounting and a concentration in finance from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. After wrapping up my education, I spent more than a decade working as a case administrator for the United States Federal Judiciary in the Erie office before moving to the world of education.

Outside of my career, I've been married to my husband, Mike, for over 20 years and we have two amazing children, Sydney and Colton, as well as two spoiled pups named Finley and Molly. As a family, we love to go hiking and spend time on the boat in the Kinzua Reservoir. Personally, I love to garden, read, craft, and to learn new things.

Learning is a big part of what NPRC stands for and in my short time here, I have enjoyed learning about our institution and about higher education overall. I'm #NPRCProud to be a part of this team and look forward to serving our growing population of students going forward.

