



News Release

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***Maine is IT!* Launches First Training Series at NMCC**

Aroostook County - Northern Maine Community College is responding to the changing needs of the information technology field by offering a new series of training and industry certifications. In a consortium effort with the other six colleges in the Maine Community College System, NMCC is launching *Maine is IT!*—mini-courses that will cover everything from maintaining a presence on the web, to building smart phone apps and much more.

“The *Maine is IT!* effort is designed to provide the training and education needed to succeed in today’s technology-focused business environment,” said program coordinator and test center administrator Shawn Lahey. “Our goal is to provide the training and industry-recognized certifications for people looking to get into the information technology industry and for those already in the field working toward advancing from their current roles. The training will also enhance what has been offered for more than a decade in the Computer Electronics program at the College.”

The new Web Developer Training Series will run from November, 2014 through March, 2015 and includes three modules with certification testing available after two of the three are completed. The first module, Web Development Fundamentals, will focus on web page creation, scripting and interactive web pages. Students will be prepared for the Microsoft MTA98-363 exam which will be proctored on the NMCC campus after the course is completed. This fundamental module will consist of five classes that will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. beginning on Tuesday, November 18 and ending on Tuesday, December 16. The module costs \$250 and includes the text book and one MTA98-363 exam voucher.

The second module, will begin in January, 2015 and will focus on Database Administration with the Microsoft MTA98-364 certification to follow. The third module, Advanced Web and Mobile Development will run in March, 2015. Students can take one module or any combination of the three depending on their level of expertise as they are being offered as stand-alone training and certification opportunities in the series.

“Being able to offer these specialized trainings and certification testing here on the NMCC campus will be a great asset to The County,” said Lahey. “Right now, there aren’t many testing location options for IT credentialing. The closest for many of the IT industry exams is in Fredericton, NB and the closest in Maine is in Fairfield. We’re in the

process of renovating a facility for this testing and while it will initially be used for students in the Computer Electronics degree program and those who are part of the *Maine is IT!* initiative, we hope to provide certification opportunity to the community in the near future and to administer a broader offering of certification exams here in Aroostook County.”

The *Maine is IT!* program is funded in part by a \$13 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. This program is an Equal Opportunity program; adaptive equipment will be provided upon request to persons with disabilities.

For more information on the *Maine is IT!* program or to register for the Web Development Fundamentals course beginning November 18, contact program coordinator Shawn Lahey at (207)760-1124 or student navigator Carole Belanger-Bittle at (207)760-1125.

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