

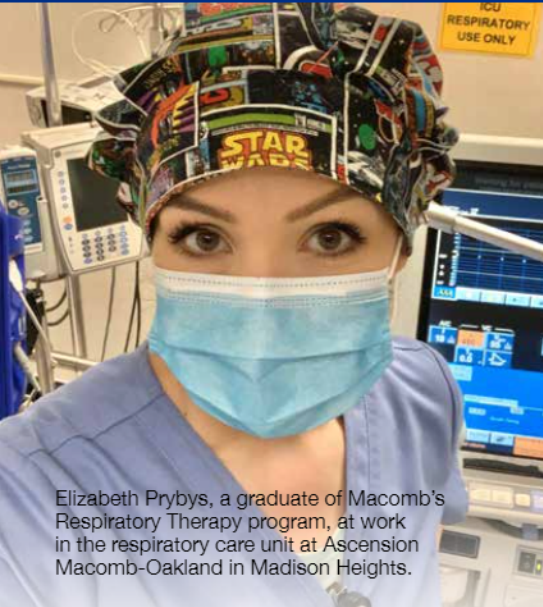
# MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## NEWS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

January 2021

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Elizabeth Prybys, a graduate of Macomb's Respiratory Therapy program, at work in the respiratory care unit at Ascension Macomb-Oakland in Madison Heights.

### Respiratory Therapy grad: "I could not be prouder of my profession"

Never before have respiratory therapists been as needed or as appreciated as they have been during the COVID-19 pandemic. A fact that has not been lost on the faculty, students and alumni of Macomb's Respiratory Therapy program.

Respiratory therapists are the only member of a health care team trained in the use of a ventilator machine, which sustains patients who cannot breathe on their own. Respiratory therapists are also responsible for measuring a patient's lung capacity, analyzing oxygen and carbon dioxide levels in the blood, administering breathing treatments, performing chest physiotherapy to alleviate lung congestion and educate patients in self-care and prevention.

Elizabeth Prybys, an alum of Macomb's Respiratory Therapy program, credits it with instilling "the utmost confidence" when she took her board exams, which she passed on the first try, and made for an "easy" transition to a hospital setting. In fact, she was offered and accepted a full-time position with Ascension Macomb-Oakland when she graduated from Macomb in 2015, and she has continued to work there ever since.

"It's more than just administering oxygen or breathing treatments, we're there from the first breath of life to the very last," she said. "Being a specialist in the cardiopulmonary system and ventilator management has truly made our role and importance shine in this pandemic. I could not be prouder of my profession."

### Admissions providing information in virtual events

Although college campuses remained closed because of COVID-19 restrictions, Macomb's Admissions and Outreach office is holding two virtual events in January to help high school students and their parents make plans for the future.

*Getting Started at Macomb* on Thursday, Jan. 14, 7 to 8 pm, will provide information on the application process at Macomb, including Financial Aid process. Register here and a Zoom link will be sent to you.

Dual-Enroll at Macomb on Thursday, Jan. 21, 7 to 8 pm, will cover the different types of dual enrollment opportunities available to high school students, including Early College of Macomb, high school-sponsored, state-sponsored and self-pay. Register here and a Zoom link will be sent to you.

If you are unable to register here for one of the events or would like more information, email [admissions@macomb.edu](mailto:admissions@macomb.edu).

### Introducing Macomb's new Dental Assisting program

In the Fall 2021 Semester, Macomb will debut a new program that prepares students to become a valued member of a dental health care team in 16 weeks.

The Dental Assisting program, part of Macomb's Center for Health Careers offered through Workforce and Continuing Education, does not require an application for admittance. Topics that will be covered include chairside techniques,

dental and oral anatomy, infection control and dental impressions.

The program includes both online lectures and on site laboratory instruction, some of which is held in an actual dental clinic.

The program will also introduce students to other dental assisting career opportunities that can be obtained through licensure and certification.

For more information, contact [admissions@macomb.edu](mailto:admissions@macomb.edu).

### Learn and earn in a mechatronics apprenticeship

Apprenticeships are nothing new; they have long been providing on-the-job, paid training in a variety of occupations. Now, with a shortage of mechatronics technicians challenging the manufacturing industry in southeastern Michigan, Macomb has teamed up with the Michigan Advanced Technician Training Program (MAT2) to bring more apprentices into the field.

Integrating mechanical and electronic engineering, fluid power and robotics to streamline processes and improve quality of production, mechatronics has been heralded for its potential to revitalize the manufacturing industry. Macomb's Mechatronics program debuted in 2009 and was one of the first like it in Michigan.

Students in the program learn about mechanics, sensors, basic electronics, pneumatics, hydraulics, control logic and robot programming. Working with a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC), they also write and troubleshoot programs for an actual assembly line that manufactures a real product. Matching a student up with an on-the-job apprenticeship allows them to hone the skills they are learning while earning a paycheck.

For those students who are not quite ready to enter an apprenticeship, Macomb also offers an Industrial Readiness Certificate in collaboration with Michigan Apprenticeship Program Plus (MAP+). Pre-apprentices complete four classes in math, drafting, industry safety and trade-related preparation. Tuition and books are provided free to eligible students through Michigan Works!

### Virtual Campus places resources at students' fingertips

Macomb has introduced a Virtual Campus to provide prospective and current students with a one-stop resource for online learning, including tips for continued success regardless of where they are attending school.

On the Virtual Campus page on [macomb.edu](http://macomb.edu), links provide a listing of classes and programs available online, steps for admissions, financial aid guide, tuition and payment information, technical requirements for online learning at Macomb and more.

Free online learning resources found on the Virtual Campus are provided by Career Services, Counseling and Academic Advising Services, Reading and Writing Studios, Learning Centers and Libraries.

Hear what some students who attended Macomb in the fall had to say about their online experiences in this video.