



FOR EVERY
STUDENT
FOR EVERY
COMMUNITY

There's
a place
for you.



Triton College

For immediate release: **Aug. 4, 2022**

Triton College Installs a Full Solar Array System

*Triton's Renewable Energy Technology Degree Certifies Students for
Clean Energy Jobs*

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Triton College has obtained a full solar array system, currently located outside the south wall of the T Building (Room T-160). The system has been used by students enrolled in the Renewable Energy Technology Degree Program to help them learn about clean energy.

Triton College in partnership with the Illinois International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, IBEW 134 REF (134 Renewable Energy Fund) is able to offer both Renewable Energy Technology Certificate and Degree programs on campus. All instructors for this program are from IBEW and impart the most current knowledge to the Triton students.

Through a grant from IGEN (Illinois Green Economy Network) Triton was able to receive the full solar array system and attached battery storage system. This grant also allowed Triton to engage professional electricians to install the full solar array system and the battery backup systems.

A full solar array system is a collection of solar panels mounted on a rack system, according to Frances Figg, chairperson of Triton College's Architecture and Construction Technology Program.

Students enrolled in the program gain hands-on experience using an interactive photovoltaic and energy storage system from the full solar array system.

"A full solar array system reduces our reliance on fossil fuels and lessens greenhouse gas emissions, which are major contributors to climate change," said Figg.

The Renewable Energy Technology Degree Program teaches students techniques and skills in the renewable energy industry. This includes solar, wind, energy storage and other relevant topics. Figg explained that these skills will lead toward future employment opportunities.

In 2021-2022, seven students were enrolled and completed this degree program. Out of those seven, two of them graduated with an associate degree and five finished with Renewable Energy Technology certificates. Figg explained the program has been growing with popularity.

IBEW REF offers significant scholarship support opportunities for students enrolled in the Renewable Energy Program at Triton.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, renewable energy jobs are projected to grow 52 percent from now to 2030. There will be 2,300 clean energy job openings projected each year, on average.

For more information, please contact francesfigg@triton.edu or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3129.

###

Media Contact

Maryann Pisano

Staff Writer

maryannpisano@triton.edu

(708) 456-0300, Ext. 3202

ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is a two-year college dedicated to helping members of the 25 Western Cook County communities in our district and beyond to achieve educational, professional and personal success. Located in River Grove, IL, Triton offers more than 110 degree and certificate programs on its 110-acre campus, featuring a comfortable, friendly and diverse atmosphere. Triton holds classes at several satellite locations as well and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's dedicated faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 12,000 students each year. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at www.triton.edu/.