

**From:** [Ashley Gabbert](#)  
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**Subject:** Great things happening at Ridgewater College!  
**Date:** Friday, February 4, 2022 8:43:27 AM

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## Ridgewater College Job Postings

*Postings were active as of 2/2/2022.*

Please visit the [Ridgewater College Employment web page](#) for the most current list of job postings.

- **Director of Financial Aid** | Full-time | Willmar
- **Director of Student Success** | Full-time | Hutchinson or Willmar
- **Plant Maintenance Engineer Helper** | Full-time | Willmar
- **Plumbing Instructor** | Full-time | Willmar

[Explore Ridgewater Job Openings](#)

Interested in other community job listings? Ridgewater College's Central Network Job Posting Website includes current job postings from employers in the region, across the state, and throughout the nation. This is a free resource for Ridgewater students and alumni! [View more information](#)

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## RIDGEWATER NEWS

A large, light grey rectangular area that serves as a placeholder for news content, located below the 'RIDGEWATER NEWS' header.



### **Ridgewater opens Student Massage Center in Hutchinson**

People who enjoy giving and receiving have a new way to combine the two. Schedule an appointment at the newly opened Ridgewater Student Massage Center in Hutchinson and you'll give Massage Therapy students a chance to practice their craft while you receive a relaxing or therapeutic massage. It's a win-win!

[Read the full story...](#)



### **Ridgewater Electrician student to compete in nationals**

To know a skill is good, but to know it well and be quick at performing it up to standards under pressure is excellent.

Ridgewater's Emma Becker, a first-year Electrician student from rural Glencoe, did just that last Thursday at the Upper Midwest Electrical Expo in Minneapolis. Nearly 40 Ridgewater Electrician students attended the expo, but just a handful competed. Becker competed in the student Apprentice bracket and earned the honor to compete in the IDEAL Elite Tradesman National Championship in Nashville coming up on December 16-17.

[Read the full story...](#)



### **Industry supports Ridgewater Machine Tool program with grant for scholarships**

Students in Ridgewater College's Machine Tool Technology program will have increased financial support as they pursue careers in machining and manufacturing thanks to a Gene Haas Foundation grant of \$14,000. The funds will provide scholarships and assistance for high-tech program needs.

"Today's demand for skilled CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machinists is extremely high," said Greg Ryder, one of Ridgewater's Machine Tool Technology instructors.



### **Ridgewater College providing free nursing assistant classes to address shortage**

Ridgewater College is responding to the nursing home staffing shortage in Minnesota by offering nursing assistant classes at no cost to participants.

The free training is in response to Governor Tim Walz's recently announced initiative to recruit, train and deploy at least 1,000 certified nursing assistants (CNA) for Minnesota long-term care facilities.

The classes will be offered in a hybrid format in both Hutchinson and Willmar. The 32 students, already enrolled, will complete the course in January.

[Read the full story...](#)

This isn't the first request for training Ridgewater has responded to during the pandemic...

[Read the full story...](#)



### **Ridgewater Machine Tool Program to Expand to Willmar Campus**

Learning high-tech, machining is the goal of a new Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Machine Technician Diploma that will be available through Ridgewater College at both Willmar and Hutchinson campuses. This will be the first time in about 20 years that the Machine Tool Technology program will have training in Willmar. The option requires just two days a week on campus.

Expanding programs for broader accessibility is a great way to meet industry needs. Ridgewater College is proud to announce that its long-standing Machine Tool Technology program on the Hutchinson campus will expand to the Willmar campus beginning January 2022.

[Read the full story...](#)



### **Breastfeeding moms have new support at Ridgewater**

...The pod interiors have bench seats, power outlets, shelves, occupancy-activated lighting, vents, and more.

Olson explained that pod entry is easy. Users can either access the pods with their smart phones using the QR code on the side of the pod, or they can contact her office for a code.

Just days into providing the new option, Olson began receiving messages of gratitude.

[Read the full story...](#)



### **Plumbing program to open at Ridgewater**

Finding a good plumber is going to get a bit easier when Ridgewater College graduates its first class of plumbers to help fill the industry need.

Beginning Fall Semester 2022, Ridgewater College is opening a Plumbing Technician 36-credit diploma



### **Why two Minnesota colleges are starting meat cutting programs**

Jeff Miller, the school's Dean of Instruction, said the school's "very robust" agriculture department, plus support from the meat processing industry, pushed them to create a meat-cutting program, too. "The overarching message was there's such a shortage of

program on the Willmar campus, with both in-person and online blended courses.

"Ridgewater has long been known to graduate and produce excellent trades people, but this will be the first time that list of in-demand workers will include plumbing technicians," said Jeff Miller, Ridgewater Dean of Technical Instruction. "With many industry professionals retiring, it's getting tougher to find the experts needed to continue providing plumbing services in all phases and types of building construction."

[Read the full story...](#)

meat cutters and processors in the region and then there's nobody that offers training locally to help support workforce demand," Miller said.

Starting in fall of 2022, Ridgewater plans to offer a certificate that teaches "basic, foundational meat-cutting techniques and skills," Miller said, which can prepare students for everything from a rural butcher shop or locker plant to a large corporate job with a company like Hormel.

Ridgewater also hopes to add a second-level certificate program in the winter of 2023...

[Read the full article...](#)

## OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS



### Student Massage Center

The Student Massage Center (SMC) is open on both the Hutchinson and Willmar campuses through Spring semester 2022! This is our **public clinic** that gives our massage therapy students opportunities to work on clients from our community.

Current pricing is:

- \$25 for a 30 minute massage
- \$35 for a 60 minute massage
- \$55 for a 90 minute massage
- Upgrade with hot stones for an additional \$5

Hutchinson SMC appointments are Fridays at 10:30am, 12pm, 1:30pm, & 3pm

Willmar SMC appointments are Saturdays at 9am, 10:30am, 12pm, & 1:30pm

Face masks are required.

[Learn more and schedule your massage!](#)



### Ridgewater Salon and Day Spa

Ridgewater College invites the public to our cosmetology salon. Our clients are encouraged to relax and look their best with the help of our stylists. Ask your stylist to recommend new hairstyles, products, skin, and nail treatments.

Services are performed as a training experience by students supervised by qualified instructors. We reserve the right to decline any service. Gift certificates are available. We accept Visa and MasterCard. Masks are required.

**Appointments:** 320-222-5970

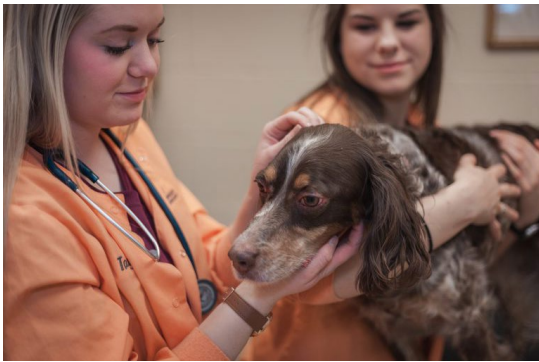
The salon is open only when school is in session

**Hours:**

Mondays – Thursday  
8:00 am – 3:45 pm

[More information and list of services](#)





## Preventive Veterinary Care at Paws & Claws

The **Ridgewater College Veterinary Paws & Claws Clinic** will be open for CURBSIDE Preventive Veterinary Well Care appointments on the Willmar campus.

Appointments are for feline and canine well care or preventive care only. Examples include the following: vaccinations, routine blood tests (canine 4Dx and feline triple test), nail trims, ear cleaning, etc. Sick animals or animals with health issues must be referred to local veterinary clinics. No appointments are available for surgery or grooming services. Services are offered to enhance the student's educational process.

### Clinic Hours:

**Mondays from 8am-4pm**  
**Wednesdays from 8am-12pm**  
**Thursdays from 12pm-4pm**

Curbside appointments for Spring 2022 allow one **masked** owner per pet to enter the building with them. We ask that owners remain in their vehicles until the time of their appointment.

To make an appointment, please call the clinic at 320.222.8269

[More information...](#)



## Ridgewater Fish & Hunt Club

Join the virtual Ridgewater Fish & Hunt club experience on Instagram! **All students, faculty, staff, and alum** are welcome to submit pictures and follow the [Instagram page @ridgewater.fishandhunt!](#)

### To Join:

1. Email [nathan.thoof@ridgewater.edu](mailto:nathan.thoof@ridgewater.edu) or send a direct message to [@ridgewater.fishandhunt](#) on Instagram
2. Start sending pictures or small videos of you and your fish or animal
3. We will post everything that we get to [@ridgewater.fishandhunt](#) on Instagram!

If you have any questions, please contact Nate Thoof at [nathan.thoof@ridgewater.edu](mailto:nathan.thoof@ridgewater.edu) or via direct message on the [ridgewater.fishandhunt](#) account on Instagram.



## We want to hear from you!

Are there ways Ridgewater has helped you achieve your goals? Where are you living, what are you doing, and what's life like for you?

Tell us about yourself and your journey with Ridgewater College! These stories are an inspiration for current students, prospective students, employees, and fellow Ridgewater alum. **Help tell the Ridgewater story!**

[Share Your Alumni Story](#)



**Christopher Garrels**  
**Automation & Robotic Systems Technology Scholarship Recipient**

"I am enrolled in the Automation and

Robotics Program and I started the program in the fall of 2021. Ridgewater College has presented me with a great lineup of classes to go over just about every aspect of the Automation and Robotics Industry in depth with hands on applications in the real world which is a big plus for my learning preference. After completing my first year of classes I am really happy with my decision to pursue this degree and the Instructors are so knowledgeable and very easy to learn from.

I would like to say Thank You! Being a recipient of this scholarship is a big help to my current financial situation with paying for school out of pocket as well as working two jobs to keep my world going around. With this I will be able to spend some more time in the classroom with the equipment trainers and instructors to make the most that I can with the information and equipment provided."



Did you know Amazon will make a donation to a charity of your choice when you shop on Smile.Amazon.com?

The Ridgewater College Foundation encourages you to shop locally whenever possible, however, if you shop on Amazon, please shop with AmazonSmile! When you shopSmile.Amazon.com smile.Amazon.com, you'll find the exact shopping experience as.com, with the added benefit that donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

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