



ASHTON J. HAYWARD  
MAYOR

February 6, 2018

The Honorable Rick Scott  
Governor of the State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

I am writing to thank you for your continued support for workforce development in our region. You have been and continue to be a champion for Pensacola. This award to Pensacola State College will prepare our citizens for new opportunities and further equip students to meet industry needs in a competitive workplace.

In today's talent-based economy, business leaders are making location decisions based on the excellence of the local workforce. This award of \$1.8 million from the Governor's Job Growth Fund enhances economic stability and prosperity by focusing on our biggest asset – our people.

The importance of workforce development can't be underestimated in days of funding cutbacks and emphasis on innovation. Providing training to produce better-prepared workers is vital to our economic development attraction and retention efforts. Programming that helps students navigate through careers in aerospace or advanced manufacturing supports the needs of our existing business community and prepares our area for the next new investment, like aerospace careers with VT MAE.

Congratulations to Pensacola State College for receiving this award. This workforce development funding supports the shared goal of developing our talent and our area as a smart choice for investment and business growth. It will carry our City's and region's economic development and workforce efforts far into the future.

This grant will provide new educational opportunities and help our citizens qualify for in-demand jobs, uplifting our neighborhoods and community as a whole. It is because of your efforts we are starting to see true and meaningful change, and for that I would like to thank you for seeing the potential that cities like Pensacola have to improve the entire state's economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashton Hayward".

Ashton Hayward, Mayor