



# Workforce Education

Florida SouthWestern State College is committed to supporting the workforce needs of southwest Florida. Through relevant and challenging coursework, FSW equips students with the skills and education needed to thrive in today's workforce.

FSW offers 59 academic programs, 58 of which are tied directly to the workforce needs here in southwest Florida.



**6** Bachelors  
Degrees

**25** Associate  
Degrees

**28** Certificate  
Programs

## Audio Technology, CCC Program Feature

The music and entertainment sector is one of society's most influential and powerful industries. FSW's Audio Technology program supports students in developing the skills and experience for careers in the music and entertainment industry. Audio Technology students learn fundamental audio concepts and processing principles, gain experience with acoustical balancing, editing, and overdubbing in a wide range of sound situations, and investigate advanced multi-track recording skills and audio production techniques.

The certificate prepares students for further education and careers as technicians or audio engineers and provides additional training for people who have worked in the field of music, entertainment, or similar industries in the past or present. With evolving technology and the continued impact of music on our culture, having an occupation in this field is both relevant and meaningful.



**15** Credit  
Hours

**2** Semesters

Credits earned in the Audio Technology program can be stacked and additionally be applied towards an AA degree or AS degree in Music Production & Technology.

## Student Feature



**Taylor Freyberg**  
**Audio Technology, CCC**

**Associate in Arts**  
**Music Production & Technology, AS**

During times of uncertainty, clarity can come from unexpected places. Just ask thirty-three-year-old musician Taylor Freyberg, a student who came to FSW at a time when his life felt stagnant. Taylor mentioned that in his professional life, he felt trapped in a cycle, and to break free, he came to FSW on the recommendation of a friend. When he initially enrolled, Taylor only aimed to earn the Audio Technology Certificate. But now, he is in his final semester and will graduate with three credentials.

When asked why he continued pursuing higher credentials here at FSW, he remarked on how while going through the certificate program, he had grown so much as a musician that it just made sense to continue that growth in a place where he enjoyed the learning environment, felt he got an authentic

college experience and could achieve musical knowledge on a college level. He also praised Professor Mike Molloy, noting that his lessons helped optimize and refine systems and skills Taylor uses every day in his career and how the Audio Technology program helped him attain clarity and depth in topics necessary to his field of study.



Since earning his certificate in Audio Technology, Taylor has traveled to Mykonos, Greece, where he worked on video and audio production for Sweat Vacay. This company gathers fitness instructors worldwide to film and hold classes in various athletic fields. He helped their company develop a prominent online presence by recording live acoustic music, editing videos, and working on voice-over dialog.

Now, Taylor hopes to earn a position at Artis–Naples as an audio engineer, where he will put his audio engineering skills to use. At the end of the interview, Taylor shared some advice for students at FSW “Focus on the material, listen to your Professors, and put yourself on a dedicated path to success. Opportunities will arise as those around you notice how driven you are.”



## News & Successes

### Insurance Village Supports 450 Cases and Over \$2 million in Settlements

Florida's Department of Financial Services coordinated with FSW's School of Business and Technology to host an Insurance Village at FSW, facilitating in-person meetings between Lee County residents and their property insurers to resolve their unsettled claims. At the event, insurers attended to approximately 450 cases and helped make over 2 million dollars in settlements.

#### *'I can sleep tonight'*: Ian survivors finding solutions at Insurance Villages

These settlements helped the residents of southwest Florida find relief in obtaining funding for property restoration and gain hope in these trying times. Thanks to Dr. Mary Myers, Jennifer Baker, Jeanne Cortés, and Professor Bill Van Glabek for their contributions and leadership in coordinating this event.



### Workforce Faculty and Staff Highlight FSW Programs

The School of Business and Technology, School of Health Professions, and the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences participated in an Instant Decision Day event at Ida Baker High School coordinated by FSW's Office of Admission. Ida Baker High School has robust academies that align with FSW's Associate in Science and Certificate programs. Thanks to Prof. Dana Roes, Alexis Augustenborg, Sara Hamula, Albert Nault, Jennifer Baker, and Jeanne Cortés (pictured on left) for sharing their knowledge and passion for FSW's workforce programs with Ida Baker students.

Prof. Mike Molloy (pictured right) and Associate Dean Jennifer Baker represented FSW at Dunbar High School's Tiger Showcase. Prof. Molloy and Dean Baker connected with middle and high school students and their families and shared information about educational and employment pathways.





**Nursing Program Celebrates December Graduates**

FSW’s Associate in Science Nursing (ASN) Program celebrated 144 program graduates in their December pinning ceremony. The pinning ceremony is a significant milestone and serves as an official initiation into the Nursing profession. Students in the ASN program engage in classroom instruction, laboratory, simulation education, and clinical practice. Natalie Jarrett led the class in reciting the Florence Nightingale Pledge. Program graduates will now take the National Counsel Licensure Examination (NCLEX) RN. Congratulations to the ASN graduates, and good luck as you prepare for your national board exams.



**EMS December Graduates**

**60** EMT

**41** Firefighter

**17** Paramedic

**EMS Program Prepares 118 Students for Roles as First Responders**

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department prepares students for careers as Firefighters, EMTs, and Paramedics. FSW celebrates the successes of 60 EMT students, 41 Firefighter students, and 17 paramedic students who graduated in December and will fill critical roles in our community as first responders. Upon completion of certificate programs at FSW, EMT, Firefighter, and Paramedic students are eligible to sit for corresponding state and national licensure examinations. FSW’s December Paramedic graduates pictured above left, completed over 1200 hours of training. Firefighter graduates complete 492 hours of training and EMT graduates complete a total of 300 hours, respectively.

# Student Scholarship Opportunities for Workforce Programs

Students and community members are encouraged to apply for these grants and opportunities.

## American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)



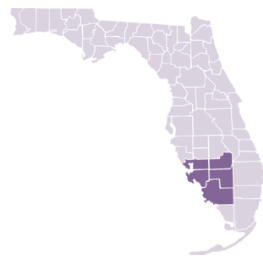
Lee County's Economic Development Office awarded FSW \$1 million to providing funding for select credit and non-credit workforce programs offered at FSW. Lee County residents who enroll into ARPA-eligible programs may be qualify for funding to cover in-state tuition and fees.

## Open Door Grant



FSW received \$316,019 of Open Door Grant funding through the Florida Department of Education. These funds will help students fast-track their success in a short-term career and technical education program.

## Transforming SWFL 2025 Grant



FSW was awarded \$125,000 from the Lee County Industrial Development Authority and \$100,000 from the Elsa and Peter Soderberg Charitable Foundation. These funds support residents in earning postsecondary credentials to enhance their skillsets and meet the workforce needs of southwest Florida.

## Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

*Coming soon – anticipated availability for Summer 2023*

FSW was awarded \$1.98 million for its Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grant proposal to provide residents of southwest Florida an expanded pathway to multiple in-demand industry certificates. Certificates include AutoCAD, Microsoft Office Word, PowerPoint, and Excel Associate, Microsoft Excel Expert, CompTIA A+, CompTIA A++, CompTIA Linux +, CompTIA Network+, and CompTIA Security+. Participants will be supported through enhanced coursework, supplemental certification boot camps, and personalized advising.



### ARPA Programs

- 11 CCCs and AS programs in FSW's School of Business and Technology
- EMT, CCC offered in FSW's School of Health Professions
- 22 programs offered through FSW's Continuing Education Office

Visit [www.fsw.edu/arpa](http://www.fsw.edu/arpa) for complete list and details

### Open Door Programs

- [Computer Programming Specialist, CCC](#)
- [Information Technology Support Specialist, CCC](#)
- [Network Security, CCC](#)
- [Firefighter Career Certificate](#)
- [Emergency Medical Technician, CCC](#)

Visit [www.fsw.edu/opendoor](http://www.fsw.edu/opendoor) for details

### Transforming SWFL Supports:

- [GED Pathway Program](#)
- Second Look
- Last Mile & Gap Funding
- Workforce Pathways


### WIOA Programs

- [Information Technology Support Specialist, CCC](#)
- [Network Security, CCC](#)
- [Cybersecurity, AS](#)
- [Network Systems AS](#)
- [Architectural Design and Construction Technology, AS](#)

Use the URLs provided to learn more about each grant or program.

Email [Opportunity@fsw.edu](mailto:Opportunity@fsw.edu) with any questions.

## Upcoming Events

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE  
**VITA**   
A UNITED WAY COLLABORATIVE

In partnership with the United Way, the School of Business and Technology will host **free tax preparation events** for households earning \$66,000 or less per year. At each FSW service location. Appointments are required visit [www.UnitedWayLee.org/FreeTaxPrep](http://www.UnitedWayLee.org/FreeTaxPrep) or call 2-1-1 or (239) 433-3900 to schedule an appointment. Thanks to Professor Van Glabek for coordinating this opportunity.

Monday, March 6  
Noon – 4:30 p.m.  
Charlotte Campus  
Building D Room 209

Tuesday, March 7  
Noon – 4:30 p.m.  
Collier Campus  
Building J Room 103

Wednesday, March 8  
Noon – 4:30 p.m.  
Lee Campus  
Building AA Room 177

Thursday, March 9  
Noon – 4:30 p.m.  
Hendry/Glades Center  
Building A Room 110

Tuesday, March 7  
3:00 – 6:30 p.m.  
Building AA Room 177

The School of Business and Technology will host a **Career Showcase**. Numerous business will be on campus to meet with students and discuss career and employment opportunities. A few of the businesses are featured below.



Tuesday, March 28  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Building AA Room 177

Join the School of Business and Technology in celebrating the successes of students inducted into **Sigma Beta Delta, International Honor Society** for students in business, management, and administration and the **Lambda Epsilon Chi (LEX) Honor Society** founded by the American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE) in recognition of leaders in legal and paralegal education.



Faculty Advisors for Sigma Beta Delta: Dr. Richard Worch and Dr. Jennifer Patterson

Faculty Advisor for Lambda Epsilon Chi: Dr. Mary Conwell