

Apprenticeship Randolph open houses, applications ongoing

By Megan Crotty
RCC Writer, Editor

ASHEBORO — Apprenticeship Randolph opened its window for students to register to attend open houses and submit applications Monday, Feb. 10.

Open houses at industry partners are slated for various dates and times until Friday, March 6. The application window will remain open until Tuesday, March 10.

Junior and senior high school students interested in Apprenticeship Randolph for 2020 in Manufacturing Technology, Automotive Systems Technology, and Information Technology are encouraged to contact their Career Development Counselors for assistance. Students must attend school and reside in Randolph County.

The program begins with a six-week, pre-apprenticeship summer program that consists of Randolph Community College classes and 40 hours per week of on-the-job training.

Once a business selects its apprentice after this trial period, the program is spread over four years with

students receiving paid, on-the-job training while earning an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Manufacturing Technology, Automotive Systems Technology, or Information Technology through RCC and a Journeyworker Certificate from the N.C. Community College System and U.S. Department of Labor.

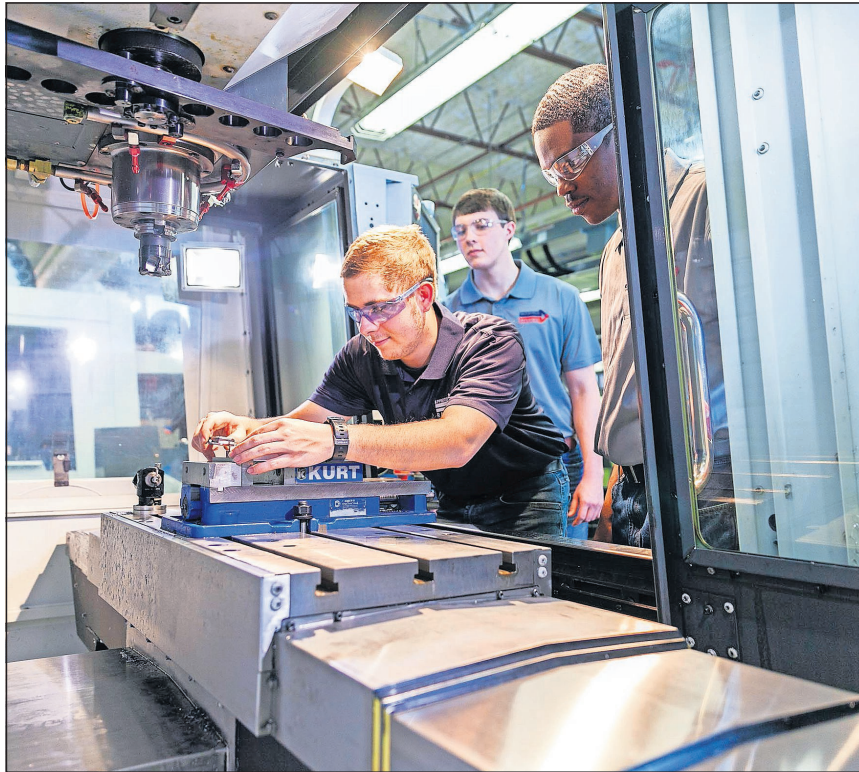
Randleman High School's Brandon Hill started his apprenticeship in 2017.

"I was considering going into the military or attending one of the universities close to home," he said. "I was always interested in working in electronics. I took a lot of the electronics classes, as well as other pinnacle classes available at my high school."

After attending an Apprenticeship Randolph Open House, Hill learned there were more opportunities locally and decided to apply. He was matched with Hubbell Industrial Controls in Archdale where he inspects returned customer material and tests new productions.

"There were many steps to the application process," he said. "I felt a bit anxious in the

See APPRENTICE, D2



Randleman High School graduate Brandon Hill started in Apprenticeship Randolph in 2017. He works at Hubbell Industrial Controls in Archdale while earning an associate degree in Manufacturing Technology-Mechatronics at Randolph Community College. [RCC PHOTO]

APPRENTICE

From Page D1

waiting, but now I know it was definitely well worth it.”

Hill credits his Career Development Coordinator, Stephanie Adams, for helping him along the way.

“She helped me with the application process and just coordinating what needed to happen when,” he said. “She was always available to answer questions, and even if she didn’t know the answer, she was quick to find it.”

Hill described the team at Hubbell as “amazing,” and says his teachers are aware of the balance between class time and work. “Everyone

has been supportive, working around my schedule and helping to see me succeed,” he said.

Hill also is working toward an associate degree in Manufacturing Technology-Mechatronics at RCC along with other professional certificates.

“I usually tell the people at my high school when I go back to present that apprenticeship is only four years, and I am making more money than other people who have left high school and entered the workforce,” he said.

Apprenticeship Randolph began in June 2016 as a collaboration among Randolph Community College, the Randolph County School System, Asheboro City Schools, the Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of

Commerce, and local manufacturers.

The goal was to bridge both the interest and skill gaps in modern manufacturing and provide a vehicle for expanding the workforce pool for advance manufacturing in the county. With tuition funded through Career and College Promise and the N.C. Youth Apprenticeship Tuition Waiver Program and books paid for by the school systems and the participating companies, Apprenticeship Randolph produces an educated, skilled, debt-free workforce.

Other requirements, along with open house information and applications, can be found at www.apprenticeshiprandolph.com.