



September 16, 2021

Hello to the wonderful students of Trident Technical College. My name is Patrice Davis. I am the Vice President for Student Services here at Trident Tech.

I take tremendous pride in serving in a role that aligns me closely with our students and affords me the opportunity to work with the student body and student leadership. That is why I want to take this opportunity to speak directly to the students of Trident Tech regarding the serious ongoing challenge facing us – the global coronavirus pandemic.

The COVID-19 vaccination is the most effective method for keeping our community as healthy as possible and avoiding severe illness or even death. Lately, we've heard from many of our area hospitals about rapidly shrinking hospital capacity levels and changes in operations due to the sharp increase in COVID cases in our area. I encourage you to talk to your healthcare provider if you have any questions about the COVID vaccine's safety, efficacy, or suitability for you. The health and safety of our students is very important to the members of the college community, and vaccination is our best bet at resuming a more normal life.

We will continue to find ways to support TTC students during this critical time, including identifying what we can do to celebrate those of you who have already done your part to minimize spreading the virus by being fully vaccinated and those of you who plan on getting vaccinated very soon.

The Human Resources team pitched the idea of a vaccination incentive program (or TTC's VIP) to the College's COVID Response Team to increase our efforts at keeping our campus community as safe as possible. With their approval, we took the idea to Cabinet, who approved this important initiative.

Our new Vaccination Incentive Program is made possible by federal American Rescue Plan funding and will kick off on September 30<sup>th</sup> with an outdoor event for vaccinated students and employees to safely enjoy food, entertainment, fellowship, and the chance to win some wonderful incentives.

As part of the kickoff event, we will also host a vaccine clinic and offer a food voucher for anyone receiving their vaccine at the event. We will host subsequent virtual drawings in October and November, so the sooner you get vaccinated the more chances you'll have to win. If you need help finding a vaccination location, please ask someone you trust for help or visit SC DHEC's [vaccine locator website](#). While you don't have to be present to win, proof of vaccination or participation in the vaccine clinic is required to attend the kickoff event and to enter your name for a chance to win one of the exciting incentives we have set up for this program. Some of the incentives that we are most excited about are iPads; Apple Watches and TV's; laptops; gift cards for gas, Grub Hub, Uber Eats and TTC's Grab 'n Go station; wireless headphones; **and our grand incentive: tickets with parking to the Carolina vs. Clemson game.**

The campus community as a whole thanks you for all that you have done and will continue to do to limit the negative impact of this horrible virus. As was mentioned earlier, while your tenacity and resilience are commendable – there is still work to do.



TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

To this end, I encourage you to get fully vaccinated, if you have not done so already. Then plan to participate in our Vaccination Incentive Program event on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am -2:00pm in the parking lot of the 920 Building (College Center) located on the Thornley Campus.

You are resilient and smart, otherwise you would not have chosen to pursue your future here at TTC. You are an amazing group of individuals with the ability to make a difference in getting us closer to ending the pandemic and moving toward the brighter future that lies ahead.

Sincerest Regards,

Patrice Davis, Ed.D.  
Vice President for Student Services