



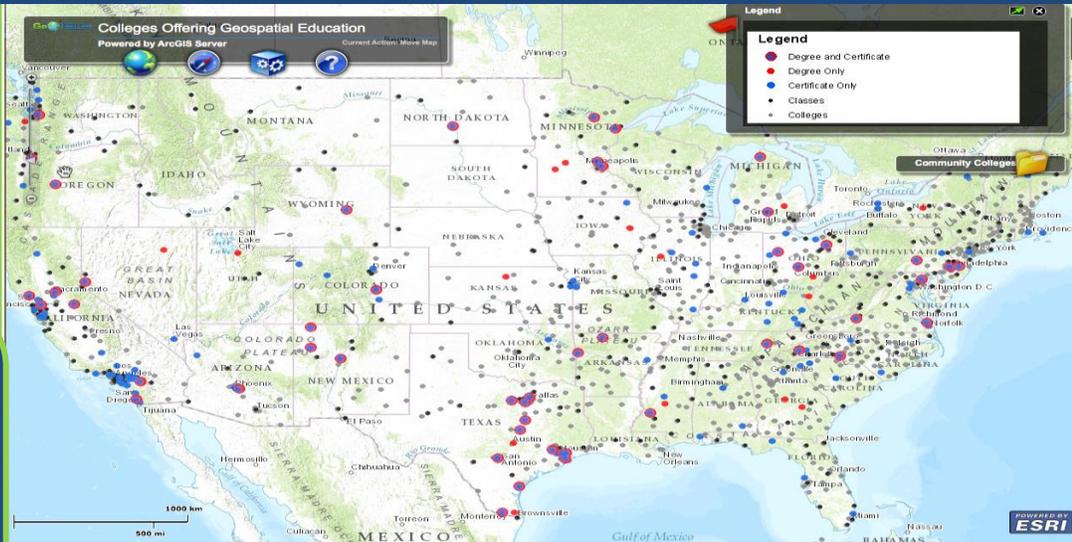
A Monthly Newsletter of the  
National Geospatial Technology  
Center of Excellence

Innovation in Geospatial Science and Technology Education

Empowering Colleges: Expanding the Geospatial Workforce

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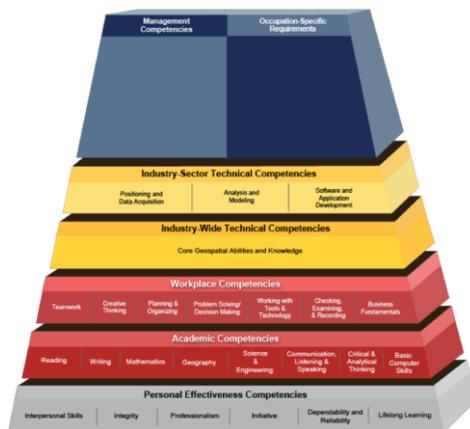
The GeoTech Center is virtual, comprised of a Director, four Associate Directors, and nine Assistant Directors from institutions across the nation. The central office is located at Jefferson Community and Technical College in Louisville, KY.

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**The 2014 National Geospatial Technology Skills Competition**

**Welcome**

Welcome to the 2014 National Geospatial Technology Skills Competition! We are excited to open the 2014 national mapping competition exclusively to students who are enrolled in a two-year community or technical college geospatial technology program in the U.S. This competition allows our two-year college learners to demonstrate their expertise in the skills identified in the new Department of Labor “Geospatial Technology Competency Model” or “GTCM”. The GTCM is a comprehensive document, release in June 2010, which precisely defines for the first time, the entire Geospatial Technology Industry and its sectors. You can read about the GTCM on the DOL ([http://www.careeronestop.org/competency\\_model/pyramid.aspx?GEO=Y](http://www.careeronestop.org/competency_model/pyramid.aspx?GEO=Y))



**Eligibility**

The National Geospatial Technology Skills Competition is open exclusively to students at two-year community and technical colleges who are enrolled during the Spring 2014 semester in a geospatial technology program in the U.S.

**Important Dates**

- January 21, 2014 - Competition Announced
- January 27, 2014 - March 15, 2014 12:00 midnight EST - Round One Exam Available and must be taken by midnight EST on March 15.
- March 1 to April 1, 2014 12:00 midnight EST - Round 2 Project must be uploaded to YouTube no later than April 1, 12:00 midnight.
- May 15, 2014 - Five Semi-finalists Announced and invited to attend Esri Educ.
- June 1, 2014 - Invitations to EdUC by Semi-finalist must be acknowledged and accepted or rejected.
- July 13—16, 2014 - Conference Attendance by Semi-finalists at EdUC and UC in San Diego, CA
- July 15, 2014 - Presentation at Esri User Conference on Tuesday
- July 15, 2014 - Winners announced on Tuesday during the ESRI Special Interest Group meeting for Community Colleges.

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## GeoTech Skills Competition (cont. from Page 1)

### Contest Overview

The intent of the National Geospatial Technology Skills Competition is to showcase the geospatial technology skills of students in two-year community and technical colleges who are enrolled during the Spring 2014 semester in a geospatial technology program in the U.S. The contest will test student aptitude in geospatial theory and software applications, and will draw content from the Geospatial Technology Competency Model (GTCM) to insure that the most relevant skills and knowledge are being assessed.

The National Geospatial Technology Skills competition will take place in three rounds with the first round requiring students take an online examination that tests their knowledge of geospatial science and technology (geographic information systems, remote sensing, and global navigation satellite systems (GNSS)).

The second round will require students to create a project using geospatial technology that demonstrates their knowledge and addresses a real-world problem. The student will then capture the project as a video that will demonstrate their use of geospatial tools and communication and presentation skills. The student will then upload their video to the GeoTech Center YouTube Channel. The videos of the projects will be judged and scored by panelists of geospatial professionals (GISCI). The scores from the exam and project will be combined to select the top five students.

The final round of the competition will take place at the 2014 Esri Education Users Conference (EdUC) July 12-15 in San Diego, California where the five finalists will present their project and be judged by a panel of geospatial professionals.

The detailed list of rules and requirements can be found at: <http://www.geotechcenter.org/Resources/Resource-Center/Featured-Items/2014-National-Geospatial-Technology-Skills-Competition>

Please direct any questions to the Competition Coordinator, Scott Jeffrey at [sjeffrey@cpcbcmd.edu](mailto:sjeffrey@cpcbcmd.edu).



## Model Course Development Update

One of the major goals of the GeoTech Center is to create and disseminate relevant GIST curriculum and pedagogical tools (based upon the current needs of the geospatial industry and the expanding community of ancillary users) nationally to instructors with programs and/or courses (looking to augment or update their present offerings) and those instructors aspiring to build programs and/or courses.

The GeoTech Center is presently developing model course curriculum to go with the GTCM-model course outlines previously developed by the GeoTech Center (Geospatial Technology Competency Model). The "Awareness" course -- a stand alone class designed to introduce students to geospatial technologies, and that could potentially serve as a general education course is nearing completion.

The model course contains the follow resources: 1) A full course outline (complete with Student Learning Objectives); 2) PowerPoint lectures (with and without voiceovers); 3) Concept videos (from YouTube, TED, and other resources); 4) Assessments and Study Guides; 5) Learning modules (using tools such as ArcGIS Online and Google Earth, among others); and 6) Potential weekly assignments. Stay tuned for information regarding the reveal and how to access the materials.

Other courses under development are:

- 1) Introduction to Geospatial Technology
- 2) Spatial Analysis
- 3) Data Acquisition & Management
- 4) Cartographic Design
- 5) Introduction to Remote Sensing
- 6) Introduction to Geospatial Programming
- 7) Geospatial Web Applications and Development
- 8) Capstone in Geospatial Technology
- 9) Internship in Geospatial Technology

In the future, we hope to expand the above list. Specifically, in collaboration with other ATE Centers and Projects, the GeoTech Center will create geospatial-integrated STEM specific course modules in subjects such as environmental science, energy resources, green technology, security and first responders. In addition, the GeoTech Center will provide mentoring and professional development in the use of the full model courses and program alignment tools.

For more information regarding the model courses, please contact Rich Schultz at [richs@elmhurst.edu](mailto:richs@elmhurst.edu).

For information specific to the "Awareness" course, please contact Ken Yanow at [kyanow@swccd.edu](mailto:kyanow@swccd.edu).