



# October 2026 NEWSLETTER



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Alexandria, VA 22312  
Phone: (571) 327-2206  
TTY: 711 VA Relay



13370 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, VA 22192  
Phone: (703) 586-6800  
TTY: 711 VA Relay

The Virginia Career Works (VCW) Prince William County and Cherokee Avenue Centers are open to serve your business needs **Monday through Friday, from 9:00AM to 4:30PM**. Available services include computer access, faxing, printing and typing tests. Refer to page 4 or visit our website at <https://vcwnorthern.com> for more information about our programs, events and services.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Workforce Development Month activities! From a great turnout at the PWC Career & Resource Fair to workshops focused on job readiness and financial well-being, September offered valuable opportunities to learn and connect.

Special thanks to our partners and guest facilitators for sharing their time and expertise. **Fall into opportunity and keep your momentum going—explore upcoming events and resources in this issue!**

## This Month

- October is **National Disability Employment Awareness Month; Italian, Filipino, and Polish American Heritage Month**
- Oct. 12 - Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples' Day** (Center Closed)
- Oct. 31 - Halloween**

## FIND YOUR NEXT JOB

- CHECK OUT THE VIRGINIA CAREER WORKS' JOB BOARD**  
Browse full-time jobs, part-time jobs, and paid internships in our network across Northern Virginia at <https://jobs.vcwnorthern.com>

- Visit **Virginia Workforce Connection** ([www.vawc.virginia.gov](http://www.vawc.virginia.gov)) to explore current openings, or get help at a Virginia Career Works Center

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**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING & SKILLED TRADES FAIR**  
 **October 8th**  **4PM - 7PM**

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/4yqQTMK>

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**CAREER FAIR**  
  
**YOUR NEXT OPPORTUNITY STARTS HERE**  
**OCTOBER 29 2026** | **11:00 AM - 4:00 PM** | **HYLTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

DELIVERED BY: 

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/4AJXQds>



## Surprise! The 2027-28 FAFSA officially opened on Wednesday, September 23rd.

The early opening caught many of us off guard, but the U.S. Department of Education has confirmed that FAFSA is available one week earlier than expected this year.

Here's what you need to know:

- Students and families can begin submitting the 2027-28 FAFSA now.
- You should be prepared for questions and FAFSA completion support requests sooner than anticipated.
- This is just the start of the financial aid application process; despite the early opening, students will receive their financial aid offers on the regular timeline.

## FREE Job Ready & Computer Workshops

### Monday, October 5, 2026 ►

Microsoft Word II – How to format, adjust layouts, and print documents.

### Friday, October 9, 2026 ►

Microsoft Word III - Work with columns, pictures, tables, and create a resume. **Bring job & education history and references.**

### Friday, October 16, 2026 ►

Learn about networking, improve interview skills and review & finalize your resume.

### Monday, October 19, 2026 ►

Microsoft Excel I – Learn how to create, open, and save spreadsheets as well as cell basics.

### Friday, October 23, 2026 ►

Microsoft Excel II – Learn how to work with cells, multiple sheets, and how to print effectively.

### Monday, October 26, 2026 ►

Microsoft Excel III – Learn about formulas and functions.  
Microsoft PowerPoint – Learn how to create presentations.

### Friday, October 30, 2026 ►

Microsoft PowerPoint – Learn how to present, print, and insert pictures & videos.

**New PWCS Adult Students:** Please register at [www.PWCS.edu/AdultEd](http://www.PWCS.edu/AdultEd).  
Then check our email for in-person registration and testing appointments.

**Current students,** email Claudia at [GortvaCE@pwcs.edu](mailto:GortvaCE@pwcs.edu)

**LinkedIn** Learning

Learn Today. Grow Tomorrow.

Whether you're exploring a new career, sharpening your current skills, or preparing for your next opportunity, LinkedIn Learning provides the tools to help you succeed—anytime, anywhere.

### Why use LinkedIn Learning?

**Earn certificates** of completion to showcase your commitment to continuous learning on your LinkedIn profile and résumé.

**Build in-demand AI skills** with courses covering generative AI, prompt writing, Microsoft Copilot, ChatGPT, and other emerging technologies.

**Practice with AI-powered role play** to improve interview skills, communication, leadership conversations, sales, and customer service in a safe environment.

**Learn at your own pace** with thousands of expert-led courses available on your computer or mobile device—whether you have 10 minutes or an hour.

**Invest in yourself**—one course today can open the door to tomorrow's opportunity. To get your free license complete the Interest Form online:  
[bit.ly/VCCWN-LIL](http://bit.ly/VCCWN-LIL)

## Adult Education

Fall Classes began September 2026.



**Fairfax County Adult & Community Education (ACE)**  
**Learn more at: [bit.ly/FCPS\\_ACE](http://bit.ly/FCPS_ACE)**



**Prince William County Adult Education**

- All Job Ready & Computer Workshops are being held at **VCW Prince William Center; 13370 Minnieville Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192**
- **ServSafe Manager Certification** class begins October 10<sup>th</sup> - **Register Today!**
- For more info and class schedules, visit: [pwcs.edu/AdultEd](http://pwcs.edu/AdultEd)

# New PathwAIs – COHORT 2: Northern Virginia

Free AI training for people who have never used AI.

## WHEN

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00am – 12:30pm

## WHERE

Ballston, Virginia

Cost: free

**Four weeks. 24 seats. No experience required.**

Reserve Your Seat Today  
by scanning the QR Code  
or <https://bit.ly/4j0u10H>



APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup>

**Date:** October 15, 2026 | **Time:** 11:00 AM

# LUNCH & LEARN

**DOING BUSINESS WITH PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY**  
NETWORKING • RESOURCES  
OPPORTUNITIES • MORE

**Cost:** Free. RSVP Required | **Register:** [bit.ly/pwcll26](https://bit.ly/pwcll26)

**Location:** Potomac Science Center,  
650 Mason Ferry Ave, Woodbridge, VA 22191

**Hosted by**  
**Prince William Chair At-Large**  
**Deshundra Jefferson**  
**AND FEATURED PARTNER**

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA  
BLACK CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

**EVENT PARTNERS**



## Financial Education & Housing Counseling Classes

OCTOBER 2026

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Scan QR code or visit  
[www.vcwnorthern.com/pwfec](http://www.vcwnorthern.com/pwfec) for a  
full list of available workshops and  
to reserve your seat today!

Financial Empowerment Center  
at Prince William County



| DATE       | TIME              | CLASS TITLE                                                                    | SIGN UP LINK                                                                                      |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10/6/2026  | 7:00pm            | Smart Money Management<br>VIRTUAL                                              | <a href="https://bit.ly/2SmartMoneyManagement">bit.ly/2SmartMoneyManagement</a>                   |
| 10/8/2026  | 7:00pm            | Credit and Debt Management<br>VIRTUAL                                          | <a href="https://bit.ly/CreditandDebtManagement">bit.ly/CreditandDebtManagement</a>               |
| 10/10/2026 | 9:00am-<br>3:00pm | First Time Homebuyers Education<br>IN-PERSON<br>Sudley North-Manassas          | <a href="https://bit.ly/HOSRegistrations">https://bit.ly/HOSRegistrations</a>                     |
| 10/13/2026 | 7:00pm            | Budgeting Basics-VIRTUAL                                                       | <a href="https://bit.ly/BudgetingBasicsStandAloneClass">bit.ly/BudgetingBasicsStandAloneClass</a> |
| 10/14/2026 | 7:00pm            | Smart Money Management<br>IN-PERSON<br>DSB Gov Bldg-Woodbridge                 | <a href="https://bit.ly/2SmartMoneyManagement">bit.ly/2SmartMoneyManagement</a>                   |
| 10/22/2026 | 12:00pm           | LUNCH & LEARN:<br>Entrepreneurship and<br>Small Business Management<br>VIRTUAL | <a href="https://bit.ly/SmallBus101">https://bit.ly/SmallBus101</a>                               |
| 10/22/2026 | 7:00pm            | Avoiding Foreclosure and<br>Eviction<br>VIRTUAL                                | <a href="https://bit.ly/AvoidingForeclosureEviction">bit.ly/AvoidingForeclosureEviction</a>       |
| 10/24/2026 | 9:00am-<br>3:00pm | First Time Homebuyers Education<br>IN-PERSON<br>Ferlazzo Gov Bldg-Woodbridge   | <a href="https://bit.ly/HOSRegistrations">https://bit.ly/HOSRegistrations</a>                     |

# PARTNER INFORMATION

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>DARS</b>                                                                        | Services are available by phone and email.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | For information, call 703-335-5550 (press 0 for the front desk) or visit <a href="http://www.vadars.org">www.vadars.org</a> .                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Department of Social Services (DSS)</b>                                         | To apply for public assistance, visit <a href="https://commonhelp.virginia.gov">https://commonhelp.virginia.gov</a> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | For general information, call 703-792-7500; For questions, email <a href="mailto:commonhelp@dss.virginia.gov">commonhelp@dss.virginia.gov</a> .                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>ECMC   The College Place-Alexandria</b>                                         | Provides free information and assistance through in-person, telephone, and online support for people of all ages seeking higher learning. The College Place offers presentations and workshops, as well as individual assistance completing applications for college admission, financial aid, and scholarships.                                      | Email Jason Puryear, Student Success & Outreach Director, at <a href="mailto:alexandriavatcp@ecmc.org">alexandriavatcp@ecmc.org</a> or call 434-218-2675 for questions for more information.                                                                                                              |
| <b>Employment Supports for Lifelong Achievement (ESLA)</b>                         | Program provides services to residents of Fairfax, Prince William, and Loudoun counties with barriers such as low-income, legal history, and/or disabilities.                                                                                                                                                                                         | Visit <a href="http://www.vcwnorthern.com/esla">www.vcwnorthern.com/esla</a> for more information and complete the <a href="#">Inquiry/Referral Form</a> .                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Prince William Financial Empowerment Center (PW FEC)</b>                        | Provides services to help individuals and families in Prince William County advance on a path toward financial stability. Services include financial and small business coaching, financial workshops, housing counseling, and free tax preparation.                                                                                                  | For more information, go to <a href="https://vcwnorthern.com/pwfec/">https://vcwnorthern.com/pwfec/</a><br><br>Complete an <a href="#">Interest Form</a> and view calendar online.                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Northern Virginia Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP)</b>      | If you are age 55 or older, currently unemployed and meet certain financial criteria, you may be eligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Contact <b>Virginia Judd</b> at 571-363-7688 or email <a href="mailto:scsep@vcwnorthern.com">scsep@vcwnorthern.com</a> .<br><a href="https://vcwnorthern.com/scsep">https://vcwnorthern.com/scsep</a> for more information.                                                                               |
| <b>Prince William County Schools Adult Education</b>                               | Community Engagement and Citizenship Preparation, English Language Acquisition (ELA), GED, and other classes are available. For full class schedule and information, visit <a href="http://adulthood.pwcs.edu">http://adulthood.pwcs.edu</a> .                                                                                                        | Email <a href="mailto:adulthood@pwcs.edu">adulthood@pwcs.edu</a> or see a staff member for information.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Ticket to Work Program</b>                                                      | Are you a job seeker with a disability who wants to work and are receiving SSI or SSDI?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | For information, complete <b>Interest Form</b> : <a href="https://vcwgov.my.site.com/Application/s/ttw-referral">https://vcwgov.my.site.com/Application/s/ttw-referral</a> or email <a href="mailto:myticket@vcwnorthern.com">myticket@vcwnorthern.com</a> .                                              |
| <b>Virginia Employment Commission (VEC)</b>                                        | The fastest way to apply for new unemployment benefits, file an additional claim, reopen an existing claim, and certify weekly benefits is through VEC's Customer Self-Service (CSS) online portal. Visit <a href="http://www.vec.virginia.gov">www.vec.virginia.gov</a> to view tutorials to set up an account and file claims for unemployment.     | You may file and inquire about unemployment benefits through the Customer Contact Center by calling <b>866-832-2363</b><br><br>(Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:30 pm)                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Virginia Works – Department of Workforce Development and Advancement (DWDA)</b> | <i>Effective January 16, 2024</i> , the new agency, DWDA, offers <b>job services</b> to employers and jobseekers. Jobseekers can receive assistance with their job search and preparation in-person and virtually.<br><br><b>Veteran services</b> are available to qualified individuals by JVSG Prince William   Veteran Employment Representatives. | Contact 703.897.0407<br>Email <a href="mailto:Princwilliam@virginiaworks.gov">Princwilliam@virginiaworks.gov</a>                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>WIOA / WIOA Youth</b>                                                           | Unemployed and struggling to find employment? Or need an upgrade your skills to gain employment?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | To sign up for an <b>Information Session</b> to learn more about the programs and to apply, visit <a href="https://vcwnorthern.com/wioa">https://vcwnorthern.com/wioa</a> ; young adults, ages 17-24, visit <a href="https://vcwnorthern.com/youth-programs">https://vcwnorthern.com/youth-programs</a> . |



WIOA Title I-financially assisted programs and Virginia Career Works – Northern are an equal opportunity program/employer committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations, to include auxiliary aids and services, are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.