



STATE OF GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Gary W. Black
COMMISSIONER

August 9, 2022

Dr. Jermaine Whirl
President
Augusta Technical College
3200 Augusta Tech Drive
Augusta, GA 30906

Re: Support for Apprentice Program: O*net code: 37-2021 Rapids Code: 1000CB

Dear Dr. Whirl:

The Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) would like to offer our support of Augusta Technical College's registered apprentice application. Pest management services and a professional workforce are important to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Georgia. GDA regulates the pest management industry and currently licenses over 10,000 pest management workers throughout the state. As Georgia continues to grow so does the pest management industry and the demand for skilled pest management workers. This apprenticeship program will provide a needed pathway to educate, train, and maintain workers to help the state meet the current and future workforce needs.

We are pleased to learn that the proposed program will meet the regulatory compliance requirements of the Georgia Structural Pest Control Act and rules of the Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission.

Again, we commend this project for equipping individuals with the skill set necessary to fill jobs in the pest management sector. We are excited at the opportunities for the Augusta Region and the entire state.

We support this project's efforts and believe that it will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on this important industry in the State of Georgia.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Black
Commissioner