**StrataTech Education Group Partners with Distribution Contractors Association to Award up to $1 Million in Combined Scholarships**

*StrataTech will award 100 students half-off tuition scholarships for programs at Tulsa Welding School campuses and The Refrigeration School, Inc.*

**PHOENIX (Jan. 18, 2022) –**StrataTech Education Group is pleased to announce a new partnership with Distribution Contractors Association (DCA) for a ‘Million Dollar Pledge to Get Americans to Work’ campaign. As part of this partnership, StrataTech will provide 100 half-off tuition scholarships to upskill skilled trade workers.

Men and women who work for a DCA-affiliated company and have been sponsored for tuition assistance by their company are eligible to apply for one of the scholarships. Each scholarship awarded by StrataTech will cover half of each employee’s tuition while the remaining balance will be sponsored by each recipient’s respective employer. Scholarship recipients can then use the funds toward any program at The Refrigeration School, Inc., Tulsa Welding School, Tulsa Welding School Jacksonville or Tulsa Welding School & Technology Center, including programs in welding, HVAC & refrigeration, electrical applications, among others.

These scholarships come at a time when the skilled trades industry is facing a major skills gap which could leave an estimated 2.4 million positions unfilled between 2018 and 2028, according to [a study](https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/pages/manufacturing/articles/future-of-manufacturing-skills-gap-study.html) by Deloitte and The Manufacturing Institute. [The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/home.htm) also projects the skilled trades industry to grow by 10 percent, creating an additional 704,000 jobs.

“Investing in the skilled trades industry is now more important than ever,” said StrataTech CEO Mary Kelly. “We’re proud to help educate the next generation of skilled trade professionals, provide them with a quality education and set them up for lifelong success.”

DCA is a member-centered association which serves as a link to government agencies, organized labor and other industry organizations for those in the underground construction industry. DCA offers programs, committees and other events which give members the opportunity for professional recognition and to give back to their industry.

"For 60 years, DCA has been committed to building opportunity for our members and those entering the skilled labor industry,” said DCA’s chief executive Rob Darden. "We’re very grateful to StrataTech for this partnership and scholarships which will help continue our mission.”

Those looking to apply for the scholarship can visit <https://www.stratatech.com/dca> to learn more.

For more information on StrataTech and its four campuses, visit [www.StrataTech.com](http://www.StrataTech.com).

**About StrataTech Education Group**

[StrataTech Education Group](http://www.StrataTech.com) focuses on the education, growth and development of specialized career education schools, particularly skilled-trade programs designed to address the nation’s growing infrastructure needs. Holding an A+ rating by the Better Business Bureau, StrataTech Education Group’s portfolio includes [The Refrigeration School, Inc. (RSI)](https://www.refrigerationschool.com/), [Tulsa Welding School (TWS)](https://www.weldingschool.com/), [Tulsa Welding School Jacksonville](https://www.weldingschool.com/campus/jacksonville/), and [Tulsa Welding School & Technology Center](https://www.weldingschool.com/campus/houston/) (TWSTC). For more information, visit [www.StrataTech.com](http://www.StrataTech.com).

**About Distribution Contractors Association**

The Distribution Contractors Association (DCA) is a member-centered, professional trade organization formed in 1961 to facilitate the exchange of information related to the construction and maintenance of gas distribution pipeline systems throughout the United States. DCA serves as a link between members, government agencies, organized labor, and other industry organizations and has built close working relationships with utilities and the associations that represent them. DCA is comprised of nearly 240 companies including local, regional and national contractors and the equipment manufacturers, distributors and other companies that support them in the safe installation of natural gas pipelines and other underground utilities. The association actively promotes the industry and continually works to develop and improve quality, safety, best practices, and leadership. DCA is headquartered in Richardson, Texas, near Dallas. [www.dcaweb.org](http://www.dcaweb.org)

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