

March 17, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Alexandria Technical and Community College is a proud partner of The Minnesota Grocers' Association (MGA). We share in our mission to advance education and career opportunities for Minnesotans. ATCC offers an exclusive industry-endorsed Retail Management Certificate (RMC) and is honored to work with the MGA and President Jamie Pfuhl to increase awareness of the RMC as a grocery industry credential coupled with the exclusive Minnesota "Carts to Careers" tuition support opportunity.

The grocery industry accounts for 5% of jobs in Minnesota (MGA) and offers exciting and fulfilling career opportunities for many. The MN Grocery landscape is vast, home to several Fortune 500, community and specialty grocers. The **MGA Carts to Careers Program** is specific to earning a grocery-recognized credential and truly supports individuals as they grow in their careers and in turn, lead our great grocery stores.

The Carts to Careers Tuition Support Program (Spring of 2021) has now impacted **over fifty** grocery professionals, some on their way to graduate in May 2023! MGA members utilizing Carts to Careers tuition support include Jerry's Enterprises, Cub Foods, Coborn's, Teal's Market, Chris Foods Center, and Tom's Food Pride. Those utilizing the RMC Carts to Careers tuition support most often work full time, are highly engaged, and express gratitude to their employers for this educational opportunity. One graduate summed it up, *"I enjoyed the classes! I learned a lot that I can apply in my current position and in the future."*

Our hope is that many more Minnesotans will have the opportunity to earn the Retail Management Certificate and feel the support of their employer and MGA as they grow as grocery industry professionals. We are counting on them!

Sincerely,



Michael Seymour
President

*NOTE: The ATCC RMC is **nationally recognized** as part of the White House's Upskill Initiative, the U.S. Department of Labor and is also endorsed by the MGA, Western Association of Food Chains (WAFC) and the Food Marketing Institute (FMI). <https://retailmanagementcertificate.com>*