

Community Programs

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (CDI)

The Community Development Institute (CDI) is a unique department that houses three programs that provide classes and services directly to various communities, residents, non-residents, and organizations in the CNMI. CDI is the venue for all community courses, non-traditional courses, customized training, specialized academic courses, outreach and extended program services, workforce and community based learning.

Through CDI, the following services can be tailored to meet consumer needs:

- Course Customization and/or Development;
- Creative Scheduling: courses are created with your time and date in mind;
- On-Site Instruction: We Bring NMC to You;
- Courses can be arranged and conducted on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota;
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs): Professional Course Sanctioning;
- Access NMC Courses, Services and Facilities;
- Accelerated NMC Academic and Non-Academic Courses and Certification;
- Short-term courses tailored for personal, professional, and career needs;
- Bachelor, Masters, or Doctoral Degree Program Facilitation;
- Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps (SROTC) – U.S. Army;
- Course or Service Proposals and Memoranda of Agreement/Understanding

The services listed above are conducted through CDI's three main programs: Community Service and Personal Enrichment (CSPE) Program, Extended Degrees and University Partnerships (EDUP) Program, and the Workforce Development and Certificate Training (WDCT) Program.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PERSONAL ENRICHMENT (CSPE) PROGRAM

The CSPE program provides an opportunity to individuals to gradually adjust to classroom setting after being away from school for a period of time. Students do not have to be officially admitted to NMC in order to enroll in these classes. The program is opened to anyone interested in life-long learning and personal enrichment. Certificates of participation or attendance are earned upon successful completion of classes.

Some personal enrichment classes include Computer Skills Development, Office Management, Writing, Math, Cultural Enrichment, and Recreational ones such as Ukulele, Lei-making, Arts, and Dancing, etc. Other classes include leadership and supervision, health and wellness, diet and nutrition, pre-vocational preparation, youth leadership development, and many other valuable, life-skills building and enhancing classes. *Developmental Language Courses* are the most marketable courses provided through CDI. Language course levels range from conversational to advanced College level English. Languages taught include Carolinian, Chamorro, Japanese, Chinese (Mandarin), Korean, Tagalog, English and Russian, etc. Individuals learn the basics of communicating in these languages through conversational, writing, reading, and listening exercises.

EXTENDED DEGREES AND UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS (EDUP) PROGRAM

The EDUP program supports the college mission by providing opportunities for academic and career education and training in collaboration with secondary and postsecondary educational institutions, professional organizations, and specific federal programs. Primary activities include the *facilitation of baccalaureate and graduate degree programs and services such as collaborative relationships and internships.*

Through the EDUP, relationships with U.S. accredited institutions of higher learning are continually being explored to provide baccalaureate degree programs through NMC. Current educational partnerships include:

Framingham State University (FSU) offers a Master of Education in International Teaching, which is a two-year graduate program that has graduated nine cohorts of students (totaling over 170 graduates);

University of Guam (UOG) offers UOG SROTC Military Science Courses in the CNMI thru CDI, thus allowing full-time students enrolled at NMC to seek an officer career in the U.S. Army during their first two years of SROTC in the CNMI; and

University of Hawaii (UH) services the CNMI through two subcontracted grants:

The Pacific Basin University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (PBUCEDD) in the CNMI through NMC. The NMC's UCEDD is one of sixty-three UCE, University Centers for Excellence, programs throughout the U.S. The UH UCE Pacific Outreach Initiative at NMC and the American Samoa Community College UCEDD Program comprise the PBUCEDD.

The *Area Health Education Center (AHEC)* is also an extended service provided by a grant through the UH. This service focuses on developing awareness and promotes health fields and careers as well as provides health related courses available at NMC to the community.

Collaborations with other regional and national institutions of higher education in business management, accounting, nursing, criminal justice, public administration, education, health, and other disciplines are also being explored. Any postsecondary institutions that wish to conduct certificate trainings or offer on-line or resident degree programs beyond the associate level within the CNMI are encouraged to register with NMC through CDI.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATE TRAINING (WDCT) PROGRAMS

The WDCT program functions and services include the facilitation of *accelerated academic courses, law enforcement academies, customized training, and the Area Health Education Center (AHEC)*. The WDCT program is industry based and strives to improve industries available in the CNMI, more specifically in the fields of Education, Health, Public Safety, Tourism and Hospitality, Business, and General Workforce needs. In full understanding of the continually changing educational environment and the need for non-traditional educational experiences, CDI works closely with NMC's Division of Academic Programs and Services to cater to the needs of the CNMI diversified workforce. This program provides completion of certificate (academic and non-academic) and degree programs through an accelerated program arrangement. The program is designed around the schedule and needs of interested individuals, while maintaining the academic rigor and requirements needed for successful completion of such courses or certification.

Customized Training is provided to meet the particular training and education needs of individuals, and public and private sector workforces. CDI stands to tailor or customize all requested training to accommodate clients. Training programs may be arranged through proposals or Memoranda of Agreement at any time of the year. Training schedules are flexible and can be provided during the day or evening hours, on weekdays or weekends, on campus or at the jobsite; the needs of the client determine the training schedule. *Preparatory courses leading to certification such as PRAXIS, NCLEX, SAT, ASVAB, English and Math Placement, and Computer Skill Assessments, etc.* can also be arranged and offered under CDI.

Want to share your knowledge?

CDI is constantly searching for outstanding local and national community members that are highly trained and/or experienced individuals to share their knowledge, skills, and expertise with the community in a non-traditional classroom setting.

Contact us today and continue your lifelong learning experience.

To enroll in a course or request the development of a customized training program for you, your department, agency, or company, please visit Community Development Institute (CDI) at NMC's Saipan campus, Building P (next to the Human Resources Office), or call (670) 234-5498, extensions 1005, 1030, 1010, 1019, or 1014.

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH, EXTENSION AND EDUCATION SERVICE (CREES)

The Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service (NMC-CREES) provides free assistance and appropriate technical information in the fields of animal, plant, family, and consumer sciences that is locally sustainable, environmentally safe, and economically feasible, in order to enhance the well-being and improve the quality of life of the people living in the CNMI. The two major components in CREES are the Agriculture Research and Extension Services (ARE) and Consumer and Family Sciences (CFS). These programs are supported by federal funds received from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). To obtain federal funding, CREES is required to submit a five-year State Plan that must be approved by USDA. CREES also applies for competitive grants to support primarily research projects.

Agriculture Research and Extension Services

The ***Livestock Improvement Program*** provides technical assistance and training to improve the competitiveness of the CNMI cattle, goat, swine and poultry produced by reducing the cost of production, increasing productivity and profits while protecting our natural resources and the environment.

The ***Plant Protection Program*** provides technical assistance and training in insect, weed, and other pest identification and control. In addition, the program helps farmers and gardeners identify the types of diseases their plants may have.

The ***Crop Production Improvement Program*** helps improve the quality, quantity, and timing of the production of fresh fruits and vegetables in the CNMI. The program provides information on farm trials and backyard gardening.

The ***Soil and Water Management Program*** conducts research and provides technical assistance focused on protecting or enhancing our environment and at the same time, maximizing the profitability and sustainability of agriculture in the CNMI.

The ***Aquaculture and Fishery Development Programs*** is established to fulfill the mandate of CNMI Public Law 15-43 that designated NMC CREES as the lead agency responsible for aquaculture and fisheries development in the CNMI. This program conducts research and extension activities on aquaponics, marine and freshwater finfish and crustacean production, and provides free consultations and workshops.

Consumer and Family Education Services

The ***Community Resource Development Program*** works with the community's diverse ethnic and cultural groups to help improve access to and utilization of services for various communities. This program offers workshops and training in family financial management, sewing classes for families with limited resources, promotes recycling of materials into new forms of arts and crafts, and conducts activities for youth development.