



## **For Immediate Release**

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## **WTC Business & Risk Management Students Excel Amid Pandemic**

Students in the second year of the Business & Risk Management program at the Wilson Talent Center (WTC) had a school year full of incredible milestones and accomplishments despite a global pandemic. These accomplishments include paid internships, national certifications and earning free college credit to name a few. The program exposes students to general business concepts with a focus on the insurance industry. Second year students take part in the Certified Insurance Service Representative (CISR) high school program through the National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research, allowing them to earn national insurance industry certifications.

Some of the accomplishments of the second-year program during the 2020-21 school year include;

- Eighteen students were mentored by local insurance professionals, offering advice, sharing case studies and the importance of being on-time and committed to their work.
- Five students were hired by local insurance agencies.
- Five students received insurance scholarships to continue their education in the field.
- Eighteen students collectively received 53 national certifications through the National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research in personal auto, personal residential and commercial casualty insurance.
- Eighteen students earned on average, 18 free college credits each from Ferris State University.
- Four students will be continuing the program through the Capital Region Technical Early College (CRTEC) with Ferris State University, studying Risk Management Insurance.
- Fifteen students are currently (after their graduation), working on the last two classes toward earning their CISR designation. They will be the first students in the nation to receive this designation.

“In the midst of the most challenging two years of their education, these students remained focused, persevered and accomplished things beyond my dreams,” notes Monique Colizzi, instructor of the Business & Risk Management program. “The support and commitment from our business and



community partners helped open doors and create opportunities for these students that I never dreamed of, especially during a global pandemic. The bonds these students have not only with each other, but with their insurance industry mentor, will last a lifetime,” Colizzi also noted.

The Wilson Talent Center, operated by Ingham Intermediate School District, offers career and technical education programs for high school juniors and seniors who reside in Dansville, East Lansing, Haslett, Holt, Leslie, Mason, Okemos, Stockbridge, Waverly, Webberville and Williamston. Applications are also accepted from Lansing School District, Fowlerville Community Schools and Eaton and Clinton County schools. For more information, visit [Wilson Talent Center](http://www.inghamisd.org/wtc) (www.inghamisd.org/wtc).

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