

# meet your RENTON NEIGHBOR



## MEET Doug Medbury >

 **SERVES UP LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES TO WHOLE COMMUNITY**

 **DEAN, CULINARY ARTS, RENTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

 **YEARS IN RENTON: 30+**

**A**t Renton Technical College, Doug Medbury is opening doors to help more people see their potential.

Doug is dean of the school's culinary program, plus food service director, facility rental manager and now continuing education director. He is most enthused about the new continuing education position.

✓ Doug Medbury is eager to introduce more continuing education programs in the culinary demo room at Renton Technical College.



^ Doug Medbury has helped students follow their culinary passions at Renton Technical College for 32 years.

“We’re looking out to the community, to reach people who are hesitant to attend college, then help them once they’re in the door,” Doug said.

One example is the new “Try a Trade” program. Individuals can take a class in a trade for a minimal fee to see if it’s a good fit for a potential career. If they decide to pursue that trade, they can transfer into the RTC curriculum and receive credit for the Try a Trade course.

Doug also is working to find industry partners to offer training for commercial driver licenses, forklift operators and flaggers.

“Schools help meet the demands of industries,” Doug said. “Continuing education has so much potential. We want to offer more short-term training and get people started on a career.”

RTC’s culinary program offers several learning and working opportunities. In the

professional baking program, 12 students learn all aspects of the craft on their way to certification. The school's catering program supplies food and staff for events year-round.

Doug was an experienced chef and single parent with two young kids when he took the job as RTC's catering event manager. Thirty-two years later, "every day is a fun-filled day" as he helps students pursue their careers—and their passion.


"We can teach people how to cook, but for a chef it comes from the heart. It takes hard work and dedication," he said. "You're not just cooking a meal. Put the love into the bread."



^ Under Doug Medbury's direction, Renton Technical College's culinary department offers catering services in addition to cooking and baking programs.

## Making a Difference in Renton

 85% job placement rate  
9 months after graduation

 3,015 students work  
while attending RTC

 1,500 apprentices participate  
in 16 apprenticeship programs  
affiliated with RTC, working  
full-time in their field and  
attending school part-time

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Doug loves seeing his students move on to become well-known chefs across the country. He's just as pleased when students find work in the local area.

"I love Renton. There's a strong community feel and natural beauty. We're close enough to the big city yet still have a comfortable home environment," he said. "I don't think I'll be moving anytime soon." ❖