



## **PSU Automotive Technology Alumnus Lands Job at Tesla**

Krishna Balaji, of India, earned a Bachelor of Science in Automotive Technology with an emphasis in Dealership and Corporate Transportation Management and a minor in Business Administration in May 2021.

Upon graduation, Balaji landed a job working for American electric vehicle and clean energy company, Tesla, as a Service Technician. He is currently working as a Tesla START student in Charlotte, N.C., which is where Tesla trains students to work as technicians. He will then be placed in a service center in Austin, Texas.



Photo Courtesy of Krishna Balaji

Since beginning work at Tesla, Balaji has enjoyed the work culture and environment.

“The environment is very collaborative and the company values creativity and adaptability to deliver the fast cars that customers are excited to see,” he said.

Pitt State is nationally known for their Automotive Technology program, which Balaja credits as providing him with “...an excellent foundation by providing a well-rounded curriculum filled with both theoretical and practical training.”

At State’s Pitt State, Krishna was able to develop and build on skills that aided in his success at earning a position at the high-profile company. Class sizes at PSU are intentionally small to allow for personalized experiences.

“The professors would always put their best effort in making sure that the students will be able to develop critical-thinking and analytical skills,” Balaji said.

In addition to excelling academically, Balaji took advantage of networking opportunities and career events provided at Pitt State, to aid him in determining his career path.

“The icing on the cake was the chance I got to network with alumni and other professionals in the field through career day events, which greatly helped me gain insight about my career path,” he said.

Balaji enjoys working at Tesla and is able to work with, as he describes, “an amazing team of passionate people who are driven by the need to change the world in ways not imaged before.”