

Les Eckert, MBA, CEPC, CCE, AAC, Academic Director for Culinary Arts & Baking Programs at Great Lakes Culinary Institute. Les Eckert is a Certified Executive Pastry Chef and Certified Culinary Educator. Chef Eckert has been in the culinary industry for over 30 years, has earned a BA in Culinary Management and a MBA with an emphasis in Hospitality Management, and is the current Director of Great Lakes Culinary Institute. Previous work experiences have encompassed pastry and baking work in fine dining establishments, artisan bread bakeries and Marriott hotels, owner and operator of a dessert catering company, community culinary instructor and higher education pastry instructor and culinary school program director. Chef Eckert volunteers time as an active member of a number of local food initiatives, the American Culinary Federation and American Culinary Federation Education Foundation. This Floridian moved to Michigan in 2019 and is enjoying the up north experience.