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New Round of Workforce Training Money Available

Improvements Make It Easier to Get Workers Trained

More than 80,000 Ohio employees have already been trained through the Ohio Incumbent Workforce Training Voucher Program and now the state is making a third round of funding available to businesses. This program will make \$29.4 million available in Fiscal Year 2015 for employers to enhance the skills of their employees.

Today, businesses can begin the application process. The amount of paperwork required up-front has been reduced from previous funding rounds, and companies will have five additional months to complete the training.

“Training our current workforce is essential in keeping Ohio competitive as technologies continue to advance,” said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency.

Training in the following high-demand fields is eligible: Advanced Manufacturing, Aerospace and Aviation, Automotive, Back Office, BioHealth, Corporate Headquarters, Energy, Financial Services, Food Processing, Information Technology and Services, Logistics, Polymers and Chemicals, and Research and Development. Training opportunities include, but are not limited to, classes at an accredited education institution, operational skills training, certification processes and equipment training. Training can occur at the employer's facility, at the training provider's facility or at a third-party site.

This is a reimbursement program. The Ohio Development Services Agency will reimburse the employer for up to 50 percent of the eligible training costs, up to \$4,000 per employee, after 1) the employer pays the full cost of the training, and 2) the employee successfully completes the training. The maximum amount an employer may qualify for in a fiscal year is \$250,000. The company must be in operation for at least 12 months in Ohio to participate.

Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis by submitting the online application beginning on September 30, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

For more information about the Ohio Incumbent Workforce Training Voucher Program visit http://development.ohio.gov/bs/bs_wtvp.htm and click on the link for Round 3.

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