



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Attention Job Seekers: *Skill Up for Manufacturing* Pre-Apprentice Program Registration Deadline Extended**

*Apply by June 10 for June 21 – July 23 at Gateway Community College & Eli Whitney Technical High School, New Haven/Hamden, CT*

*Apply by July 7 for July 26 – Aug. 27 at Middlesex Community College & Vinal Technical High School in Middletown, CT*

**MIDDLETOWN, Conn. – June 2, 2021** – Skill Up for Manufacturing, the free five-week pre-apprentice program has extended registration deadlines for two upcoming cohorts and is calling on Connecticut job seekers 18 years and older to visit [www.workforcealliance.biz/skillup](http://www.workforcealliance.biz/skillup) and register.

Offered by Workforce Alliance in partnership with manufacturers and community colleges in South Central CT, Skill Up for Manufacturing boasts an 80 percent job placement rate. Coursework is developed in close coordination with participating manufacturers and includes basic trade knowledge, workplace skills and production readiness including shop math fundamentals and semi-precise/precise measurement.

[Skill Up for Manufacturing](#) pre-apprentice graduates complete hands-on and classroom activities and earn 175 Pre-Apprenticeship hours through the CT Department of Labor, plus OSHA 10 and Six Sigma certifications. Support services are available to participants while in classroom training including travel reimbursement, daycare assistance and required books, tools and clothing. Additionally, there is a cash stipend awarded to participants for successful completion of training benchmarks. Candidates must be Connecticut residents at least 18 years old with a high school diploma or GED and eligible to work in the United States. Interested students can find the online application and more program information at [www.workforcealliance.biz/skillup](http://www.workforcealliance.biz/skillup)

Connecticut manufacturing employers including Barnes Aerospace, ASML, Component Engineers, Flex LTD, Hobson Motzer, Light Metal Colors, Penn Globe, and PTA Plastics have recently hired pre-apprentices in roles including machine operators, machine maintenance mechanics, quality inspectors, and press assistants. Manufacturer also have a vital role in designing the course work and recruiting from classes. Workforce Alliance manages the program and manufacturers can access pre-screened candidates and hiring incentives including 90% wage reimbursement during new hire training. Companies also participate in a Skill Up for Manufacturing recruitment events.

The Skill Up for Manufacturing model is based on a successful manufacturing pipeline initiative that has placed close to 2,000 people into jobs in Eastern CT at over 100 companies.

## **Manufacturing Employers Wanted**

Recruiting, screening and hiring incentives are available and manufacturers can qualify for on-the-job training reimbursement that covers a new hire's wages during training. Manufacturing employers and organizations interested in providing training content and participating in the program are encouraged to contact Business Services Specialist Steve Johnson at (203) 867-4030 x 233 or visit: [www.workforcealliance.biz/skillup/employers](http://www.workforcealliance.biz/skillup/employers).

## **About Workforce Alliance**

Workforce Alliance is the policy and oversight organization responsible for creating a comprehensive, community-wide response to the challenges of building a highly skilled workforce in South Central CT, which comprises 30 towns. Board members include business owners, local elected officials and community leaders in order to meet changing local needs and shifting national economic and workforce trends. Workforce Alliance oversees four American Job Center South Central CT locations in New Haven, Meriden, Middletown and Hamden. For more information visit [workforcealliance.biz](http://workforcealliance.biz)

*South Central CT includes 30 towns: Bethany, Branford, Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Haven, Essex, Guilford, Haddam Hamden, Killingworth, Madison, Meriden, Middlefield, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Old Saybrook, Orange, Portland, Wallingford, West Haven, Westbrook and Woodbridge.*

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