



Bridgeport Step Up Conference at Housatonic Community College Outlines Employer Programs

WETHERSFIELD, September 4, 2015 – Bridgeport-area employers interested in learning more about the state’s Subsidized Training and Employment Program (Step Up) as well as other incentives and opportunities to help expand their business are invited to a free September 24 conference being held at Housatonic Community College, 900 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport.

Registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 7 a.m. for the 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. conference, which is being hosted by Mayor Bill Finch, State Senators Ed Gomes and Marilyn Moore and State Representatives Andre Baker, Jack Hennessey, Christopher Rosario, Ezequiel Santiago, Steven Stafstrom and Charles Stallworth. It is also sponsored by Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, Secretary of the State Denise Merrill, the Connecticut Department of Labor, Department of Economic and Community Development, the state’s Workforce Investment Boards and a variety of local organizations and community partners.

“Connecticut offers so many beneficial programs to our employers, and we want to make sure the business community is aware of the many opportunities,” said State Labor Commissioner Sharon M. Palmer. “Programs include funds for manufacturing apprenticeships, grants to train your current workforce, low interest financing under the Small Business Express Program, tax incentives for energy and equipment upgrades, wage reimbursements and training grants for hiring new employees, and job expansion tax credits – and all are designed to benefit your business.”

Following the Bridgeport Step Up conference, a commercial lenders panel offered by the Community Capital Fund will be offered at 10:30 a.m., followed by a special tour of the college’s Advanced Manufacturing Center.

Additional conferences scheduled in September are being held in a number of local communities. Those unable to attend the Bridgeport event are welcome to pre-register for any of these Step Up events:

September 10 in Middletown (Middlesex Community College)

September 15 in New Haven (Gateway Community College)

September 17 in New Milford (United Bank Building)

September 22 in Hampton (EASTCONN)

Those planning to attend are asked to pre-register online by September 23 by visiting the Step Up website at www.StepCT.com, while questions or requests can be directed to Linda Felix at linda.felix@ct.gov or (203) 455-2708.

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Media Contact: Nancy Steffens, Communications Director
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114
Phone: (860) 263-6535 – Fax: (860) 263-6536 – www.ct.gov/dol
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