



MEDIA RELEASE

CT Department of Labor *Communications Office*
Sharon M. Palmer, Commissioner

Still Time to Register for East Hartford (June 11) and Torrington (June 12) Step Up Conferences

WETHERSFIELD, June 4, 2014 – There is still time for employers in the East Hartford and Torrington areas to register for two free Step Up conferences to be held Wednesday, June 11 in East Hartford and Thursday, June 12 in Torrington. The East Hartford event will be held in the auditorium at Goodwin College at 1 Riverside Drive while the June 12 conference is in the auditorium of the University of Connecticut’s Torrington campus, 855 University Drive.

During registration, which begins at 7 a.m., a continental breakfast will be served and employers can visit information booths and network with other attendees. The conference will be held from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Conference topics include incentives such as a six-month wage subsidy and training grants under the Subsidized Training and Employment (Step Up) program, low-interest financing through the Small Business Express Program, job expansion tax credits, guidelines for becoming a State of Connecticut vendor, and tax incentives for equipment purchases. Assistance for business planning, market analysis services and website design will also be featured.

“We are pleased to bring together in one place information about many of the innovative resources available to Connecticut employers,” explains State Labor Commissioner Sharon M. Palmer. “By providing a variety of short presentations, employers will have the opportunity to determine which programs are the best fit for their business. Our goal is to ensure employers are aware of state services that can help them to expand their companies, put people back to work, and ultimately benefit our economy.”

In addition to presentations, program representatives will be there to answer questions and determine how employers can optimize services offered to Connecticut small businesses.

The East Hartford Step Up conference is being hosted by area legislators, including State Rep. Gary LeBeau, State Rep. Henry Genga, State Rep. Tim Larson, State Rep. Jason Rojas, and State Rep. Prasad Srinivasan. In Torrington, legislators hosting the conference include State Sen. Roberta B. Willis, State Rep. Michelle L. Cook, and State Rep. Jay M. Case.

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Sponsors for both events include Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Lt. Gov. Nancy Wyman, Secretary of State Denise Merrill, the Connecticut Department of Labor, the state's Workforce Investment Boards, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, and a number of community partners and organizations.

To pre-register, please visit the Labor Department's Step Up website at www.StepCT.com and select the preferred conference location. Questions about the East Hartford Step Up conference can be directed to Mark Polzella at mark.polzella@ct.gov or (860) 256-3699. Employers with questions about the Torrington conference can contact Michelle L. Caffé at michelle.caffe@ct.gov or (203) 437-3308. For planning purposes, employers are asked to pre-register by June 10, although walk-ins are welcome on the day of each event.

Additional Step Up conferences are planned for the following locations:

- **Thursday, June 19**
Simsbury High School Auditorium, 34 Farms Village Road, Simsbury
- **Tuesday, June 24**
Three Rivers Community College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich
- **Thursday, June 26**
Four Points by Sheraton, 275 Research Parkway, Meriden

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