

News

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GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR MONROE COUNTY BUSINESSES TO HIRE, TRAIN, AND TRYOUT NEW EMPLOYEES

Rochester, NY, February 9, 2023— As our local economy continues to find creative ways to close the workforce gap, Monroe County and RochesterWorks continue to offer grants to Monroe County Businesses to hire, train, and even try out new employees. As the region continues to rebuild and grow in the aftermath of these past few economically challenging years, these grants can be used by local businesses to supplement the cost of hiring and training new employees, upwards of several thousand dollars per new hire.

Both RochesterWorks and the Monroe County Department of Economic Development offer extensive workforce development programs, some in partnership with the County of Monroe, that make use of local resources like our colleges and greater communities to match hiring employers with qualified job seekers.

“Workforce development is a core focus as we Bring Monroe Back from the economic hardships of the COVID pandemic—and this grant program from RochesterWorks is a great way to help businesses grow their own workforce and strengthen our flourishing economy. Thank you to RochesterWorks and Executive Director Dave Seeley for helping our local businesses grow,” **said Monroe County Executive Adam Bello.**

RochesterWorks offers grant funding of up to \$5000 for area businesses seeking to hire, train, and tryout new employees. These free grant programs are available to businesses in the City of Rochester and Monroe County looking for resources to help grow their teams.

“In 2023, as the economy continues to recover, businesses may find themselves strapped for resources and competing for talent. The On-the-Job Training Grants and Work Experience Tryout Grants offered through RochesterWorks help businesses in this position by providing financial and other supports during the hiring process. We are thrilled that we can offer this vital resource to area businesses and help them find the employees that they need to succeed and grow,” **said Dave Seeley, Executive Director, RochesterWorks.**

ROCHESTER WORKS-SPONSORED GRANTS

On-the-Job Training Grants

The On-the-Job Training Grant provides help to businesses looking to hire, train, and upgrade the skills of new hires that do not initially meet the minimum qualifications for a specific job. RochesterWorks staff help participating businesses identify or screen potential candidates for open, full-time positions. If the business decides to move forward with hiring one of these candidates, then the On-the-Job Training Grant can be used to offset the cost of training the new hire for up to four months, through a reimbursement of up to \$5,000.

Work Experience Tryout Grants

The Work Experience Tryout Grant enables your business to try out candidates you are considering for permanent employment to see if their skills and work habits are a fit for your business and culture. A candidate will work on-site at your location but will be employed by a staffing agency and have their wages 100% subsidized and paid for by RochesterWorks. Work Experience Tryouts can last up to four (4) weeks with the goal of having the employee transition into permanent employment with your company.

To learn more about RochesterWorks' grant programs and to apply, contact bizservices@rochesterworks.org or 585-258-3500 ext. 2000.

MONROE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-SPONSORED GRANTS

Monroe On The Job

The training program initiative is available to companies, participating in qualified certification programs which lead to an industry recognized certification or transferable credential. Program expenses are eligible for reimbursement, up to \$4,000 per employee or \$16,000 per company. Employers must match at least 50% of the total program cost. Employee wages are not eligible training costs. Funds will be paid directly to the Employer upon satisfactory evidence of training completion.

Monroe Manufactures Jobs Program

The Monroe Manufactures Jobs program connects graduates of the Monroe Community College Applied Technology Center or Rochester Arc & Flame Center with local manufacturing companies by providing both the employer and the employee a \$1,500 bonus. Company must be a manufacturer headquartered in Monroe County and retain the employee for one full year after date of hire.

RETAIN

RETAIN (Rochester Emerging Talent and Innovation Network) Monroe offers recent graduates a \$2,000 lump sum payment after having lived, worked, and networked in Monroe County for one year. These grants are offered directly through Monroe County employers, with the stipulation that the new hire have at least a four-year degree that is directly related to their position in Advanced Manufacturing, Life Sciences, Optics, Photonics and Imaging (OPI) or Software/IT.

Mpower

A partnership between Monroe Community College and Monroe County directly responds to the need to grow the local workforce. Mpower focuses on the upskilling and reskilling of county residents through accessible training based on local market demand. Mpower focuses on providing solutions to displaced workers, or career-changers, by helping train and transition workers into high-demand, self-sustaining jobs with local employers and offers a hands-on approach to training and upscaling for your company.

To learn more about Monroe County's Workforce programs and to apply, visit

<https://monroecountybusiness.org/incentives-and-programs/workforce-development/> or call 585- 753-2000.

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About RochesterWorks

RochesterWorks is Monroe County's largest employment and training initiative. We are a nonprofit dedicated to providing free employment and workforce services to job seekers, youth, and businesses in Rochester and the Greater Monroe County Area.

Learn more about RochesterWorks, our programs, events, and services by visiting www.rochesterworks.org or by calling our Career Center at 585-258-3500. (TTY: 800-662-1220). RochesterWorks is an equal opportunity program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

About Monroe County Department of Economic Development

For more information about Monroe County Department of Economic Development, visit <https://monroecountybusiness.org/>.