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## **NEW TRAINING GRANT OFFERED BY ROCHESTERWORKS FOR MONROE COUNTY BUSINESSES**

***COMIDA funded grant offers up to \$10,000 to advance employee skills***

**Rochester, NY, February 7, 2024**—[RochesterWorks](http://RochesterWorks), the region's largest nonprofit provider of workforce and career services, is now accepting applications from Monroe County businesses for the NEW RochesterWorks Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) Grant Program. The IWT Grant provides up to \$10,000 in funding for area businesses to provide existing employees with more advanced skills through additional education and training.

This new grant program was made possible, in part, through \$245,000 in grant funding provided through the County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency (COMIDA) with the support of County Executive Adam Bello.

For businesses to remain competitive in the current economy, a well-trained workforce—one that is up to date on industry-recognized skills—is necessary. The IWT Grant Program is free and available to businesses in the City of Rochester and Monroe County looking for resources to help upskill current employees.

“Retaining employees is as important as recruiting them for the sustained success and growth of any organization,” said **Dave Seeley, Executive Director, RochesterWorks**. “That’s why RochesterWorks is thrilled to be able to offer Monroe County businesses the Incumbent Worker Training Grant and through it, the opportunity for these businesses to provide their employees with training that keeps them competitive and well-skilled. The benefits to Rochester for supporting these businesses that our local economy depends on, while also nurturing the skilled and engaged workforce that keeps it going and growing are many. Our thanks to County Executive Bello and the COMIDA Board for their leadership to make this possible.”

Designed to support short-term training for employed workers in in-demand and industry-recognized skill areas, this is a game-changing opportunity for local employers. Eligible businesses can receive up to 90% reimbursement in costs for preapproved, training-related activities, up to a maximum of \$10,000, for training that is completed within six (6) months.

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis through late 2024 or until funds are exhausted.

RochesterWorks will also continue to offer grant funding of up to \$7,500 for area businesses seeking to hire new employees through the On-the-Job Training (OJT) and Work Experience Tryout Grant Programs.

Visit the [Services for Business](#) page on the [RochesterWorks website](#) or contact the RochesterWorks Business

Services Team at [bizservices@rochesterworks.org](mailto:bizservices@rochesterworks.org) or 585-258-3500, x2000 to learn more about these and the other business-centered services and programs offered by RochesterWorks.

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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](http://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.*