

## **Governor Wolf Announces New Investments in Workforce Training**

*May 05, 2017*

**Harrisburg, PA** – Governor Tom Wolf today announced the award of \$2 million in reemployment funding for 14 educational institutions that have demonstrated a track record of training and placing adult students into occupations that are in high demand by local employers.

“These funds provide for equipment purchases and upgrades to provide adult students with industry-relevant training to better meet the needs of local employers,” Governor Wolf said. “The grants also allow local colleges and career and technical institutions to increase training capacity for in-demand programs to close the skills gap for local manufacturers in high-priority occupations.”

Approved through the Department of Labor & Industry, Tech Grants are used to support equipment purchases and/or upgrades at Pennsylvania’s post-secondary career and technical centers, and colleges of technology to more effectively prepare adult students for entry into Pennsylvania’s competitive employment marketplace.

“Acquiring industry-relevant skills is one of the key factors to career success in today’s economy,” Department of Labor & Industry Secretary Kathy Manderino said. “Providing the right training on the most up-to-date equipment for high-demand occupations ensures that employers have access to a robust pipeline of qualified talent.”

One of the recently awarded grants will be used to purchase equipment for the adult Welding Program at the Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center to benefit individuals in the program, local employers, individuals seeking industry training and those seeking industry certifications in the Southern Alleghenies region of the state.

“These grant funds will enable students to receive state-of-the-art training in important phases of the industrial welding processes,” said Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center Executive Director Dr. Donna M. Miller. “The addition of new equipment will help students develop skills to the level required for American Welding Society (AWS) certification.”

Following is a list of Tech Grant winners and amounts awarded by local workforce development boards:

**Bedford County Tech Center** – A \$45,500 grant was awarded to increase and expand the current CNC Machining Course.

**Bucks County Community College** – A \$199,796 grant was awarded to purchase and install new equipment to train adult workers for high-priority occupations in metalwork, machining and other manufacturing and industrial skills.

**Clearfield County Career & Technology Center** – A \$200,000 grant was awarded to purchase equipment to expand the Machine Tool Technology/Machinist and Welding Technology programs.

**Community College of Philadelphia** – A \$200,000 grant was awarded to purchase equipment to increase the capacity at the college, and regionally, to train for gas distribution pipeline mechanic jobs.

**Delaware County Community College** – A \$199,465 grant was awarded to purchase six pieces of equipment to strengthen the college's Process Quality Control certificate program.

**Indiana County Technology Center** – A \$191,927 grant was awarded to purchase equipment to prepare students for entry-level and advanced welding and machining positions in petrochemical, construction, advanced manufacturing, and other industry segments.

**Laurel Technical Institute** – A \$163,318 grant was awarded to purchase equipment for the institute's welding and fabrication with pipeline technology program, electrical technology, respiratory therapy, clinical medical assistant and network administration & security programs.

**Lehigh Career & Technical Institute** – A \$200,000 grant was awarded to purchase equipment to prepare students for the local electromechanical/mechatronics industrial maintenance workforce.

**Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center (GACTC)** – A \$58,060 grant was awarded to purchase equipment for the adult Welding Program at the GACTC.

**Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center** – A \$61,334 grant was awarded to purchase equipment in the Welding Program.

**Northampton Community College** – A \$200,000 grant was awarded to purchase equipment and supplies that meet technological standards in two diversified manufacturing programs: Computer Aided Design and Applied Quality and Standards.

**Schuylkill Technology Center** – A \$121,500 grant was awarded to purchase and integrate a TranSim™ VS6 truck driving simulator to enhance entry-level driver training, provide refresher safety training, conduct real world training, and sustain career pathways.

**Somerset County Technology Center** – A \$50,000 grant was awarded for the purchase a JLG 450AJ articulating boom lift.

**Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology** – A \$109,000 grant was awarded to acquire equipment to upgrade the metal fabrication/welding student training laboratory and revise related curriculum.

For more information on L&I's Tech Grants

visit: <http://www.dli.pa.gov/Businesses/Workforce-Development/grants>.