

Drive for 5 Quarterly Provider Meeting

Adult Career Pathways

Date: 4/8/2025

Icebreaker: What incredibly ordinary thing have you never done?

Welcome



❖ DEED Staff Introductions

- Ann Meyers; Director of Adult Career Pathways ann.meyers@state.mn.us
- Jenilee Drilling; ACP Lead Program Coordinator jenilee.drilling@state.mn.us
- Vanessa Roman; ACP Lead Program Coordinator vanessa.roman@state.mn.us
- Beth Bidingier; ACP Grant Coordinator beth.bidingier@state.mn.us
- Ama Akakpo; Director of Employment & Training Division ama.akakpo@state.mn.us

Employer Engagement:

- ❖ Liz Jennings (Liz.jennings@state.mn.us)- Employer Engagement Supervisor CareerForce Division
 - Employer Engagement Specialists Updates
 - Our email address to share publicly: Employer.Engagement.DEED@state.mn.us
 - Our webpage <https://www.careerforcemn.com/employer-engagement>

Program Updates:

- ❖ Contract Extensions
 - Coordinators are working hard on the extensions of SFY2025 funds. As a reminder, SFY2024 funds will expire 6/30/2025 and cannot be extended past that date.
 - Take some time before June 30th to think about how you will spend out your first half of funding allocation and plan.
 - Be mindful of your Admin cost category so that it does not exceed 10% of the total award or 10% of the expended amount, *whichever is less*.
 - Focus the time extension on training completion, job placement, and retention.
 - Reach out to your Coordinator with any questions.
- ❖ Quarterly Reports; next report due April 30th for Jan-Mar quarter

- Submitting a progress report each quarter is a requirement of your contract with DEED. Per State of Minnesota's Office of Grants Management [policy 08-09](#) "Grant payments shall not be made on grants with past due progress reports unless the state agency has given the grantee a written extension."
- ❖ Job Quality Incentive payment
 - When requesting payment for either the Job Placement or the 90 Day Retention, please make sure that you have uploaded an employment verification (i.e., pay stub, offer letter, completed employment verification form, or another verifiable document from the employer) into the participant's Workforce One Electronic Document Storage (EDS).
- ❖ Part 1 providers, please put in the chat the anticipated completion date of your credentialed training and the credential your participants will attain at the conclusion.
 - *See [Training and End Dates](#) section below.*

What's going well? What improvement ideas do you have?

- ❖ Beth to lead the conversation.
 - Thank you for all the great suggestions, experiences, and ideas! The ACP Team is committed to ensuring all programs meet participant, statutory, and Grantee needs.

Resources:

Adult Career Pathways webpage <https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/adult-career-pathways/>

Kim Chung – St Paul Chamber of Commerce • kchung@stpaulchamber.com / melissa@stpaulchamber.com (We want to help with employer connections!)

Melissa McLean - St Paul Chamber of Commerce • <https://web.stpaulchamber.com/events/LevelUpYoung%20Adult%20Career%20and%20Resource%20Fair-2454636/details>

Liz Jennings – DEED • If any of your hiring events / job fairs are open to the public, please post them on <https://www.careerforcemn.com/jobfairs> using the link that says, "Add your event."

John LeTourneau – Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce • Anoka Area Chamber has multiple leads for careers in Manufacturing. contact me - john@anokaareachamber.com

Employer Engagement:

- ❖ Lena Balk – CareerForce Help Desk & Employment Services Manager - Training Program Finder Demo lena.balk@state.mn.us <https://www.careerforcemn.com/training-programs>

Next meeting: July 8th, 2025

Please send agenda items or information you want to share to the group. Ann.Meyers@state.mn.us

Trainings and End Dates

Faribault Education Center - Dawne Buttera • Nuclear Technology certificate June 2025, LPN June 2025. Students seem to be aware of many job opportunities, but connections are always welcome!

Anoka JTC - Christopher Staples • Human Services Certificate, 30 June 25 and OSHA/Welding Certificate, April 2025; CDL Class B, April 25

Augsburg University - John Anderson • MSW Degree in mid-May and participants will be looking for social work positions in K-12 schools.

Lutheran Social Service - Steve Kaari • Anticipation date is unknown as this we have a rolling enrollment schedule, not a formal cohort. Participants will receive the Child Development Associate credential for Early Childhood Education (CDA)

Hired - Andrea Peterson • Certified Production Tech credential (Hired's semiconductor manufacturing pathway) completes June 12. Likely placements with employer partners Seagate, Skywater, and Polar.

Hennepin Technical College - Leslie Price • First cohort will be completed in Aug of 2025. The first 6 students will have a CNC operator certificate. We will have a second cohort of 6 students with the same certificate completed by June 2026. I need to connect with manufactures to consider hiring the students that graduate.

SW Minnesota Private Industry Council - Carrie Bendix – 4/8/2025 2:26 PM • Most are graduating spring semester in healthcare

Career Solutions - Kim Randall • Completed Dec. 2024, credentials attained certificate of completion of Manufacturing Foundations and 2nd cohort completing May 2025 Welding Diploma from SCTCC. OSHA 10 for 1st cohort. Multiple job fairs, employers involved with our Discovery Days for Welding and Manufacturing to discuss the industries provide networking in the Central MN area.

City of Duluth - Betsy Hill • In Duluth, we are working with CDL Class B students and students working toward bachelor's and master's degrees with goals of becoming K-12 and/or Special Education Teachers. The end dates for trainings vary depending on the student. We've been working closely with the local Duluth School District (ISD 709) to place teachers locally but some students are interested in opportunities in the Metro area. For CDL we could always use more connections to provide options to students.

KOM - Sara Johnson • KOM CDL - we have a group of 4 just getting their CDL licenses right now; 4 more will be getting by mid-May 2025; we will have another group of 4 in late June 2025; another for likely early Aug 2025; then 2 more groups of 4 in early 2026. The more job leads we have the better! We always want more (CDL class A).

KOM - Lisa Gibson • Class A CDL; KOM is located in Roseville & clients are mostly located in St. Paul and East Metro. We would like to get connections to employers who are specifically open to hiring people with little to no experience (CDL Class A is what I'm thinking of specifically, but imagine it applies to other programs as well).

Alexandria Technical & Community College - Linda Muchow • Carpentry Certificate: June 2025, Welding Certificate: June 2025, Cisco Networking Certificate: Happening now, Cisco Cybersecurity Certificate: June 2025-August 2025. Location of participants: White Earth Nation & surrounding Counties. Any and all help is welcome!

Rural MN CEP - Stacy Belen • RMCEP WDA 2 has approximately 10 anticipated to complete their training May 2025. Various credentials: RN, LPN, Heavy Equipment Operator, Dental assistant, Medical Sonographer, Plumbing, etc. Some potential job offers already. But I agree, the more leads we have, the better. Thank you!

Intermediate School District 917 - Marci Levy-Maguire • Special Education Teaching Licensure - varied exit times for individuals. We DEFINITELY have jobs available for graduates of our program!

Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce - Jon Althoff • DCR Chamber working with Dakota County Technical College, folks are completing 17-hour Multicultural Leadership Training certificate. These are DCR Member employees currently employed and not looking for employment. With our non-white population approaching 50% from 30% today, this training is essential to gain and hold employees.