

New training program for entry-level jobs holding info sessions

Tuesday at 1 p.m. and April 30 at 4 p.m.

Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — A training program that's equipping unemployed and underemployed residents with manufacturing and work readiness skills will hold two information sessions this month.

Anyone interested in learning how to enroll in the program, which trains people so they can fill open entry-level jobs at local companies, can attend a session on Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Franklin-Hampshire Career Center.

Another information session, both for this program and for an advanced manufacturing training program, will take place on April 30 at 4 p.m. in the Greenfield Community College Downtown Center. Both programs are free for qualified applicants.

In the 80-hour "foundational manufacturing" training program, students will learn about manufacturing-specific uses of math and measurement tools and learn how to use materials efficiently.

They'll participate in an Occupational Safety and Health Administration certification program and receive work-readiness training on topics like resumes, cover letters and professionalism in the workplace.

It's designed to both train people directly for jobs — in careers like production workers, assembly technicians, shipping and receive clerks — at businesses that include Bete Fog Nozzle, Hillside Plastics and New England Natural Bakers. Some of those jobs have yearly wages between \$21,000 and \$28,000, said GCC Workforce Development Director Alyce Stiles.

To learn more, go to www.gcc.mass.edu/fmi.