

**Advanced Manufacturing Industry Council Webinar
PIPELINE Program - Department of Labor and Industry
February 21, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.**

Welcome and Introductions: Heather McGannon

PIPELINE Program updates: Annie Welch

New to the team are PIPELINE program consultants, Dan Solomon and Kathleen Gordon, who are working on reaching out to new and existing partners by meeting one on one, presenting to employers, association meetings, chambers of commerce and other groups. Our team is in the beginning stages of designing tools and formalizing processes to streamline communication to move the PIPELINE forward. Heather McGannon continues to guide and advise much of the PIPELINE Program work.

Advanced Manufacturing Industry Council Updates – Annie Welch and Dan Solomon

The PIPELINE team wants to be a stronger resource for employers. The more information the employers provide, the better we can help. Employers noted new developments in the industry:

- Need for automation/robotics to build products faster and more efficiently demands skilled labor – which is sometimes difficult to find;
- PIPELINE program works well to facilitate the use of web-based training tools;
- Worked well to bring in instructor to facility to lead training instead of making employees go off-site;
- Positive use of PIPELINE and MAI (Minnesota Apprenticeship Initiative grants simultaneously).

Workforce challenges:

- Soft skills sometimes lacking: employees' on-time arrival, inappropriate cell phone use;
- Finding talent is an increasing problem. Lack of applicants forces employers into "We'll take anyone" mode. More of an issue now as the economy recovers and sales are up.

Industry Councils continue to provide direction to achieve the goals of the PIPELINE Program:

- Develop and enhance Minnesota's skilled workforce
- Establish dynamic in which employers lead the conversation
- Expand dual-training opportunities in Minnesota

Competency Councils continue to determine the eligible occupations:

- Currently six eligible
- New occupational pyramids have been drafted for the following:
 - Logistics/Supply Chain
 - Sheet Metal Fabricator
 - Safety Technician
 - Process/Quality Improvement
 - Machinist (Tool and Die)
 - Human Resources Professional in Manufacturing

Our goal is to have these validated by Mid-March. We still need support from employers. The PIPELINE team is interested in ideas that work for employers to assist in validation process (i.e. survey monkey, webinar, email). Employers are welcome to contact us at any time to participate in the Competency Council work.

Dual-Training consulting is available to increase the number of dual-training programs in Minnesota. We can:

- Present to groups and individuals about PIPELINE program and resources

- Be a connector for companies who want to start a PIPELINE program – facilitate employer to employer meetings and partnerships
- Assist in finding the related instruction provider
- On the job training templates
- Tool kit to help in starting and continuing the PIPELINE program
- Support with grant applications

Dual-Training Grant updates: Jacquelynn Mol Sletten

The dual-training grant will continue with round six for new and existing grantees. (Contact Jacquelynn.Mol.Sletten@state.mn.us at the Office of Higher Education for more information). OHE has over \$3 million available. OHE is offering an onsite training opportunity on March 6 from 1-4pm. Please register online.

Final notes: Reminder about MN Apprenticeship Summit on March 7. The event is free but requires registration.

Next Advanced Manufacturing Industry Council Meeting

End of May seems to work best for most participants for the next Industry Council meeting. Please save the date for Tuesday, May 22nd, 10:00 for an in-person or remote meeting opportunity.