



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **PPWFC offers Employee Development Funding to businesses & nonprofits in El Paso & Teller counties**

*With labor force retention and recruitment an ongoing challenge, the Workforce Center brings great news: \$330,000 in funding for companies to train/upskill their staff.*

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., January 9, 2024** – The Pikes Peak Workforce Center has \$330,000 available in Employee Development Funds to award companies who want to train or upskill their current employees.

Made possible by the federal Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA), the funds must be used to provide training to employees to retain a skilled workforce or avert the need for layoffs.

During the selection process, preference is given to in-demand industries, such as manufacturing, health care, information technology, hospitality and tourism, cyber security – and to companies whose training leads to expansion of duties for employees.

Options for training include a variety of work-based, virtual or classroom training for staff that will increase the competitiveness of both employees and the business. Employers will choose the training that best meets the needs of their company and their staff.

#### **Past examples of training include (not limited to these):**

- AC/DC electricity
- Advanced hydraulic
- Advanced programmable logic controllers (PLCs)
- CNA training course
- Customized ISO
- DF01: Mongo DB Developer
- Electrical schematics
- Executive Leadership Training
- Lean manufacturing
- MCA Microsoft 365 Security w/MCE Enterprise Administration

- Motors and controls
- Multi-industry systems technician (MIST) programming
- Rapid cycle product innovation
- Six Sigma
- Total productive maintenance (TPM)
- Value stream mapping

“This presents excellent opportunities for companies in both El Paso and Teller counties,” said Pikes Peak Workforce Center’s Communications Manager Becca Tonn.

“We hope a diverse array of businesses and charitable organizations will seek this funding, aimed at enhancing their economic sustainability through employee training and skill development.”

**Employers MUST first attend one of these virtual How to Apply information sessions:**

(Register to attend at [ppwfc.org/funds-for-worker-training](https://ppwfc.org/funds-for-worker-training))

- Wednesday, January 17, 2024, from 2-3 p.m.
- Thursday, January 18, 2024, from 10-11 a.m.
- Friday, January 19, 2024, from 10-11 a.m.

**The deadline for applications is 8 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2024.**

**Announcement of funding: Friday, February 9, 2024.**

**All training for employees must be completed by Friday, June 14, 2024.**

For more information, visit [ppwfc.org/funds-for-worker-training](https://ppwfc.org/funds-for-worker-training).

### **Federal Funding for this Program**

*The percentage of the **total** costs of this Dislocated Worker program (the umbrella of Incumbent Worker Training/Employee Development Funds), which will be financed with Federal money, is 28%. The federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) supplied 100% of these funds. The dollar amount of Federal funds for the IWT program is \$330,000. Non-governmental sources supplied zero percent/zero dollars for this IWT program.*

### **ABOUT PIKES PEAK WORKFORCE CENTER**

The Pikes Peak Workforce Center is an American Job Center serving El Paso and Teller counties that connects vital businesses with work-ready job seekers and employer-driven services. We provide no-cost job seeker services from résumé assistance and mock interview training to career coaching and more.

Clients range from entry-level to professional, including youth, adults, people returning to the workforce, and those with barriers to employment. Veterans always receive priority service. In support of regional businesses, we host tailored, no-cost recruitment and hiring events including candidate sourcing, group/individual pre-employment assessments, as well as providing a job database of searchable candidate profiles. Learn more at [ppwfc.org](http://ppwfc.org).

**MEDIA CONTACT**

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