

## Ohio Workforce Guarantee Program

### Overview

The Ohio Workforce Guarantee Program (OWG) supports companies that are making investments in facilities, equipment and training that result in the retention and creation of jobs for Ohioans. The OWG is one of the few programs in Ohio that provides direct financial support to employers for training. The main goal of OWG is to train employees of Ohio companies in targeted industries resulting in focused, transferable skills and portable credentials.

### Benefits

Supports community economic development efforts through job creation and retention. Results in increased new and existing employee productivity, improved labor/management relations and a highly skilled labor pool.

### Eligibility

Must have significant training and capital investment related to creating and retaining jobs.

To participate, a company must be in the following targeted industries:

- Advanced Energy and Environmental Technologies
- Areospace and Aviation
- Agriculture and Food Processing
- Bioscience and Bioproducts
- Corporate and Professional Services
- Distribution and Logistics
- Instruments, Controls and Electronics
- Motor Vehicle and Parts Manufacturing
- Polymers and Advanced Materials
- Industry sectors identified by the Ohio Sills Bank Initiative in Region 12.

### Rate/Terms

- The OWG grant will reimburse between 75% to 100% of eligible costs of instructor salaries, tuition, instructional materials, travel, special needs and other training-related activities. Payments are made on a reimbursement basis.
- Employers have the ability to choose the training provider whether it is a company employee and/or an outside training provider.
- Technical skills, Quality, Lean Manufacturing and process improvements, industry specific safety training, and supervisory skills training are considered eligible training costs.
- The hourly base wage rate (excluding benefits) of trainees must be at least 150% of the federal minimum wage (\$7.25 as of FY2009). The current hourly base wage rate is \$10.88.
- The amount of the grant is based on the training activities and costs identified in the application. Grant awards are determined by company size and total project cost.
- The employer must meet with the Regional Workforce Director to develop an eligible training plan.

### Contact

Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber at (330) 392-6140, or  
Ohio Department of Development - Regional Workforce Director at (330) 797-6301

*This summary is prepared as a reference, and should not be construed as the actual law. For more information, contact the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber.*