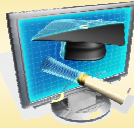


# Spring Spotlight



Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board's (EWIB's) vision of developing an entire community of lifelong learners took an important step forward this month. A partnership with the American Council on Education (ACE) brings an incredible opportunity for residents in Eastern CT through CTWorks-East's Online Learning Program to earn credits from their online work.

ACE has evaluated the credit value of many of the courses offered through Metrix, EWIB's Online Learning provider, & has approved Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC) to become a local ACE Test Site. Now, job seekers who have successfully completed certain credit-worthy online courses can make an appointment at QVCC's Testing Center to take an exam &



## Can't Afford A College Degree? Think Again

apply for an ACE Credit transcript.

*"With more & more careers requiring at least a 2-year degree, this program provides a convenient way for Eastern CT residents to get started on a degree or certificate opportunity in a cost-effective manner"* stated John Beauregard, EWIB Executive Director.

*"Getting started is simple,"* Beauregard continued, *"1) sign-up at 1 of the region's 4 CTWorks-East Centers; 2) Attend a 'Wired-for-Work ~ Metrix Learning Workshop' at the Center; 3) Select your course(s); & you're on your way."*

*"QVCC is pleased to be a part of this partnership,"* stated Dr.

Ross Tomlin, QVCC President & EWIB Board member. *"We are proud to be the 1<sup>st</sup> ACE Testing Site in Eastern CT & hope learners will use their ACE transcripts to continue their learning."*

*"Month after month, our CTWorks-East Centers continue to experience an increase in demand for computer-related training. With that kind of increased demand, & today's challenging economy, this program was the perfect solution to help address both the needs of the region's workforce ~ today & tomorrow,"* stated Gene Harper, EWIB Chairman.

## Fast Stats:

In the last 9 months Eastern CT's 4 CTWorks-East Centers have:

- Had **36,763** visits from **10,070** customers
- Scheduled **7,460** customers for **1,330** workshops
- Offering **WORKSHOPS** such as:
  - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Customer Service Skills Seminar
  - Breaking Into the High-Tech Workforce
  - Career Development & Exploration
  - Confidence Makeover
  - Education Refresher
  - Entrepreneurial Workshops
  - Financial Awareness Matters
  - Healthcare Careers Orientation
  - Manufacturing Careers Orientation
  - Math Skills
  - Online Applications ~ How To
  - Over 40 & Looking for Work
  - Professional Networking
  - Surviving Tough Times
  - Wired-For-Work Metrix Learning

## Looking For A Few Green Companies

Each of the state's 5 workforce investment areas have formed "Green Jobs Project Teams" comprised of Green employers, colleges & trainers as part of a federal Energy Sector Partnership & Training Grant. The project will implement workforce strategies that assist energy efficiency, renewable energy, & other green industries.

The EWIB Project Team recently approved a Green Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) solicitation, which was released March 15<sup>th</sup> and offers 50%-75% reimbursement to Eastern CT companies to upgrade the skills of their workers involved in "Green" technology. *"We (EWIB) pay at least half of the cost of the training directly to the company, up to \$3,000 per worker in training/\$20,000 per company. And, the workers wages paid by the company*

*"We (EWIB) pay at least half of the cost of the training directly to the company, up to \$3,000 per worker in training/\$20,000 per company. And, the workers wages paid by the company during training are eligible towards the match as well!"* stated Giménez (ECSU Dean of Continuing Education) Green Jobs Project Team Co-Chair.

*during training are eligible towards the match as well!"* stated Dr. Rochelle Giménez, Eastern CT State University (ECSU) Dean of Continuing Education.

When asked about the work of the Green Jobs Project Team, fellow Co-Chair, Chad Whitcomb (Greensulators President), stated that they are looking forward to rolling-up their sleeves as they work with the other members of the team to ensure the growth of a "Green" E/CT workforce. *"One idea the Team is discussing is an internships program*

*that will work for both students & employers. We know that hands-on experience is important to make classroom learning relevant,"* said Dr. Giménez. *"But, an internship must work for an employer who needs to get work done,"* added Whitcomb.

For now, the Team will begin its work by upgrading the skills of existing workers as they plan for future "Green" workers.

Please visit [www.ewib.org](http://www.ewib.org) for an application, or contact Tim Murney for more info at either (860) 235-7346 or [timmurney@comcast.net](mailto:timmurney@comcast.net).



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