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Federally Funded Precision Machining Course At Manchester Community College

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By JESSE LEAVENWORTH, leavenworth@courant.com
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MANCHESTER —

A federally-funded training program designed to launch students toward careers in precision manufacturing will be available at **Manchester Community College**.

MCC is among six community colleges in the state receiving part of a three-year, \$2.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, according to a news release.

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The Connecticut Manufacturing, Energy and Transportation program (CT-MET) pays for the first 16 weeks of a modular training regimen that can lead to a career in precision machining, including conventional and computer numerical control (CNC) equipment, computer-aided design, lean manufacturing, quality control or related specialties — all disciplines now in great demand, the release said.

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To qualify, an applicant must have a high school diploma or GED and pass a pre-placement assessment

The program's first 16 weeks will introduce students to the vocabulary and principles of precision manufacturing, blueprint reading, metrology (the science of measurement) and lean manufacturing, the release said.

Students also will receive at least 90 hours of hands-on training in the college machine shop, where they will learn how to use lathes, mills and computer-controlled milling machines.

At the end of the federally funded training sequence, students may continue to a more advanced level of training that can lead to a certificate in precision manufacturing and 12 credit hours toward an associate's degree in technology studies. This training includes 300 hours of study, with 150 hours in the shop learning to program and operate CNC equipment, according to the news release.

"We are currently recruiting for a cohort that will begin classes in September," Janet Alampi, MCC's director of business and industry services, said in a prepared statement. "Since the program is fully funded by the federal government, it represents a great opportunity for returning veterans as well as for unemployed and underemployed individuals."

For more information, visit <http://www.mcc.commnet.edu/manufacturing>, or call the continuing education office at 860-512-2800. To register, call program coordinator Ed Dombroski at 860-512-2814.

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