

News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Going PRO Talent Fund Information Sessions Scheduled for Northwest Michigan

TRAVERSE CITY, MI – A popular employee training fund in Michigan has a new name but will still offer \$30 million dollars businesses can use to train their workforce. The Going PRO Talent Fund (formerly the Skilled Trades Training Fund or STTF) began in 2013 to provide funds to companies for short-term, in-demand training and is not limited to “skilled trade” occupations. Training has included welding, CNC operator, CNC programmer, robotics, IT training, electronic health records, and on-the-job training for individuals to be hired.

The application period for Talent Fund grants is expected to begin in mid-September. Prior to the start of the application period, Northwest Michigan Works! is holding Employer Information Sessions to help businesses learn about the Going PRO Talent Fund. Companies will also learn how to create a solid, competitive proposal, as well as the services and assistance available through Northwest Michigan Works! throughout the Talent Fund process.

The dates and locations for the Employer Information Sessions are:

August 15	Petoskey	1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	North Central Michigan College Main Administration Building 1515 Howard Street
August 22	Benzonia	2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	BACN 2804 Benzie Hwy.
August 23	Cadillac	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Wexford-Missaukee Career Tech Center 9901 East 13th Street

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August 23	Manistee	2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Northwest Michigan Works! 1660 US-31
September 6	Kalkaska	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Kalkaska County Library 247 S. Cedar St.
September 6	Traverse City	3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Northwest Michigan Works! 1209 South Garfield Conference Room

Businesses planning to attend one of the information sessions should RSVP to: business-services@networksnorthwest.org or 231-922-6920. Please indicate the location of the information session you would like to attend.

Northwest Michigan Works!, a program of Networks Northwest, is the region's local workforce development partner serving thousands of job seekers and businesses every year. More information about the services offered by Northwest Michigan Works! is available at: NWMichWorks.org or by calling 800-442-1074.

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Dan Boss at dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: networksnorthwest.org/media

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our web site, networksnorthwest.org

Networks Northwest's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.