



GREATER NEW BEDFORD WORKFORCE BOARD

CONTACT:

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MassHire GNB Workforce Board is Lead in Expanding Certified Nursing Assistant Training in Southeastern Massachusetts

Serving as the lead applicant for MassHire Southeast Region 6, MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board was recently awarded \$469,000 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) to expand grant funded Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA) training programs in Southeastern Massachusetts. This EOHHS initiative will provide CNA training for up to 150 Massachusetts residents through March 1, 2025 and will be supported by MassHire Southeast Region 6 Workforce Boards and Career Centers (MassHire Bristol, Greater Brockton, Greater New Bedford, and South Shore).

In 2021, MassHire Region 6 Workforce Boards established CNA training programs as part of the CommCorp Healthcare Workforce Hubs (HWHubs), partly in response to the global pandemic that had compounded long-standing direct care staff shortages and availability of training providers in the region. Through this experience, MassHire Southeast Region 6 Workforce Boards identified that an open-entry model based on training providers' existing program schedules will provide participants with a variety of flexible training options best suited to serve their needs. Participants will have access to CNA training programs in New Bedford, Fall River, Brockton, Quincy and Plymouth, MA. Program formats include in-person classes or blended/hybrid online study with daytime, evening and weekend schedules available. State approved training providers have established relationships with long-term care facilities for the clinical placement portion of the programs. Each training provider also offers testing guidance and additional services to assist participants in obtaining their CNA licenses. Program participants will also have access to job placement and other support services available through our MassHire Southeast Region 6 Career Centers.

Dave Slutz, MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Development Board Chair, stated, "Working closely as a team with our other MassHire Southeast Region 6 partners has allowed us to leverage our area training resources and deliver programming that makes sense for the populations we serve."

MassHire Southeast Region 6 Career Centers is actively recruiting to place eligible participants in these free training programs. Under-employed/unemployed persons or healthcare employers interested in participating should contact Jacqueline Sylvia at (508) 979-1504 extension 116 or email jacqueline@mhgnb.com or visit <https://masshiregreaternewbedford.com/healthcare-training/> for information.



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Funding awarded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) through the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) and Human Services Workforce Development Grant Program.

MassHire Programs & Services are funded in part by US Department of Labor (USDOL) Employment and Training Administration grants as well as non-federal funded grants. (Additional details furnished upon request.)

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About the MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board

The MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board is a business-led, policy-setting board that oversees workforce development initiatives in the ten-community region stretching from Dartmouth to Wareham, MA. Appointed by New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell, the Board is composed of business, civic, education, labor, and community leaders.

The Workforce Board oversees workforce development efforts in Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Lakeville, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, and Wareham. The Greater New Bedford Workforce Investment Board is one of 16 similar Boards in Massachusetts. Workforce Investment Boards direct federal, state, and private funding for educational and occupational skills programs.