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Six EUP companies awarded training dollars

Thanks to a grant program established in 2013, six companies in the Eastern Upper Peninsula will receive more than $89,000 to help workers further improve their job skills with in-house training opportunities.

“The Skilled Trades Training Fund (STTF) is an excellent resource that helps employers provide the training that enhances their talent base. The result is more and better jobs for Michigan workers,” said Governor Rick Snyder when announcing the awards in November.

In Chippewa County, Hoover Precision Products will receive $15,600 to provide further training in the area of quality control. Precision Edge Surgical Products will receive $24,280 for several different training programs as well as funding for two apprenticeships. Positive Energy & Design will have an additional $13,850 to assist with apprenticeships, safety and management training.

In Luce County, Newberry Electrical Service will receive $6,000 to assist with two electrician apprenticeships and Northern Wings Repair Inc. will receive $6,770 for its training program.

In Mackinac County, Cedarville’s O-N Minerals will receive $22,990 for training in a number of areas, including welding, heavy equipment operation, and aggregate testing.

A total of 19 awards were given to businesses in the Upper Peninsula. The dollars are used to train existing employees, hire new employees, and provide for apprenticeship programs.

“STTF has been a real asset to businesses that have the capability of growing and thriving but need a workforce that can keep pace with change. The training that results from these grant dollars is truly an investment in the future not only of that business, but in our region and our state,” said Jeff Hagan, Michigan Works! Regional Director.

According to the state announcement, training programs funded by the program must fill a demonstrated talent need experienced by an eligible participating business. Classroom training must lead to a credential for a skill that is transferrable and recognized by the industry, and leads to permanent full-time employment or continued permanent full-time employment.

Since its inception, the Skilled Trades Training Fund has created more than 4,400 jobs and retained more than 15,000 in Michigan.

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