

Lorain County Community College (LCCC) – Elyria, OH

Award Amount: \$12,000,000

Project Name: Ohio Manufacturing Workforce Partnership

Projected Apprentices to Be Served: 5,000

Industry Focus: Advanced Manufacturing

Private Sector Partners include Manufacturing Institute, National Association of Manufacturers (MI-NAM), Ohio Manufacturers Association (OMA), and National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS), and employers including Thyssenkrupp Bilstein, Shepherd Color, MillerCoors, Meyer Tool, GE Aviation, Honda, Lincoln Electric, Vallourec, and First Solar.

Type(s) of Apprenticeship Program Proposed: Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program (IRAP)

The Ohio Manufacturing Workforce Partnership (OMWP) initiative is leveraging established and emerging regional sector partnerships to develop and expand IRAPs and other apprenticeship pathways in the advanced manufacturing industry throughout Ohio and the country. The 12 sector partnerships, which are leading on-the-ground implementation throughout the state, are prioritizing an employer engagement process that incorporates validation and third-party certification of IRAPs using the National Occupational Frameworks.

The OMWP is also facilitating a “Learning Community” that draws on the expertise of state and national partners to implement technical assistance, professional development, and evaluation to promote adoption of effective IRAP models within Ohio and nationally. Partner SkillsCommons is supporting this community by providing a customized technology platform for storing and sharing models and materials, including a professional development curriculum for training mentors. SkillsCommons is also leveraging its Women’s Outreach IMPACT*community* to support the project’s goals for serving women apprentices. In addition, building on the work of previous federal grant initiatives, the OMWP is incorporating employment readiness, manufacturing foundations, and acceleration strategies into its training approach.

At the project’s start, partner companies are hosting more than 2,300 apprentices through the 12 regional sector partnerships. National industry association partner MI-NAM (Manufacturing Institute, National Association of Manufacturers) is leading the project’s national scaling process, which includes the following components: Identifying Ohio models for expansion, such as LCCC’s TRAIN OH Columbus State Community College’s Modern Manufacturing Work Study Program, recipients of a recent NSF grant to support statewide expansion; leveraging national networks to identify expansion destinations; and facilitating program expansion.

IHE consortium members include: Belmont College, Central Ohio TC, Cincinnati State CTC, Clark State CC, Cleveland State University, Columbus State CC, Cuyahoga CC, Eastern Gateway CC, Edison State CC, Hocking College, Lakeland CC, Marion TC, North Central State College, Northwest State CC, Owens CC, Rhodes State College, Rio Grande CC, Shawnee State, Sinclair CC, Southern State CC, Stark State College, Terra State CC, U of Akron, Washington State CC, and Zane State College.