$39M in Going PRO Talent Fund grants awarded to train 30,000 workers at more than 850 Michigan businesses

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2021

Contact: **Mike Murray**, 517-275-1820

$39M in Going PRO Talent Fund grants awarded to train 30,000 workers at more than 850 Michigan businesses

Funds help Michigan employers prepare the talent they need to compete and grow; workers gain skills needed for in-demand career paths

LANSING, Mich. – Through $39,015,052 in grants from the Going PRO Talent Fund, Michigan is helping nearly 30,000 workers across the state to secure employment, industry-recognized credentials and strong wages by providing training grants to more than 850 Michigan businesses to support their high-demand, high-skill talent needs.

“Now more than ever, we need to invest in our talent and businesses to ensure strong economic recovery and growth,” Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said. “Programs like the Going PRO Talent Fund allow us to put Michiganders on the path to good paying jobs while helping Michigan employers develop the critical talent they need to compete in the global economy.”

Since the program's launch in 2014, over 3,000 Michigan businesses have received Talent Fund awards to assist in training, developing and retaining newly hired and current employees. Training must fill a demonstrated talent need experienced by the employer and lead to a credential for a skill that is transferable and recognized by industry.

The Going PRO Talent Fund has supported more than 94,000 workers with training over the years, including new hires and current workers.

“With 545,000 professional trades job openings expected through the year 2026, this fund plays a vital role in helping Michigan employers meet their talent needs by investing in homegrown workers,” Susan Corbin, acting director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) said.

LEO makes Going PRO Talent Fund awards to employers through Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs). Participating employers play an integral role in defining their key training needs, then work with the local MWAs and other partners to develop appropriate, realistic training plans.

The Going PRO Talent Fund aligns with **Governor Whitmer’s Sixty by 30 goal** to increase the number of working-age adults with a skill certificate or college degree to 60 percent by 2030.

To learn more about the Going PRO Talent Fund, visit **Michigan.gov/TalentFund**.

A list of grant recipients for the 2021 fiscal year is available online.

###

RELATED CONTENT

Gov. Whitmer Announces State will Open to Full Capacity on June 22

Gov. Whitmer Announces Credit Rating Outlook Boost as State Displays Strong Financial Position, Economic Recovery

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announces 90 manufacturing and professional services jobs in Southwest Michigan

Gov. Whitmer Signs Executive Directive Prohibiting use of MDHHS-Administered Funds for the Practice of Conversion Therapy on Minors

Gov. Whitmer Announces Record Investment to Help Families Access Safe, Quality, Affordable Child Care as Michigan Gets Back to Work

PHOTOS: Lt. Governor Gilchrist Tours Saginaw Small Businesses

Governor Whitmer Announces Award Recognizing Michigan as Top State for New Manufacturing Jobs and Investment

Governor Whitmer & Lt. Governor Gilchrist Announce Michigan has Reached a First Dose Vaccination Rate of 60%

Gov. Whitmer Announces $105.8 Million Proposal in Women's Facilities Modernization for Michigan Army National Guard, Declares June 12 Women Veterans Recognition Day

Governor Announces Plan for Historic $250 Million Investment to Modernize State Parks and Trails to Enhance Tourism, Boost Local Economies

Governor Announces Plan for Historic $250 Million Investment to Modernize State Parks and Trails to Enhance Tourism, Boost Local Economies

U.S. Department of Commerce Invests $754,840 in CARES Act Recovery Assistance to Support Medical Technology Innovators in Southeast Michigan

Governor Whitmer Makes Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Governor Whitmer Signs Bipartisan Bills Helping Veterans and their Families Continue their Careers in Michigan, Accelerating Michigan's Economic Recovery

Governor Whitmer announces XL Fleet's new fleet electrification technology center in Wixom creating nearly 50 jobs, strengthens Michigan as leader in EV research and development

Gov. Whitmer Establishes Bipartisan Task Force on Juvenile Justice Reform

Governor Whitmer Signs Bipartisan Bills to Improve Access to Mental Health Services through Michigan Crisis and Access Line

Governor Whitmer and State Officials Encourage Reviewing Lender Programs and Insurance Policies During National Homeownership Month

Gov. Whitmer Announces Preschool Funding Plan to Ensure 22,000 More Children Can Enroll in Early Education

Five Michigan Main Street communities receiving a total of $100,000 in grants for downtown improvement projects

COPYRIGHT 2021 STATE OF MICHIGAN