



NEWS RELEASE

State Senator Gary Nodler
District 32



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SEN. GARY NODLER ANNOUNCES THAT 10 AREA INDUSTRIES WILL BENEFIT FROM JOB DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

JEFFERSON CITY -- Sen. Gary Nodler, R-Joplin, has announced that the Missouri Department of Economic Development and its Division of Workforce Development has awarded a total of \$170,775 to train new and current employees in the 32nd Senatorial District.

“This is good news for Southwest Missouri,” said Sen. Nodler. “Both the businesses and the employees will benefit from these educational opportunities.”

The Missouri Customized Training Program offers funding assistance to eligible Missouri employers for the training and retraining of new and existing employees. The program is offered through the DED’s Division of Workforce Development in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The projects are operated by local educational agencies.

Companies will use the funds to pay for training programs, customized to their particular industry.

All trainees must be full-time, permanent employees – working a minimum average of 35 hours per week. Occupations for which training is requested must earn a minimum of the prevailing wage rate for similar jobs.

Overall, the purpose of the program is to increase and improve the quality of the state’s workforce through training initiatives.

Approximately 75 companies statewide have been approved to receive a total of almost \$4.5 million in customized training funds. With 10 companies receiving grants, the 32nd Senatorial District is among the leaders in receiving this funding.

Area businesses receiving funds for special training:

- Cliffstar Corporation, Joplin - \$11,500 for 30 trainees at an average wage of \$18 per hour.
- Doane Pet Care, Joplin - \$8,625 for 20 trainees at an average wage of \$21 per hour.
- FAG Automotive, Joplin - \$17,250 for 50 trainees at an average wage of \$15 per hour.
- FAG Bearings Corporation, Joplin - \$12,650 for 40 trainees at average wage of \$15 per hour.
- La-Z-Boy Midwest, Neosho - \$18,400 for 60 trainees at an average wage of \$15.25 per hour.
- Mid-America Precision Products, Joplin - \$23,000 for trainees at an average wage of \$14.45 per hour.
- Mid-Con Cables Company, Joplin - \$13,800 for 25 trainees at an average wage of \$15 per hour.
- Modine Manufacturing Company, Joplin - \$25,300 for 40 trainees at an average wage of \$14.38 per hour.
- Pechiney Plastic Packaging, Inc., Joplin - \$28,750 for 75 trainees at an average wage of \$17.44 per hour.
- Tetra Pak, Inc., Joplin - \$11,500 for 25 trainees at an average wage of \$13 per hour.

“Investing in our workforce is an important step toward ensuring economic security for all Missourians and our businesses,” Sen. Nodler said. “The training grants will allow employees to improve their skills, which will likely lead them to become better workers and will allow them to eventually earn a higher wage.”

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