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Media Contacts: Ann Harrison, Workforce Alliance, (203) 867-4030 x 242, aharrison@workforcealliance.biz
Janette Baxter, Gaffney Bennett PR, (860) 229-0301, jbaxter@GBPR.com

Registration Open for Three *Skill Up for Manufacturing* Sessions, Workforce Alliance Adds Plastics and CNC Training Options

*Five-, seven-, and 10-week training and job placement programs begin
January 21 at Middlesex Community College, January 28 at Three Rivers Community
College, and March 2 at Gateway Community College*

NEW HAVEN, CT (November 25, 2019) – Registration is open for the next series of Skill Up for Manufacturing, a free pre-apprentice manufacturing training and job placement program for Connecticut residents ages 18 and over. New for 2020 are seven- and 10-week classes with added training in plastics manufacturing and CNC machining.

Skill Up for Manufacturing is a free program of Workforce Alliance in partnership Connecticut manufacturers and community colleges in South Central CT. The program channels pre-apprentices into entry-level manufacturing jobs and provides the fundamentals that employers need, including Six Sigma certification and OSHA 10, plus a minimum of 250 pre-apprenticeship hours.

Manufacturers can qualify for on-the-job training reimbursement that covers 50 percent of a new hire's wages during training. Participants earn a stipend during the training from Workforce Alliance for attendance and completion of training milestones.

Upcoming Skill Up for Manufacturing classes include:

- **Intro to Manufacturing**, a five-week from January 21 through February 28, 2020 at Middlesex Community College in partnership with Vinal Technical School in Middletown. Classes are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Registration closes December 13.
- **Intro to Plastics Manufacturing**, a new 10-week class from January 28 through April 4, 2020 at Three Rivers Community College in partnership with Grasso Technical School in Groton. Classes are 3 to 9:30 p.m. weekdays and registration deadline is December 13, 2019. Includes 3 weeks of on-site training at Wepco Plastics in Middlefield.
- **Intro to Manufacturing and CNC**, a seven-week class at Gateway Community College from March 2 through April 17, 2020 in New Haven. Classes are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and registration deadline is January 31, 2020,

The deadline to submit applications for the first two sessions is December 13 and the third session will close on January 31. Applications are now being accepted on a rolling basis. Interested candidates can visit <http://www.workforcealliance.biz/skillup> to apply, followed by completing the required math assessment as soon as possible.

Skill Up for Manufacturing is seeking additional manufacturing employers seeing to grow their workforce. Interested organizations are encouraged to contact Business Services Specialist Steve Johnson at (203) 867-4030 x 233 to find out how to recruit candidates, provide training content and participate in the program.

Connecticut manufacturers including Southwick & Meister, Brook & Whittle, Ltd., Ametek Specialty Metal Products, Hobson Motzer, Milford Fabricating Company, Inc., Rowland Technologies, Roto-Frank Of America, Inc., Durham Manufacturing, Delmar Products, RBC Heim Bearings, Wepco Plastics, Orange Research, Drill Masters-Eldorado Tool, Inc., Energy Electronics. Collins Aerospace (UTC), Microboard Processing Inc. have hired Skill Up for Manufacturing graduates and several provide input on the curriculum.

Interested applicants can get started by applying online, completing a Manufacturing Skills Inventory Session at the American Job Centers in New Haven and Meriden, and attending an orientation. Applicants who do not score sufficiently on the initial Skills Inventory of shop math, spatial reasoning and basic ruler reading will be invited to a refresher and can retake the assessment.

Enrollment into Skill Up requires a commitment to enter the manufacturing field. Most graduates qualify for entry-level positions and receive on-the-job training for advancement. Those with prior experience or education may obtain higher-level positions.

Skill Up for Manufacturing is funded by Workforce Alliance through a grant from the Apprenticeship CT Initiative. There is no cost to trainees.

About Workforce Alliance

Workforce Alliance is the policy and oversight organization responsible for creating a comprehensive, community-wide response to the challenges of building a highly skilled workforce in South Central CT, which comprises 30 towns. Board members include business owners, local elected officials and community leaders in order to meet changing local needs and shifting national economic and workforce trends. Workforce Alliance oversees four American Job Center South Central CT locations in New Haven, Meriden, Middletown and Hamden. For more information visit workforcealliance.biz

South Central CT includes 30 towns: Bethany, Branford, Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Haven, Essex, Guilford, Haddam Hamden, Killingworth, Madison, Meriden, Middlefield, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Old Saybrook, Orange, Portland, Wallingford, West Haven, Westbrook and Woodbridge.

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