
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Food and Beverage Manufacturing and Processing



Grantee: Rochester Institute of Technology

Key Partners: Constellation Brands, Wegmans, The New York Wine and Culinary Center and its educational/industrial consortium members, New York State Food Processors Association, RochesterWorks!, Finger LakesWorks, Workforce Investment Board of Genesee, Livingston, Orleans, and Wyoming Counties, and Rochester Institute of Technology

Grant Amount: \$1,158,983

Leveraged Amount: \$7.5 million

Location of Grant Activities: New York's Finger Lakes region, including the Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo areas.

Challenge: In contrast to the region's faltering climate for traditional manufacturing jobs, high-skill food manufacturing occupations have risen an impressive 38 percent since 1983. New technologies are driving the need for higher levels of skills across the food and beverage supply chain. At present, no regional training programs or formal college or university level education programs exist to address these challenges. This gap could have long-term negative consequences, especially for the region's wine and food manufacturing sectors.

Addressing the Challenge: By leveraging existing resources to expand the training and education of the advanced food and beverage manufacturing workforce, the project will create a regional institute focused on developing industry-supported certificates and credentials. The targeted training and education programs will cut across the six industry-level competencies with a focus on enterprise and critical supply chain technologies specific to food and beverage manufacturing.

Projected Outcomes:

- Train 600 adults and 175 youth in programs validated by the Institute's advisory board
- Apply training credits earned to attain college/university level certificates, diplomas, or degrees for 100 adults and 50 youth
- Expand training and education programs available to the over 400 food and beverage processors in the Finger Lakes Region

