

UPSKILL UPDATE

A Training and Talent Development Newsletter from Mid-State's Workforce and Economic Development Division

This newsletter is designed to provide information you can use to develop your workforce talent and keep you informed about upcoming opportunities through Mid-State's Workforce & Economic Development division.

THE LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19

By Craig Bernstein, MSM • Workforce Development Manager



Leaving the College in mid-March to work from home, I, like many others, naively assumed that by late summer things would have more or less gotten back to normal—the virus would have burned itself out and everyone would be back to work. As the calendar inches closer to Labor Day, I realize now how very different our lives have become.

The Mid-State Technical College district is witnessing the economic destruction of this pandemic. The idling of the Verso Mill in Wisconsin Rapids will affect more than the 900 working men and women, and the economic repercussions will be felt up and down the supply chain as well as impact many local businesses in the community. In addition, COVID-19's impact has resulted in a large layoff from Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa.

In response to the news of the mill's closure, State Senator Patrick Testin and State Representative Scott Krug quickly gathered community leaders in their Wisconsin Rapids Together Task Force. This group has created a repository of community resources at rapidstogether.com to provide a one-stop website for dislocated workers. Please pass this website along to anyone who may be looking for assistance.

Have a topic or concern you would like us to write about? Send your article ideas to craig.bernstein@mstc.edu.

Mid-State Technical College is proud to support this workforce in any way possible. Besides providing physical space for the RapidsTogether response team, in the past month, Mid-State has hosted the dislocated workers benefits meetings and an educational resource fair. Our Adult Basic Education team, in conjunction with the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber, is also providing short videos on résumé writing, interviewing, and job seeking. They also stand ready for in-person sessions for upskilling any adult learner in career awareness, computer basics, and financial literacy.

Mid-State is committed to the community as we move through these uncertain times. The Workforce and Economic Development division remains open to assist you with any workplace training or talent development needs. Please be safe, and remember to be patient with each other.

mstc.edu
888.575.6782



**WORKFORCE & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Mid-State does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its program, activity, or employment. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:
Vice President - Human Resources; 500 32nd Street North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494; 715.422.5325 • AAEO@mstc.edu. 8/2020

TALENT DEVELOPMENT COURSES

Supply Chain Webinar

The pandemic crisis has brought the need for deeper understanding into supply chains into sharp focus. The Workforce and Economic Development division will be offering a free webinar on the basics of Supply Chain Management this month. This webinar will be offered twice, once on August 11 and again on August 18. Both hour-long sessions will start at noon.

To register, use the registration link at mstc.edu/talent-development-courses.

SHRM Certification Prep Courses

Mid-State has partnered with the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) to offer a prep course for those interested in earning their SHRM-CP or SHRM-SCP credential. These courses will be offered in the evening, switching between in-person and online sessions for maximum flexibility. Watch for more information coming soon at mstc.edu/talent-development-courses.

For more information, go to mstc.edu/talent-development-courses.



A promotional graphic for Mid-State Technical College's 'Choice Risk Free' program. In the center is a smiling woman with long brown hair wearing a blue denim shirt. To her left, a stack of three white boxes contains the text: 'SMALL IN-PERSON CLASSES', 'INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY CLASS OPTIONS', and 'ONLINE CLASSES'. To her right, another stack of three white boxes contains: 'SAVE MONEY ON UNIVERSITY TRANSFER', 'NO FEE TO APPLY', and 'REGISTER TODAY!'. The Mid-State Technical College logo is at the top center. At the bottom, the text 'EXPERIENCE CHOICE RISK FREE' is displayed in large, bold, maroon letters, with 'RISK FREE' underlined. Below this, the website 'mstc.edu/choice' is written in white on a maroon background.

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