

Description: Northeast PA Logistics & Transportation Partnership
Information One Sheet
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Formation of the Northeast PA Logistics & Transportation Partnership

Due to the significant growth of logistics and transportation firms in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region over the past few years, the region has seen a large number of career opportunities become available. These opportunities present potential employees with wonderful advancement possibilities, but they also require technical, advanced skills.

The Northeast PA Logistics & Transportation Partnership was created to formalize the process of developing these advanced skills, to better align the services provided by these firms and to more completely meet the specific requirements of the logistics and transportation industry.

The Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board received a \$150,000 Industry Partnership Grant which provided seed money to create the Northeast PA Logistics and Transportation Industry Partnership. This grant allows the Partnership the opportunity to develop a better relationship with schools and businesses in order to educate and recruit a technically advanced workforce into the logistics and transportation industry.

The Partnership's overall mission is to align economic and workforce development programs in order to meet the needs of businesses, the career goals of workers and to attract and retain quality employers in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region.

The Northeast PA Logistics & Transportation Partnership is faced with the challenge of identifying, training and retaining a qualified workforce. Current employees in these fields need to develop new, more technically superior skills if they are going to continue to grow and succeed in their careers. Prospective employees need opportunities available in order to obtain the necessary skills required for a withstanding career in the logistics and transportation industry.

The Partnership's initial program strategy will concentrate on enhancing skills of incumbent works for advancement, technical and mechanical skills and the creation of high performance organizations. **The Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board has also received a \$400, 000 Incumbent Worker Training Grant** that will allow the Partnership to provide these instructional services to current logistics and transportation employees. This grant will allow the Partnership to ensure that the industry's existing employees are current on all the necessary skills required for their positions.

The overall strategy for development of the logistics and transportations firms in Northeast PA is to focus on human resource development and technology integration. The human resource focus includes recruiting, training and retaining a qualified workforce. The focus on technology integrations assists individual firms and the industry to be completely positioned for future growth and allows them to be a step above their competition.

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-add one Partnership-

The Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board is the fiscal recipient of the funds. The Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry assists in the coordination of activities for the partnership and in the job training application process.

Area partners who worked with the Workforce Investment Board to secure the \$550,000 include, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton and Schuylkill campuses and Luzerne County Community College, and Luzerne County Workforce Investment Office and RedCo Group WIN, all of which have strong interest in strengthening the logistics and transportation segment of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

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