

JANUARY 11, 2019

Going PRO Talent Fund Awards 38 Area Businesses $983,095

Michigan's Going PRO Talent Fund (GPTF) provides competitive awards for employer responsive training that enhances talent, productivity, and employment retention while increasing the quality and competitiveness of Michigan's businesses. The Going PRO Talent Fund ensures that Michigan's employers have the talent they need to compete and grow, and individuals have the skills they need for in-demand jobs. Collaboration between the Michigan Works! Agencies, economic development, and educational partners is essential to achieving demand-driven training that addresses talent shortages hampering the growth of Michigan's industries.

38 businesses located in Genesee, Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, Shiawassee and Tuscola counties were awarded a total of **$983,095.00** to assist in funding training to enhance local workforce, increase company capacity, retain talent and acquire new work.

"The Going PRO Talent Fund award for 2019 will have a direct impact on our company's continued growth as a Michigan Mechanical Contractor. The funding is an important financial benefit for our company that helps us to retain employees through promotions, increased wages, and creates opportunities for new hires." -Cheriè Parks, Goyette Mechanical Co., Inc.

"We are very appreciative for being awarded the Going PRO Grant as this great opportunity will help advance the skillset of 6 Grabill team members. Educating and training our current employees helps to ensure our investment and commitment in their personal growth and development as well as increasing business efficiencies and capabilities that further expand our product line in the luxury window and door market." -Tammy Pepper, Grabill Windows & Doors, Inc.

"This will help us move forward in improving the skills of our employees and in turn improving our quality in our products along with increasing sales! -Colleen Langenburg, Mi-Tech Tooling, Inc.

For a complete list of Going PRO Talent Fund Awards please visit: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/wda/GoingPRO_Talent_Fund_FY19_Awards_Per