

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW YORK COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES APPLAUD GOVERNOR HOCHUL'S \$15 MILLION INVESTMENT IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

***Three NYCCT Member Colleges Among 13 Statewide Awardees; Grants Reflect
Critical Role of Community Colleges in Workforce Pipeline***

ALBANY, N.Y. — The New York Community College Trustees (NYCCT), the statewide nonprofit consortium representing trustees at 30 SUNY and 7 CUNY community colleges, today commended Governor Kathy Hochul's announcement of more than \$15 million in workforce development grants through Empire State Development's Office of Strategic Workforce Development. Among the 13 funded projects are three NYCCT member institutions — Dutchess Community College, Clinton Community College, and Onondaga Community College — whose programs exemplify the transformative workforce training mission of New York's community colleges.

Community colleges are the backbone of New York's workforce development infrastructure — accessible, affordable, and deeply connected to regional employers and industries. Today's announcement affirms what NYCCT has long championed: that investing in community college training programs is one of the most direct and effective ways to build a skilled workforce and strengthen local economies across the state.

NYCCT Member Colleges Among Round 9 Awardees

Dutchess Community College (Mid-Hudson Region) received \$1.99 million to expand microcredential pathways in electrical, advanced manufacturing, and HVAC at its new Center of Excellence for Business, Industry and Innovation (COEBII) in Fishkill. The program provides trainees with case management, stipends, transportation assistance, and job placement support through a strong network of regional industry partners.

Dutchess Community College is a proud host of NYCCT's Spring Convening on April 24, 2026, and this award underscores the college's leadership in workforce innovation and community impact.

Clinton Community College (North Country Region) was awarded \$260,799 to expand its Institute for Advanced Manufacturing's Welding Academy, which has achieved 100 percent completion and job placement rates since launching in 2022. The expansion will double yearly cohort capacity and provide trained workers to the North Country's network of more than 50 manufacturers.

Onondaga Community College (Central New York Region) received \$216,129 to purchase and install updated machinery at its Whitney Applied Technology Center, supporting a new Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining microcredential and a new one-year welding certificate. The investment will increase enrollment capacity and

hands-on training opportunities for students entering the manufacturing and construction sectors.

These grants are part of Governor Hochul's broader \$83 million investment through nine rounds of funding by the Office of Strategic Workforce Development, which has supported training for more than 20,000 New Yorkers across the state. NYCCT is proud that community colleges continue to be recognized as essential partners in meeting the demands of high-growth industries, including advanced manufacturing, clean energy, and construction.

NYCCT's member colleges serve students from every corner of New York — urban, suburban, and rural — providing accessible pathways to careers that sustain families and drive regional economies. Governor Hochul's continued investment in community college workforce programs is a recognition of that essential role, and NYCCT looks forward to working with state leaders to expand these opportunities further.

About NYCCT

The New York Community College Trustees (NYCCT) is a voluntary nonprofit consortium representing trustees at 30 SUNY and 7 CUNY community colleges across New York State. NYCCT promotes effective trusteeship, advocates for community college funding and policy priorities, and supports the vital role community colleges play in workforce development, academic access, and economic mobility for New Yorkers.

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