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**TODAY'S TOP STORIES**

**Worker training grants expanded**

By [ANDREA DECKERT](#)  
*Rochester Business Journal*  
November 21, 2006

Finger Lakes Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development has increased its grant awards and expanded eligibility to additional industries.

Businesses in the nine-county Finger Lakes region can now apply for training grants of up to \$50,000. The grants previously had a \$25,000 ceiling. The program will award a total of \$650,000 for training that can be completed within 12 months.

The board also added two industries eligible to apply: information technology and engineering. Other companies that can apply are those in the fields of optics and imaging, biotech and life sciences, food and agriculture, advanced manufacturing, alternative energy, information technology, engineering, business services and health care.

So far, seven companies in four counties have received grants, said Matthew Hurlbutt, managing director of Finger Lakes WIRED.

The collaborative was awarded \$15 million earlier this year by the U.S. Department of Labor to help create high-skill and high-wage opportunities for workers in the Finger Lakes region.

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