

Adult Education Center earns certification, adds programs

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BRISTOL — The Bristol Adult Education Center has been certified as an Eligible Training Provider Facility by the North Central Connecticut Workforce Development Board and the Connecticut Department of Labor.

The certification is a result of many hours of coordinated effort between Adult Education and Rowley Spring & Stamping with support from the Bristol Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Education and the National Spring Makers Association and many community donors.

The joint Workforce program of Adult Education and Rowley Spring began in 2014, with students working on their GEDs through Adult Ed and getting manufacturing and general workplace training through Rowley Spring, which shares a building with Adult Ed on Redstone Hill Road.

The first seven students, all from Bristol, graduated last December after receiving 60 hours of classroom training through Adult Ed and then 54 hours of hands-on training through Rowley Spring.

At that time, Jim Albert, president and CEO of the Central Connecticut Chambers of Commerce, noted that manufacturing has made a big comeback in the area recently, but manufacturers have trouble finding qualified workers who also have the proper work ethic.

There have been a lot of workforce program models in existence, but this one has many unique pieces to it, including that it is fully funded by many community partners, Albert said.

Now as an Eligible Training Provider, future programs at the Adult Education Center will include a construction program, a banking cohort, and security guard training.

In order to be certified as an eligible training provider, prospective institutions and organizations have to be approved by one or more of the state's regional workforce development boards to provide education and training to persons awarded Individual Training Accounts under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).



Bristol Adult Ed Graduation

5/28/2015 Mike Orazzi | Staff The Bristol Adult Education Graduation on Thursday night.

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