The WorkReady Credential

A collaborative project of the

St. John Valley Adult and Community Education Collaborative
(MSAD #27 and Madawaska)

And the

Aroostook/Washington County Local Workforce Investment Board
Why?

Maine’s employers insist that they need employees who not only
✓ Are skilled
✓ Can read and express themselves clearly
✓ Can use a computer
✓ Can solve problems
But who also
✓ Come to work on time
✓ Come to work on a regular basis
✓ Can work as part of a team
✓ Can manage conflict

What?

WorkReady is a training program designed with significant input and feedback from private employers. It is designed to assist participants who are having difficulty getting or keeping a job to create a viable plan for and path to sustainable employment.

WorkReady is a portable credential to tell employers that an individual has the “soft skills” necessary for success in the workplace. It’s also a credential that sets the stage for and complements basic industry-specific training and certifications.

How?

The WorkReady Credential training program addresses seven standards identified as critical to success in the workplace:
- Personal motivations and challenges to employment
- Developing a plan for employment
- Communicating effectively
- Working with other people
- Principles of getting a job
- Wages, benefits, taxes, and employee organizations
- Work-related safety information

The WorkReady Credential program is a 60-hour training with high expectations of trainees concerning attendance, attitude, punctuality, and participation.
Who?

Prospective participants qualify for WorkReady training if they:

- Achieve requisite scores in reading and math on the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) Employment Competency Series, Level C
- Are interviewed by the training facilitator and/or a member of the employer-led Steering Committee for the program
- Agree to be counseled and advised before, during, and after participation
- Agree to complete the program when entering

This WorkReady Credential Training Program is Endorsed by the Following Employers and Employment Agencies:

- Town of Fort Kent
- Northern Maine Medical Center
- Department of Health & Human Services/ASPIRE Program
- Key Bank of Maine (Fort Kent)
- Daigle Oil Company
- ACAP Employment & Training (Madawaska Site)
- MSAD #27
- University of Maine at Fort Kent
- Northern Maine Empowerment Council
- Gas-n-Go Foods, Inc.
- Northern Maine General

- Paradis’ Family Shop-n-Save, Inc.
- Town of Madawaska
- Aroostook Training & Education Coalition (ATEC)
- Quigley’s Building Supply
- Northern Maine Development Commission
- MSAD #33
- Twin Rivers Paper
- Highview Rehab & Living Center
- Country Village Estates
- Fish River Rural Health
“More workers must demonstrate higher levels of literacy, technology proficiency, and self management to function successfully in the workplace.”

--Trends and Implications for the Maine Workforce
Maine Department of Labor, 2005

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