Columbia Tech Receives Grant from Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund

WORCESTER, MA—OCTOBER 2016—Columbia Tech has been awarded a \$246,970.00 Workforce Training Grant by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. The grant is one part of \$2.4 million that has been distributed to 25 local companies for the purpose of training new or existing employees.

"With this grant, we are making a commitment to enhance the skills of our most important resource, the Caring Associates who are the engine behind our brand, referability and values," said President and CEO of Columbia Tech, Chris Coghlin. "A collaborative and well-trained workforce improves our productivity and greatly enhances our competitive viability in the domestic and world economy."

Many new and varied training classes are currently being offered as a result of the grant and they will continue for a two-year period. Columbia Tech's Caring Associates have signed up to receive training on more than 24 in-depth topics. Columbia Tech expects to create 25 additional jobs by 2018.

The Workforce Training Fund provides grants of up to \$250,000 to Massachusetts businesses to invest in skills training for employees. The intent is to encourage companies to address the training needs of their employees and create a competitive advantage for the state by enriching the skilled labor force.

"We have made workforce development a priority for Massachusetts residents to get the skills they need to prosper and for companies to have a talented pool of workers to expand," <u>said Governor Charlie Baker</u>. "The training and career-building skills provided by these investments will help bolster economic prosperity and success throughout the Commonwealth."

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About Columbia Tech

Media Contact: Jennifer Albernaz jennifer@appliedinteractive.com (508) 657-8600 x1050