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Driver Training Program to Fulfill Dire Need



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Did You Know...



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- * *Oswego County Workforce New York has computer labs for updating your resume and searching for jobs.*
- * *Many workshops are available to assist you with your job search.*
- * *Our staff are ready to help you!*

It is no secret that there has been a shortage of drivers across our nation. The supply chain, education, and public transit have all been negatively affected by the shortage. Oswego County is no exception.

Transportation availability cannot grow in our county without the presence of qualified drivers. Oswego County Workforce New York (OCWNY) partnered with Oswego County Mobility Management, Oswego County Opportunities (OCO)/Oswego County Public Transit (OPT), and CENTRO to develop a solution to the bus driver shortage in our local area.

Drivers must possess a CDL-B license with airbrake and passenger endorsement to operate a public transit bus. There are limited options for training programs in the area, which can be costly. The partners on this initiative seized the opportunity to pool their resources and offer a training program at no cost to participants, that would lead to employment, thus helping fill local employers' need for drivers.

OCWNY and Mobility Management staff recruited and assessed applicants through a rigorous screening process, enrolling 9 individuals into the training program. Participants started their permit training classes in mid-December, facilitated by OCO. Some were then interviewed by OCO and/or CENTRO to continue their driver training and obtain permanent employment upon receipt of their CDL-B license and endorsements. The remaining participants will be assisted by Mobility Management to seek employment with local school districts that are also experiencing a shortage of drivers. Heather Snow, Mobility Manager of Oswego County, sees great promise for the program in the future; "This has been an

amazing collaboration with OCWNY, Centro, Oswego Public Transit, and the School Districts to create a lucrative program that helps towards access for all, and assists with solving the bus driver shortage. I look forward to continued collaboration on future projects."

OCWNY is providing funds to assist with DMV permit and licensing fees. All participants receive a stipend during the permit class and those hired by OCO and CENTRO become clients in the OCWNY On-the-Job Training program. They receive a competitive wage and the employers are reimbursed 50-100% of those wages by OCWNY through federal training funds.

Gary Mashaw, Director of Transit Services with Oswego County Opportunities, is able to fill his empty positions with this program, "Three of the students have opted to apply for driver positions with OCO. They were hired at OCO as CDL Driver Trainees to complete CDL skills DMV road test. Once they are fully Commercial Driver Licensed, they will move into permanent Transit Driver positions".

This training program was developed in response to a need and is helping solve an issue for local employers and a public service. If your industry or business needs specialized training or recruitment programs to establish a qualified workforce, contact OCWNY employment staff at ocwny@oswegocounty.com or 315-591-9000 to discuss service opportunities.



200 NORTH SECOND STREET
FULTON, NY 13069
www.ocwny.org
ocwny@oswegocounty.com



PHONE 315-591-9000
TTY 315-591-9247
FAX 315-591-9009
FAX 315-591-9024

SUNY Oswego Students Provide Free Tax– Return Assistance

SUNY Oswego's IRS-certified Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will return to provide free tax assistance for the community in Oswego and Fulton this spring.

One change is that those signing up will have to call 315-596-2551 to leave a message with their name and phone number to schedule an appointment. All messages will be returned within 24 hours.

SUNY Oswego students and advisers look forward to getting back to this vital community service.

Locations, dates and times include:

- **Fulton:** Oswego County Offices, 200 North Second St. on Tuesdays, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.: every week from Feb 1 to April 12, except for March 15
- **Oswego:** 211 Rich Hall, SUNY Oswego campus on Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: every week from Jan. 29 to April 9. except for March 12 and 19

Taxpayers should bring last year's tax return, W-2 forms, 1099 forms and other pertinent tax paperwork to the VITA site; they also will be required to show identification (including a New York State ID if applicable).

For more information, call 315-596-2551.

Give Your Career a Much Needed Boost

Rocket scientists and bean counters alike run the risk of coming down with the career blahs from time to time. To prevent burnout, give yourself a boost with one or more of these:

- Take a course that would be fun and helpful to the business or your career.
- Teach a course in your area of expertise.
- Write a series of articles to publish in your organization's publications, professional journals, local newspapers, or business magazines.
- Take a series of career-focused three-day weekends.
- Take a sabbatical to pursue new areas of interest. Such periods of rest and renewal can last from a week up to a year.
- Take on new challenges. Replace less interesting duties with more interesting tasks.
- Serve as a mentor for young up-and-comers in your field.
- Invite a successful, interesting person to lunch. Plan at least two lunches monthly.



Finish Your Day Off Right

A good beginning sets the tone for a successful workday. The last 10 minutes of your day can help you be productive tomorrow. Practice these habits to close your day on the right note:

- **Update your to-do list.** Check off what you've accomplished and add fresh tasks for the morning. Prioritize your items.
- **Organize your workspace.** Take a few minutes to put things away and make sure everything on your computer is in the right folder.
- **Review urgent messages.** Respond only to those that require your immediate attention.
- **Reflect on the day.** Spend a few moments thinking about what you've seen and learned, and consider how you can be most effective tomorrow.
- **Review your schedule.** What meetings do you have coming up? Make sure you're prepared.
- **Thank people.** Identify the employees and co-workers who helped you during the day and thank them.
- **Leave.** Don't linger, or you may get sucked back into unnecessary tasks. Leave work at work.



March 2022



Oswego County Workforce New York Workshop Schedule

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 1:00-4:00 Amazon Recruitment 2:00-4:00 Oswego Industries Hiring Event	2 9:00-4:00 Word	3 1:30-3:30 Intro to Computers	4
7	8	9 10:00-11:00 Effective Resume	10 1:00-2:00 Metrix	11 9:00-10:00 Social Media
14	15	16	17 1:30-3:30 Internet Job Search	18
21	22	23	24 9:00-4:00 QuickBooks 1:00-2:00 Metrix	25 11:00-12:00 Effective Interviewing
28	29	30 9:00-4:00 Excel		For more information or to sign up, please call – 315-591-9000

Workshop Descriptions:

EFFECTIVE COVER LETTER-This workshop offers best practices to craft an effective, professional cover letter while avoiding the common pitfalls that can make hiring managers groan.

EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWING-Suggestions to prepare for a successful job interview and interview phases will be discussed.

EFFECTIVE RESUME WRITING-An intro to resume development where the tips and tools to develop a resume and cover letter will be discussed.

INTERNET JOB SEARCH-Learn to research employers, advantages and disadvantages of job banks and upload, copy and paste your resume into online applications. **Email address & electronic resume required.**

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS-Develop a new skill and learn the basics of using a Personal Computer. Learn about windows, the mouse, files and more. **Email address & resume requested but not required.**

METRIX-An online learning system with a large catalog of courses and assessments. Customers can choose a goal job, assess their skills, and the system will then suggest courses.

MICROSOFT EXCEL-Learn to move around spreadsheets and how to enter data. Begin with simple formulas and move on to auto-sum and functions. Skills taught include filter, formatting and charts.

MICROSOFT WORD 2016-Learn how to work efficiently with Word to build your skills. Emphasis is placed on how to type a resume. Skills include formatting, spellcheck, managing bullets and graphics.

OVER 40 & HIRED-Discuss the many positive contributions made by mature experienced workers, review the hiring process as well as marketing strategies in a highly competitive job market.

POWERPOINT 2016-Learn how to build a presentation. Skills include changing colors and background, adding text and graphics, transitions, animations, sound and packaging the presentation to share.

QUICKBOOKS 2014-Not just an accounting program, QuickBooks is used by front desk, customer service and sales. Learn the basics of accounts receivable, accounts payable, inventory and reports.

READY SET GO (TO WORK)-How to look for work, the hidden job market, selecting the best resume format, cover letters, discussion time for any questions.

SOCIAL MEDIA-This workshop will go through some social media platforms and how they can be used to enhance your job search process through privacy tools, online presence, company research and creating your personal online network.

TICKET TO WORK (TTW)- These sessions will assist SSDI and SSI beneficiaries in learning how working will affect cash benefits payments and medical insurance coverage.

UNDERSTANDING THE CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM- Get a better understanding of how to obtain employment with local and state governments and school districts.

Did You Know...

Did you know...that Oswego County’s average unemployment rate for December 2021 was **3.6%**? This was a decrease from the November 2021 rate of **4.4%**.

Did you know...that we are on LinkedIn? To view job postings and other information go to www.linkedin.com and search for Oswego County Workforce New York.

Did you know...that we are on Facebook? To view job postings and other information go to www.facebook.com and search for Oswego County Workforce New York.

Did you know...that we are on Twitter? To view job postings and other information go to www.facebook.com and search for Oswego County Workforce New York.

Did you know...that we are on Instagram? To view hiring events and other information go to www.facebook.com and search for [ocwny13069](https://www.instagram.com/ocwny13069).

Did you know...that you should have different versions of your resume if you’re looking for work in more than one field? Update and customize your resume for each new position.

Did you know...that we have staff to help you in your job search if you receive SSI/SSDI? Stop in and see Lisa to learn more.

Did you know...that you should prepare for an interview by researching the company? By doing some research ahead of time, you’ll be better prepared and able to ask questions about the company.

Partner Agencies/Websites

Oswego County Opportunities

www.oco.org

Oswego County BOCES

www.citiboces.org

Cayuga Community College

www.cayuga-cc.edu

www.indeed.com

Indeed.com is a new type of job search engine which pulls job listings from a variety of sources—such as America’s Job Bank, syracuse.com and monster.com. Click on Advanced Search to narrow your results by keyword, location and full or part-time.



Amazon Recruitment Events:

◇ Tuesday, March 1st 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

Stop in and complete an application to join the Amazon Team!



To see our most recent events and recruitments follow us on Social Media!

- 
 - Oswego County Workforce New York
 - Oswego County Youth Works (Ages 16-24)
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 - Oswego County Workforce New York
- 
 - Oswego County Workforce New York
- 
 - [ocwny13069](https://www.instagram.com/ocwny13069)

Please call or see the front desk attendant for more information.

→ Local employers need YOU to help fill job openings in the following occupations: Transportation, Health Care, & Manufacturing/Trades
If you’re interested in training or a scholarship, see your caseworker or call Mary at (315) 591-9026 or email her at mary.ferry@oswegocounty.com

Oswego County Workforce New York is an equal opportunity employer/program.
Auxiliary aids are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.