

## Update

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**Save the date for Connecticut Learns and Works Conference**

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## Connecticut Labor Department Launches New *Rapid Reemployment Initiative*

A new web-based **Rapid Reemployment Initiative** is now available through the **Connecticut Department of Labor** and is geared to reduce the length of time displaced workers remain unemployed.



Job-hunting requires some creative thinking. Having to "transition" to a new job can be a frightening and frustrating experience. For individuals employed in one occupation or industry for a long duration, it's difficult to identify how their skills transfer to other opportunities.

The Office of Research recognizes the difficulties this kind of change can bring. To help, we developed *Connecticut's Reemployment Portal*. For each occupation selected, a user can access a variety of information including an Occupation Profile, tools and technology requirements, entry-level and average wages, employment outlook, and an option to search for employment through *Connecticut's Job Bank*.

*Connecticut's Reemployment Portal's* main feature is the display of occupations with similar characteristics, knowledge areas, and general work activities of the selected occupation. In addition, a user can browse through a list of businesses that employ people with these same skills and competencies.

Available through the Agency's Home Page at [www.ct.gov/dol](http://www.ct.gov/dol), or [www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/ctrep/](http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/ctrep/), *Connecticut's Reemployment Portal* helps users to expand their job search into occupations and industries they may not have considered before.

### **NEW MINIMUM WAGE RATES** Effective January 1, 2010

**Connecticut = \$8.25/hr.**

**Federal = \$7.25/hr.**

## CONNECTICUT CAREER RESOURCE NETWORK

### Check out these free career resources...

- CT Department of Labor - *Job & Career ConneCTion*  
**[www.ctjobandcareer.org](http://www.ctjobandcareer.org)**
- CT Department of Economic and Community Development - *Next Generation Careers Resource Connections* **[www.ct.gov/ecd](http://www.ct.gov/ecd)**
- CT Career Resource Network (DOL) – *Connecticut Career Paths 2007-2009*  
**[www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/crpaths.htm](http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/crpaths.htm)**
- CCCDA - *Career Development Month Idea Kit* for school counselors  
**[lindakoby@aol.com](mailto:lindakoby@aol.com)**
- CT Business and Industry Association's Education Foundation - *Career Pathways: Energy and Green Technology DVD and Teacher Guide*  
*Mary DeManbey at CBIA* , **[mary.demanbey@cbia.com](mailto:mary.demanbey@cbia.com)**

This new DVD and Teacher Guide explores careers in both traditional and alternative energy and green jobs. The DVD contains short 2-3 minute segments giving an overview of the industry, pathways that show what young people are doing now to learn about energy careers, and several profiles of young professionals in various aspects of the energy field. Profiled careers include: Heat, Ventilation Air Conditioning technician, electrician, transmission planner, energy analyst, environmental engineering, applications engineer, and a fuel cell technician. The Teacher Guide includes hands-on exercises. The DVD and guide will be sent to the state's high schools and middle schools this fall and can be seen on CBIA's Web site **[www.cbia.com](http://www.cbia.com)**.

Please visit:

**[www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/ccrn.htm](http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/ccrn.htm)**

The *Connecticut Career Resource Network (CCRN) Update* is published three times a year by the Department of Labor, Office of Research and the Connecticut Career Resource Network. It provides individuals in the educational and occupational training communities with information on resources and upcoming events.

Articles include reviews of new Web sites and books, occupational descriptions, announcements of conferences and job fairs, and other articles of interest.

For the past issues of the *CCRN Update*, please visit the *Connecticut Career Resource Network* on the Web at:  
**[www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/ccrn.htm](http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/ccrn.htm)**

## CONNECTICUT CAREER RESOURCE NETWORK

Your future career: Blowin' in the wind?

Carol Bridges,  
CCRN Program  
Manager retired  
this past year.

Jessy George of  
CTDOL Office of  
Research, is  
assuming her  
responsibilities.

For any questions  
on *The Connecticut  
Career Resource  
Network*, please call  
(860) 263-6267 or  
email at  
[ccrn@ct.gov](mailto:ccrn@ct.gov).

**Happy  
Retirement,  
Carol!**

Strong winds are blowing change into the energy industry, creating new careers. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, wind power is the fastest growing energy source in the country. As the industry expands, so does the need for technicians to install, operate, and maintain wind turbines.

Wind turbine technicians build or service individual turbines, help with the construction of entire wind farms, or work indoors at factories that manufacture wind turbines. These technicians use a range of mechanical, hydraulic, and electrical skills. Except for those working in factories, wind turbine technicians spend a good deal of their time outdoors and working atop wind towers. Therefore, these technicians should be comfortable with heights.

An increasing number of educational institutions offer wind turbine technician degree or certificate programs. The U.S. Department of Energy maintains a list of schools that offer training in wind turbine technology and other wind energy occupations. That list is available online at [www.windpoweringamerica.gov/schools\\_training.asp](http://www.windpoweringamerica.gov/schools_training.asp).

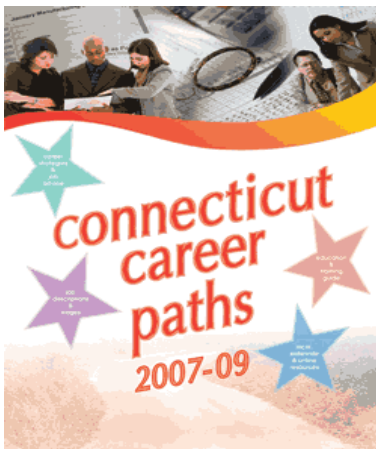
For more information about the wind power industry, contact the American Wind Energy Association, 1501 M St. NW., Suite 1000, Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 283-2500. Or visit online at [www.awea.org](http://www.awea.org).



Save the date for the 16th **Connecticut Learns and Works Conference**  
Friday, May 14, 2010 at Water's Edge Resort in Westbrook, CT

**Imagine more - Reinventing Connecticut**  
*Launching a New Decade of Innovation*

Please visit *The Connecticut Learns and Works* Web site at [www.ctlearnsandworks.org](http://www.ctlearnsandworks.org) for the latest updates on the conference and to register online.



**Connecticut Career Paths** provides the most current economic data and information on occupations, their projected employment job openings, education and training requirements, and the earning potential for the chosen field. This information is critical to students, teachers, counselors, and parents to make more informed academic and career decisions. We are pleased to continue providing information that is useful in making decisions and choosing a career. We are planning to print the *Career Paths*, possibly every two years, maybe in a limited quantity because of the budget constraints. The current issue is available on our Web site at: [www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/crpaths.htm](http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/crpaths.htm).

## Employer Seminars Presented by the Connecticut Department of Labor

### Announcing the 2009-2010 Employer Seminars Winter Series!

#### CONNECTICUT CAREER RESOURCE NETWORK

200 Folly Brook Blvd.  
Wethersfield,  
CT 06109

Phone: 860-263-6267  
Fax: 860-263-6263  
Email: [ccrn@ct.gov](mailto:ccrn@ct.gov)

**February 5, 2010** - [The Essentials of Connecticut Wage and Hour Law](#)

**March 12, 2010** - [Unemployment Insurance 101](#)

Employers can register in advance through the Department of Labor Web site at [www.ct.gov/dol](http://www.ct.gov/dol).

**Questions?** Please contact Kathy Marioni at (860) 263-6758 or [kathleen.marioni@ct.gov](mailto:kathleen.marioni@ct.gov).

If you need special accommodations, please contact us at least one week prior to the event.

#### **Weather**

In case of inclement weather, please follow the lead of the Wethersfield Public School System. If Wethersfield Schools have a delay or cancellation, the seminar will be postponed until a later date.



Apprenticeship programs in the State of Connecticut are administered by the Department of Labor through Regional Apprenticeship Representatives. Skilled consultants provide technical assistance, monitoring, and consulting services to qualified employers willing to

take on the responsibilities and obligations of program sponsorship.

Apprenticeship, in simple terms, is a program of “learning while earning.” Unlike other vocational training, which is held in a school setting, apprenticeship is based solidly on an employer-employee relationship. The apprentice employee has voluntarily entered into a mutual agreement with an employer regarding training. It can thus be perceived that employment and training are interrelated. Apprenticeship can be seen as part of the “conditions of work.”

Please check the Office of Apprenticeship Training Web site at [www.ctapprenticeship.com](http://www.ctapprenticeship.com) for a complete listing of Spring 2010 Apprenticeship Course Offerings and Registration Dates.