



# MASSACHUSETTS MARINE TRADES ASSOCIATION

## Vocation Education Survey - Closes June 22nd

The *Coalition for Vocational Technical Education* is a newly formed group of business groups, educators and community-based organizations across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which MMTA has reached out to in response to its recent survey. The Coalition formed in January 2015 with support from the SkillWorks Funders Group and several business, community and education partners to increase vocational technical education opportunities for students throughout the state, support training for skilled entry level employees for businesses across Massachusetts, recommend policies to reduce current waiting lists and increase capacity for high demand vocational technical education programs, promote vocational technical education as a pathway to college and career and improve resources for vocational technical education schools and programs. As any marine business owner knows, the need to expand the skilled employee pool is dire!

Based on the survey results, a report will be published to gain a better understanding of the current condition and potential of our state's vocational technical education system. The survey deadline has been extended to June 22. Please consider filling it out so that marine technical training needs will be considered. Thank you.

[Read more](#)

## Economic Development Listening Tour - June 25th

Employers will have the opportunity to put their stamp on the state's economic development strategy when the Baker administration holds a series of listening sessions throughout the commonwealth on June 25. Massachusetts law requires the state to draft a comprehensive economic development plan within the first year of a new gubernatorial administration. Please note that the Quincy and Worcester Round-Table Discussions are now Waitlist Only but Cape Cod and other areas remain open.

[Read more](#)

## Learn More About the MA Workforce Training Fund

Learn more about how to take advantage of the Massachusetts state funded program called The Workforce Training Fund. Continuous improvement, leadership and sales are just some examples of very fundable training programs many employers are taking advantage of through The Workforce Training Fund.

The intent of the Fund is to benefit Massachusetts businesses and their employees. Several links below will get you started in reviewing program criteria as MMTA continues to research opportunities for its membership at large:

Q & A: <http://www.mass.gov/lwd/employment-services/business-training-support/wtftp/general/questions-and-answers.html>

Side by side comparison of programs:

<http://www.mass.gov/lwd/docs/dcs/wtftp-program-matrix-january-2015.pdf>

Express Grant Application Process Summary

<http://www.comcorp.org/sites/page.cfm?p=102>

Please feel free to contact your local community college Workforce Training office as they serve as the conduit for employers to research and apply for state funding. Karen N. Doherty is a Workforce Training Specialist at Mount Wachusett Community College where MMTA attended an informative general session on funding leads. Please feel free to start with Ms. Doherty as a contact to put you in touch with your local community college workforce office. (P: (978) 630-9179/F: (978) 630-9537). Thank you.

