

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Workforce Development Resources

Owatonna's exceptional workforce development resources help local companies and employees stay competitive in a national and global marketplace.

Owatonna College & University Center

This shared, state-of-the-art campus provides certification, degree programs and customized training through six accredited institutions:

- Riverland Community College
- Concordia University – St. Paul
- Crown College
- Minnesota State University – Mankato
- Southwest Minnesota State University – Marshall
- University of St. Thomas

The Center is a national model of cooperative education, offering two-year, four-year and graduate programs in several disciplines. Employers can tap trained workers from the certificate and associate of arts technical trade programs. They also can access specialized training programs designed to meet their unique workforce development training needs. www.ocuc.info 507-455-5880

Gainey Conference Center

The University of St. Thomas' corporate meeting and retreat center can accommodate groups of 10-70 for retreats, mid-day conferences, or day-long meetings. www.stthomas.edu/gainey 507-446-4460

Business & Professional Organizations

Owatonna's professional associations provide forums for employee interaction and growth. Active local chapters include:

- American Production Inventory Control Society (APICS)
- American Quality Society (AQS)
- Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)
- Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)
- Steele County Safety Council
- Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism (OACCT)

Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Program

This state-wide program awards training grants of up to \$400,000 to local educational institutions and partnering businesses. The grant can be used to train employees in new or existing jobs. www.deed.mn.us



Workforce Recruitment

Owatonna offers growing companies a strong available workforce. It also attracts skilled employees from five neighboring counties and metro areas within commuting distance – including Minneapolis/St. Paul, Rochester and Mankato.

Recruiting Resources

Employers rely on local Temp/Placement firms to access available workers. They also take advantage of several not-for-profit resources:

- Placement Office – Owatonna College & University Center – www.ocuc.info 507-433-0374
- Minnesota Workforce Center – www.deed.mn.us 507-455-5850
- Owatonna Peoples Press (employment ads) – www.owatonna.com 507-451-2840
- Owatonna Public Schools – www.owatonna.k12.mn.us 507-444-8600

