



Workforce Development

Partnering Education
and Business



Partnering Education and Business

Educators and business leaders share common goals and challenges; both manage large, complex operations and want to ensure that students graduate with the skills necessary to succeed in the workplace or in further educational opportunities.

Working together, schools and businesses can achieve more than they can on their own.

Partners in Education are needed to help promote and support connections within our education system and our business community. These partnerships will enhance our education system and, most importantly, prepare students for life after class, by providing experience-based and practical learning to address the current performance gaps.

These partnerships provide a unique experience for students as well as provide numerous benefits to our business leaders. Benefits can include:

- Increase labor market opportunities for student engagement/growth through internships, jobs and hands-on opportunities for learning.
- Create strong private and public advocacy teams to drive initiatives in the community that impact the local economic outlook.
- Produce a more skilled and better prepared workforce that enhances economic stability and growth.
- Generate positive publicity and brand awareness for both entities through success of the partnership and improved outcome
- Expand corporate citizenship engagement: by providing volunteer opportunities to their employees, businesses can increase employee motivation and retention rates and provide professional development while also providing a dedicated and skilled volunteer base for schools.
- Bring new and innovative ideas to both educators and businesses
- Training specific to your business needs.

This brochure provides some basic information on some of the opportunities that are available to business through our education system.





“...Lewis provides capability and expertise which will be valuable in helping Nanophase to grow its business, and, at the same time, Nanophase recognizes the value to the scientific community and to our nation’s future of involving students early in industrial research...”

*Dr. Patrick Murray,
Vice President of Research
and Development
at Nanophase*

Schedule a visit to the Lewis University campus by calling (815) 836-5282, emailing CareerServices@lewisu.edu, or visiting www.LewisU.edu/Resources/CareerServices

Lewis University

- Lewis University Career Services can provide salary data and academic programs (Undergraduate and Graduate) perfect for the continuing education of your workforce.
- Employers can post a job or internship with Career Services. Your position may be filled with a qualified Lewis student.
- Lewis provides partnerships with **ISCPA** Online Career Center, where employers can post full-time jobs and internship to be viewed by all **ISCPA** institutions' alumni and students. Collectively, **ISCPA** represents over 56,000 enrolled students representing 250+ majors.

LEWIS INNOVATION HUB: Regional Business Incubator Program



No one can succeed alone. Having peers, mentors and a network of people to help you is key to any company or start-up. Get advice, exchange ideas, learn from other people and access resources designed to help you get off the ground quicker or reach that next level of growth your business is looking for. The incubator program is two-years in duration and provides a hands on approach to help entrepreneurs scale their businesses. Targeted benchmarks and milestones are discussed to measure the advancement within specified areas of business training, requiring full commitment from each participating entrepreneur. Our incubator goal is simple: help each entrepreneur substantially scale their business before program completion.

The Lewis Innovation Hub offers three phases (Pursue, Launch and Scale), each with tailored resources and dedicated faculty advisors that will help you advance your business from one phase to the next. **For more information, visit: <https://lewisu.edu/innovate>**

PURSUE Your Passion

Build a solid foundation for a new business adventure

- Conduct industry and market tests
- Build your business model
- Work on the prototype or minimum viable product
- Recruit team members
- Identify operational partners

LAUNCH Your Business

Lead the business venture from idea to impact

- Refine your team
- Contact suppliers and customers
- Secure initial sales
- Hold peer-to-peer advising sessions
- Grow your business

SCALE Your Opportunities

Take an established business adventure to the next level of success

- Production and deliveries
- Financials
- Funding
- IT Systems
- Facilities

Partnering Education and Business

Joliet Junior College

JJC's Corporate & Community Services (CCS) is your one-stop provider of training, offering an array of solutions that will enhance your employee's performance, regardless of your industry — and generate real results. On-site training for businesses includes programs to improve worker productivity and safety, supervisory training, and industrial maintenance. **For more information, call (815) 280-1555, email ContractTrainingSales@jjc.edu or www.TrainingUpdate.org**

- **Computer Services**

CCS has the course for you. Their services include several state-of-the-art computer labs as well as a mobile computer lab that can be brought to your site for instruction.

- **Customized Training and Assessment**

On-site assessments and customized in-house training are available.

- **Employer/Employee Services**

CCS provides a diverse platform of training programs that include pre-employment testing and interviewing, employee assessment, career development and strategic planning, and HR function training.

- **Grant Funding Opportunity**

CCS has partnered with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to provide area companies with grant funding. The grant funding may reimburse approved training programs up to 50%.

- **Meeting Space**

This state-of-the-art facility offers you and your organization the latest in electronic presentation technologies, comfort and convenience. The conference center features three professional meeting rooms, a computer training lab, a technology training lab and a reception area. The conference center is an ideal off-site location for your next meeting or training event. For more information, call (815) 280-1429.

- **Spanish Training**

CCS has developed programs that teach Spanish for business/occupations or teach English to those who need to speak it to be more effective communicators.

- **Technical Training and Consulting**

Help increase the skill level of employees, manage projects, train personnel, and prepare your company to utilize technology. Programs include electrical maintenance and inspection, mechanical maintenance, small business, building and grounds, manufacturing extensions, process operations, safety and compliance, quality process improvements and APICS.





Power of Partnerships

Rasmussen College

At **Rasmussen College**, find professional success through JobConnect, their online employment database. This tool allows you to share your open positions with students and alumni at no cost to you. Review Rasmussen graduates with confidence and trust in their ability to benefit your organization.

(866) 717-6385

careerservicesonline@rasmussen.edu

www.rasmussen.edu/career-center

Romeoville Area Chamber of Commerce

The Romeoville Area Chamber of Commerce includes an Education Committee. The purpose of the committee is to facilitate educational programs on behalf of the educational institutions and business community. Its mission is to implement a better understanding of education and training needs of the business community.

(815) 886-2076

info@romeovillechamber.org

www.romeovillechamber.org



In addition to our higher education institutions, the local school district also provides a number of resources and opportunities for partnerships.

Wilco Area Career Center

Wilco Area Career Center serves juniors and seniors from 11 different high schools from districts throughout Will County, offering 17 different technical and vocational education programs. Courses include auto body, aviation, building trades, computer technology, cosmetology, criminal justice, culinary arts, early childhood education, emergency medical services, fire science, health science, heavy equipment technology, medical office, nail technology and welding. Wilco welcomes businesses to speak to the students on Health Professions, Veterinary Assisting and CNA classes.

(815) 838-6941 | www.wilco.k12.il.us

Romeoville High School

A business/highschool partnership can benefit the business and help students find their career passions. They can then select future courses that will best prepare them for those goals.

Romeoville High School offers various services including:

- Print services
- Video services
- Internship opportunities
- Volunteer opportunities

(815) 886-1800 | www.vvsd.org/rhs

Partnership for Success



Successful Partnerships

Lewis University/ Nanophase Technologies Corporation

Lewis University and Nanophase Technologies Corporation (OTCQB:NANX), a technology leader in nanomaterials and advanced nanoengineered products, entered into a collaboration to investigate aspects of engineered nanoparticle dispersions in polishing applications.

Metro Exhibit Corporation

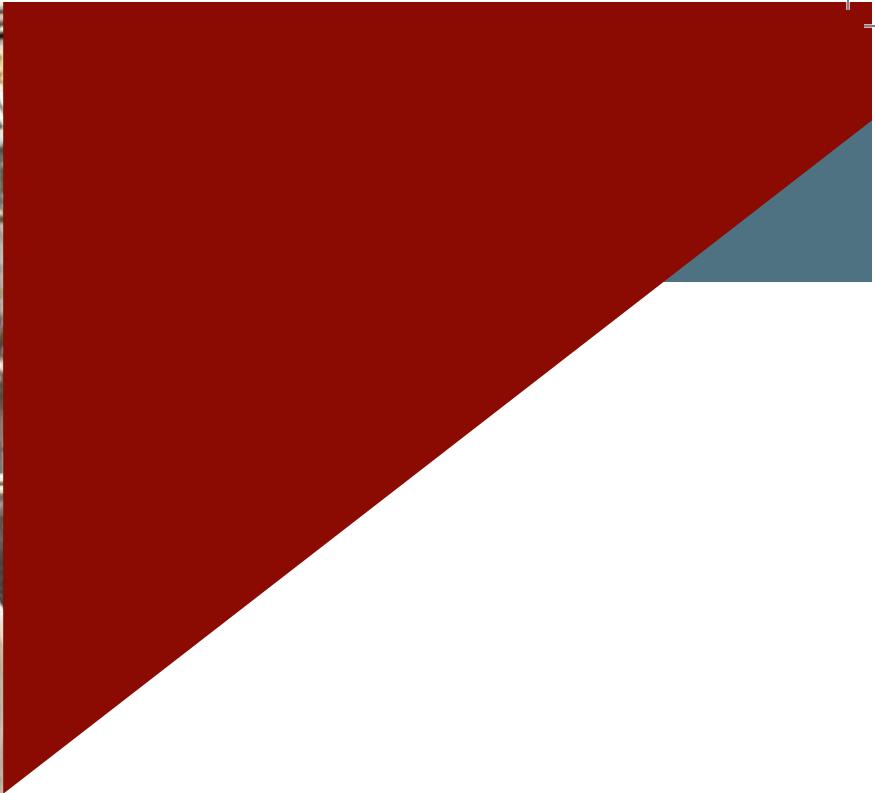
Metro Exhibit's intern turned into their full-time employee.

"The preparedness of the students is most impressive and we are finding numerous potential candidates for our internships and also for full-time positions," said MEC owner Brian Phebus and MEC President Tom Bacha.

CITGO

CITGO recognized Joliet Junior College as a valued community partner and made a generous donation to fund a S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Academy for students ages 5 to 18 and provided a scholarship for students in technical programs.





Workforce Investment Board of Will County



The Workforce Investment Board of Will County is another helpful option. They offer a multitude of assistance from job boards and job fairs to labor statistics, grants and reimbursement for training, and internship placement.

Insights

Benchmark wages for similar positions in the area. Customized data sets with statistics, projections, demographics and much more.

Internships

Youth (18-24 years) currently in training are ready and willing to work in your industry. Students will learn the skills necessary to be successful in the workplace through subsidized employment.

Training

Grants are available to local businesses for employee training. This program is to assist in reducing training costs for current employees.

On-the-Job Training

The On-the-Job Training (OJT) reimburses the cost of training qualified new employees up to \$10,000. Businesses decide who to hire and how to train - then receives a reimbursement to offset that training cost.

Recruiting

- Job Board - Post your job openings; candidates can apply directly to your company.
- Resume Gallery - Search through resumes of local job seekers to find qualified candidates.
- Job Fairs - Attend one of our weekly job fairs to meet with local job seekers.

Workforce Investment Board of Will County
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www.willcountyworkforceboard.com



Contact Us

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