

SAMI Program Overview

Shipbuilding/Marine and Advanced Manufacturing Institute

Background

In February, 2013, the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) awarded a 2.5 million dollar Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant to the New England Institute of Technology (NEIT). Since 2013, these funds have been leveraged with funds awarded by the Governor’s Workforce Board of Rhode Island and additional federal TAACCCT grant funds to train unemployed Rhode Islanders.

USDOL awarded this TAACCCT grant to NEIT to design and implement SAMI, **Shipbuilding/Marine and Advanced Manufacturing Institute**, to build a pipeline of skilled workers for Rhode Island’s marine and manufacturing industries. The primary occupations targeted within these industries include Welders and Machinists. SAMI was designed and the curriculum was developed in collaboration with Rhode Island employers in need of skilled workers in these occupations and industries. Our goal is to train and deliver to our employer partners, individuals with good entry level skills who are reliable and productive workers.

SAMI Services and Activities: SAMI is a training program that is “work” focused. Applicants are assessed and evaluated in Phase I, and selected for skills training (Phase II) based on their performance in Phase I. The rigorous assessment process helps SAMI staff to select candidates who most likely to be successful in training and ultimately employment.

Phase I – Assessment & Evaluation

- Orientation – learn about SAMI industries and training program – a program that **WORKS!**
- Assessment – Accuplacer (Math and Reading)
- Hands-on Skills Evaluations for **ALL** applicants
 - Welding **and** Machine
 - Actually using tools of the trade
 - Is this job and work environment for you?
 - Determine baseline skills and aptitude
 - Conducted by Instructors with industry expertise
- Case Management Meeting
 - Review assessment and evaluation outcomes
 - Gather info, set goals, develop Employment Action Plan (EAP)
- SAMI team selects candidates to move on to Phase II based on their performance in Phase I. Throughout this process candidates are assessed on their ability to demonstrate baseline skills to succeed in training and their ability to be dependable reliable workers.

Phase II – Occupational Skills Training

- Occupational Skills Training
 - Welding **OR** Machine
 - Combination of hands-on lab and classroom
- OSHA 10-hour Certification
- Contextualized math remediation
- Work Readiness and Case Management
 - Produce skilled, reliable, productive workers -
- Start program completers on a pathway to employment and/or education
 - 4 credits for Machine Program
 - 3 credits for Welding Program
- Connect program completers to work through strong employer partnerships
 - GWBRI Work Immersion Funds are a valuable resource
 - Feedback from employers impacts curriculum improvement and employee retention
- Award locally recognized industry certifications

SAMI Target Populations: Unemployed Rhode Island residents 18 years of age or older, Rhode Island residents who have lost their jobs due to the impact of foreign trade and are eligible and/or receiving TAA benefits, Veterans, displaced adult workers and recent high school graduates.

SAMI Curriculum:

Welding Skills Training – 260 Hours

Machine Skills Training – 300 Hour

The training is a combination of hands-on lab and classroom experiences. The curricula was developed and the labs were designed to replicate real world work experience. SAMI also focuses on work readiness skills in the delivery of the training curriculum and each participant receives an OSHA-10 certification. Our training emphasis is on safety and worker accountability.

Employer Partnerships: The workforce needs of Rhode Island employers in the shipbuilding/marine and advanced manufacturing industries are the focal point of the SAMI Program. The SAMI program was designed and the curricula developed with input from industry employers, and their continued involvement in the delivery of the program demonstrates to the participants the need to achieve the necessary skill and work readiness competencies to be well prepared for work.

SAMI Instructors and staff work very closely with employers to make a quality match to the skill level and interests of our students to the employment needs of each employer. We incorporate post placement feedback from our employers to continually improve our program and to ensure our training is responsive to current industry needs. Some of employer partners include:

Blount Boats
Electric Boat
Groov Pin
Guill Tool and Engineering
RI Carbide Company
Swissline Precision
VIBCO Vibrators

Contact Information: Interested unemployed Rhode Island residents can obtain more information via the SAMI website, www.samri.org or by contacting SAMI at 401-739-5000 (x3700).