

Workforce Innovation Training Grant

2014 - Issue 1

\$72,000

Workforce Innovation
Training Grant

\$9,000,000

Allied Mineral capital
investment

58

New employees

230

Retained employees

50

Employees will receive training



FRAKLIN COUNTY ENTERS REIMBURSABLE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH ALLIED MINERAL PRODUCTS, INC.

Allied Mineral Products, Inc. is an international designer and manufacturer of monolithic refractories and precast shapes. Allied is headquartered in Columbus, OH and has operations around the world.

In 2013, Allied Mineral, with a focus on continuously improving their current product, and developing and researching new products, started a process of determining the feasibility of expanding their Research and Development operations. They weighed their options between updating and expanding their current R&D operations in Columbus, or expanding their R&D support group to international locations.

A critical factor in determining the location of R&D personnel expansion was the ongoing training and associated costs with these specialized positions. Through conversations with company representatives and Franklin County's Economic Development and Planning Department, the County's Workforce Innovation Training Grant (WITG) was recognized as a way to offset training costs, ultimately impacting Allied's decision to keep their R&D expansion within Columbus and Franklin County.

The County Commissioners, on behalf of the Economic Development and Planning Department, entered into a reimbursable \$72,000 Workforce Innovation Training Grant with Allied Mineral Products, Inc. at the Commissioners General Session on December 17, 2013. The Grant will assist in training 50 new and retained R&D personnel over the course of several years. Ultimately, Allied decided not only to update and expand their R&D operations in Franklin County, but to also make a capital investment of \$9,000,000 to reorganize their production plant operations in Columbus. They will be hiring approximately 58 new employees and retaining 230 employees.

The WITG will help Allied expand a growing nucleus of R&D personnel in their Columbus facility and continue to create innovative new processes and products to expand sales in their international markets.

Franklin County's WITG is designed to be a catalyst for innovative workforce development in Franklin County. Each grant allows a business to implement the training they determine is most beneficial and explore new methods and markets. The WITG is a principal component of Franklin County's Smart Works initiative, which makes targeted investments in private-sector-determined strategies to build upon the diverse knowledge-based economy within the county.

For more information on the Workforce Innovation Training Grant, please contact Alex Beres, Senior Program Coordinator for the Franklin County Economic Development & Planning Department, at 614-525-5630

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