



NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release: July 20, 2009

Schoharie Career & Technical School offers Adult Ed programs in Heavy Equipment/CDL, Building & Grounds Maintenance

Classes will meet evenings, Saturdays to fit adult learners' schedules

Area adults are welcome to sign up for courses in Heavy Equipment Operation/CDL Permit Preparation, or Building & Grounds Maintenance, to be offered at the Schoharie campus of the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical School at 174 Route 30A, just south of I-88. Each program will run from September through November, on evenings and Saturdays, costs just \$65, and will prepare individuals age 18 and older for rewarding employment.

Classes start on September 9, 2009, and will meet Wednesday evenings from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. To register, one must be age 18 or older and have earned a high school diploma or GED or be willing to enroll in a GED program at the time of registration. For more information or to apply, contact the Capital Region BOCES Schoharie Career & Technical School at 295-3000.

The Heavy Equipment Operation/CDL Permit Preparation Program, and the Building & Grounds Maintenance Program are being offered through a federal grant to provide education and training for adults living in the northeastern Appalachian region, which includes several counties in the Schoharie Valley. Students in either course will train and certify in forklift operation. They also will benefit from established partnerships between BOCES and local business and industry and from guest speakers.

Each course will prepare individuals for success in the workplace by exploring responsibility and teamwork, quality and customer service, and interpersonal dynamics. Resume' and cover letter writing and job search skills also will be covered. Those completing the program will receive an employability profile certificate for use when applying for jobs or pursuing further training or education. A job fair will connect students with potential employers and information about future opportunities.

Heavy equipment operators and commercial driver's license holders are in demand in many industries, including construction, agriculture, transportation and maintenance. The Heavy Equipment Operation & CDL Permit Program for Adult Students covers the following key areas: workplace safety, forklift operation, operation and preventive maintenance of excavation equipment including backhoes, skidsteers and tractors, and Bobcat/Mini excavator certification. Students are prepared to test for their N.Y.S. Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Class B Permit, a valuable asset for future employment. Career opportunities include heavy equipment operator, equipment maintenance technician, maintenance worker, driver, or forklift operator.

Whether they are new or old, state-of-the-art or historic, homes, apartment buildings, offices, schools, hospitals, hotels, stores, parks, athletic fields and colleges all must be maintained. The Building & Grounds Maintenance Program for Adult Students covers the following key areas: electricity, plumbing, carpentry, groundskeeping, equipment maintenance and repair, blueprint reading, forklift operation and custodial skills. Topics also include bloodborne pathogens, hazardous materials, and hand and power tools. Career opportunities include cleaner, custodian/janitor, maintenance worker, carpenter's assistant, construction laborer, electrician's assistant, building superintendent, or groundskeeper/landscaper.

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The Heavy Equipment Operation/CDL Permit Preparation, and Building & Grounds Maintenance Programs for Adult Students are two of more than 40 programs of study offered by the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical School at its campuses in Schoharie and Albany (Colonie). The school is operated by the Capital Region Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and offers Adult Education courses including GED classroom and GED GRASP home-study classes, English Language Learners, Practical Nursing, and Welding, as well as programs tailored to the needs of individual businesses. For more information, visit www.bocescareertech.org.