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Horizon Council: Florida Ready to Work a powerful training tool

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To demonstrate their commitment to fostering a culture of lifelong learning, the Lee County Economic Development Office announces the launch of a powerful training and development tool: Florida Ready to Work.

Florida Ready to Work is designed to prepare a stronger work force. The Ready to Work credential is awarded to individuals who have successfully passed a set of work-related skills assessments which include Reading for Information, Applied Mathematics and Locating Information. Individuals may choose to earn an optional Work Habits certification, demonstrating that they have learned those important soft skills needed to be successful in today's diverse workplace.

Skill building Courseware is available to participants at no charge.

Areas of study include Applied Technology, Listening, Observation, Teamwork, Writing and Business Writing.

Benefits to the employer of providing the program include:

- Providing a uniform, standard, objective measure of key workplace skills;
- Providing an assessment of an individual's trainability for new positions or for promotions;
- Improving workplace effectiveness by enhancing employee's hard skills in solving problems, performing mathematical calculations, interpreting and synthesizing graphical information, reading for comprehension, following and applying complex directions, and more;
- Improving workplace morale and creating a cooperative, collaborative environment by enhancing employees' work habits and soft skills including interpersonal interaction, listening, cooperation and respect, self-management (adaptability, dependability, initiative, integrity, honesty), resource management (quality management, time management), and customer service skills.

Benefits to the individual of earning the credential include:

- Increased competencies in the core skills required by 85 percent of jobs today: applied math, reading for information and locating information.
- Improved employability skills - see soft skills identified above under employer benefits;
- Increased self-confidence;
- Increased marketability when applying for internal promotions and external positions.
- Access to job-search tips, tools, and strategies via the Win Careers interface.

Over 400 employers in the state have partnered with Florida Ready to Work including a number of Lee County employers who recognize the credential as a valuable employee skill building and hiring tool.

For learn more, visit www.floridareadytowork or contact Sharon Albrecht, Business Services Director at 1-877-444-4505, prompt 1.

For more information on the economic development office, visit www.LeeCountyBusiness.com.

Additional Facts

Lee County Horizon Council

The Lee County Horizon Council is a public-private board that advises Lee County commissioners on economic issues. It works to improve Lee County's business environment, retain and encourage expansion of existing businesses and attract new and diversified employment.
