



## Talented, educated and driven.

It's no accident that Washington State offers employers a superbly educated and trained workforce. It's in our nature. People in the Northwest thrive on learning. In fact, approximately 90% are high school graduates (compared to 75% nationally) and three-fourths of the state's college students call Washington home after graduation.

This isn't surprising, given that Washington is home to a national laboratory and two major universities, as well as a host of public and private four-year institutions, 34 community and technical colleges and an integrated workforce training program that is targeted to filling the needs of key industry sectors, including aerospace, high tech, life sciences and clean energy.

Residents have a passion for learning that extends far beyond the classroom and into the community at large. Innovative public-private partnerships in the areas of continuing education and ongoing training yield a workforce that is highly engaged, highly motivated and ready to get to work.

Our culture of innovation encourages a lifetime of learning. In addition to formal education, you'll find that Washington

# WASHINGTON STATE

## HIGHLY SKILLED WORKFORCE

### A secret weapon for your business.

As any business knows, a highly skilled workforce can be the competitive edge you've been looking for. They can step in and contribute right from the very start, maximizing production, reducing time to market, lowering costs and driving profitability.

Our workforce is diverse, innovative and ready to tackle any challenge you face:

- 92,000+ aerospace workers, many second and third generation
- 295,931 workers in manufacturing
- 17,500 engineers
- 186,800 workers in the high-tech sector

Washington is the global leader in aerospace, but also has strong ICT, global health/life sciences,

**"WASHINGTON IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING ITS WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT THE CONTINUED GROWTH OF BUSINESSES THROUGHOUT THE REGION."**

**-BRUCE LIND, PRESIDENT  
GENERAL PLASTICS  
MANUFACTURING COMPANY**

clean tech, maritime and advanced manufacturing sectors. It is consistently ranked as a great place to do business.

### Don't take chances with your workforce — Choose Washington!

In today's unforgiving marketplace, no business can afford to have a second rate workforce. The ability to fill key positions with highly trained, skilled workers is essential to survival.

Filling these roles can mean the difference between success and failure in a highly competitive and dynamic global market. Washington State has the trained and experienced workers you need to compete and win!



Washington State Department of Commerce  
2001 6th Ave., Suite 2600, Seattle, WA 98121 USA  
phone: (206) 256-6100  
email: [BusDevInfo@commerce.wa.gov](mailto:BusDevInfo@commerce.wa.gov)

