



PA Workforce Development Association
The Voice of Pennsylvania Workforce Development

2022 Governor's Achievement Awards Employer Award

We are pleased to announce that the PA Workforce Development Association (PWDA) and the PA Department of Labor & Industry will jointly present the Governor's Achievement Award to Employers during the 2022 Annual Conference. This award recognizes Pennsylvania employers that are exemplary supporters of workforce, community, and economic development in the commonwealth, and which have created jobs and partnered to hire skilled workers through Pennsylvania's workforce development system. We are looking for outstanding success stories from the employers who partner with your workforce development board (WDB) and are engaged with the workforce development system.

The conference is scheduled for May 4-6, 2022 at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. Award winners will receive a complimentary registration for the award ceremony, the opportunity to present a workshop with their sponsoring workforce development board, recognition in the conference program, and a commemorative etched glass award. Award recipients and their nominating workforce development board also receive state, local and national publicity. Additional award ceremony luncheon tickets for non-conference attendees will be available for purchase.

In 2022, we are interested in recognizing the workforce development staff who supported the award winners. Please provide the name and contact information of your staff who provided support.

Nominations for the awards must be made by a PWDA Board Member representing one of Pennsylvania's 22 local workforce development boards. Nominations must reflect activities taking place at any time between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021. There is no limit to the number of employers that each workforce development board may nominate. Separate application packages must be submitted for each nominee.

Please complete the attached application. Be sure to limit your narrative to one page (500 words or less) and address all the award criteria. To be considered for this award, signed, and completed nominations must be emailed by **January 31, 2022** and must include the following:

- Nomination Application completed and signed by PA Workforce Development Association (PWDA) Board Member.
- One-page maximum (500 words or less) narrative describing how the nominated employer meets or exceeds the award criteria. You do not need to include any additional documentation or attachments.
- Consent Form signed by the Nominee (employer) to allow the use of the employer's information in the conference program and for promotional purposes.

Email the completed application materials by **January 31, 2022** to info@pawork.org.
Please put "Governor's Awards - Employer Nomination" in the subject line.

*For questions, please contact Brittani Potts, Member Services & Events Coordinator,
at bpotts@pawork.org.*

2022 Governor's Achievement Award EMPLOYER NOMINATION APPLICATION

(Use a separate form for each nomination submitted)

Nominee Information

Employers in both the profit and non-profit sectors may be nominated. There is no limit to the number of nominations that may be submitted by each local workforce development board; however, a separate application package must be submitted for each nomination.

Nominated Employer	
Employer Contact Person	
Employer ID Number (EIN)	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Work Phone	
E-mail Address	

Workforce Development Staff Who Supported Award Nominee

Name	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Name	
Email Address	
Phone Number	

Nominating Workforce Development Board Information

Workforce Development Board	
PWDA Board Member	
PWDA Board Member Signature	
Local WDB Chair Signature	
Contact Person <small>(if different from board member)</small>	
Title	
Email Address	
Phone Number	

Award Criteria

Please check off all criteria that apply to this nominee.

1. PA CAREERLINK® ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

_____ The employer actively used the services of PA CareerLink® to recruit and hire between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY BELOW and fill in the blanks where indicated:

	Posted ____ (#) positions to PA CareerLink® from _____ to _____. <small>(Please use the most recent 12-month period for which complete information is available)</small>
	Recruited ____ (#) positions from PA CareerLink® in 2021.
	Participated in one or more local job fairs in 2021.
	Reported hires to PA CareerLink® staff or entered hires on CWDS.
	Provides other assistance to the PA CareerLink®. Please describe:
	Lends staff to assist customers of the PA CareerLink® and workforce development system to improve their understanding of the work world.
	Provides internships, job shadowing, company tours, training, classroom presentations, teacher presentations, and/or career exploration opportunities for youth.

2. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, COMMUNITY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

___ The employer is actively engaged in workforce development activities.

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY BELOW and fill in the blanks where indicated:

	Serves on the Workforce Development Board or one of its committees.
	Participates in a Next Gen or other organized Industry Partnership.
	Created or expanded a Registered Apprenticeship and/or Pre-apprenticeship program.
	Is involved in community, workforce, and economic development activities. Please describe:
	Provides training opportunities for their employees.
	Participates in an On-the-Job Training (OJT) program.
	Participates in an Incumbent Worker Training program.
	Supports workforce development in other ways. Please specify below:

3. JOB CREATION AND GROWTH

In _____ (the last year for which data is available), the employer created _____ jobs.

In 2021, the employer increased their total workforce by _____ percent or _____ jobs.

4. OTHER CRITERIA

	The employer provides to employees a family-sustaining wage, benefits, continuous training, and opportunities for career advancement.
	The employer is in good standing with the Commonwealth of PA: i.e., current on state taxes and not in violation of any workers' compensation, UC, environmental, labor, or other laws.
	The nomination is submitted on time, directions followed, and the application is complete.

2022 Governor's Achievement Award

NOMINATION APPLICATION

Nomination Narrative (500 words or less).

Please tell the story of how the nominated employer demonstrates excellence in partnering with the workforce development system and creating family-sustaining job opportunities for Pennsylvania workers. It is not necessary to include any additional documentation. See pages 6-8 of this document for last year's winning nomination narratives. **Please do not exceed 500 words.**

2022 Governor's Achievement Awards EMPLOYER CONSENT FORM

Must be signed by representative of nominated company.

I understand that my organization was nominated for a Governor's Achievement Award presented by the PA Department of Labor and Industry and the PA Workforce Development Association. The award ceremony will be held during PWDA's 38th Annual Conference on Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I will be contacted by PWDA or its production team regarding the award ceremony and I am aware that I have released information about myself and my company, which may be used for publicity purposes by the Governor's Office, PA Department of Labor & Industry, U.S. Department of Labor, and PA Workforce Development Association.

I hereby grant PWDA permission to use my likeness in a photograph, video, or other digital media in any and all of its publications, including web0based publications, without payment or other consideration. I understand and agree that all photos will become the property of PWDA and will not be returned.

I hereby irrevocably authorize the PWDA to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish, or distribute these photos for any lawful purpose. In addition, I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of the photo.

I hereby hold harmless, release, and forever discharge the PWDA from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf or on behalf of my estate have or may have by reason of this authorization.

Organization Name	
Organization Representative	
Title	
Signature of Organization Representative	
Date	
Address	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Work Phone	
E-mail Address	
Company Website	

A signed copy of this consent form must accompany the nomination.

Email the completed application materials by **January 31, 2022** to info@pawork.org.
Please put "Governor's Award - Employer Nomination" in the subject line.

*For questions, please contact Brittani Potts, Member Services & Events Coordinator,
at bpotts@pawork.org.*

2021 Governor's Job Creation Award

NOMINATION APPLICATION

Nomination Narrative (500 words or less). Please type or print clearly.

Please 'tell the story' of how the nominated employer demonstrates excellence in partnering with the workforce development system and creating family-sustaining job opportunities for Pennsylvania workers. It is not necessary to include any additional documentation. Please do not exceed 500 words.

Klover SEPA, Inc. is transforming the way conventional construction is done by manufacturing precision designed, engineered and fabricated, exterior and interior load, and non-load, bearing wall systems. As one of our local manufacturers, Klover SEPA, Inc. recognizes the value of partnering with the Bucks County Department of Workforce and Economic Development and the PA CareerLink® Bucks County to address their workforce development needs. During the 2020 calendar year, Klover SEPA, Inc. hired 65 new employees and grew their average employee count by 19.4%. Their rapid growth, willingness to reinvest in their employees, and commitment to educating today's youth make them an ideal candidate for the 2021 Governor's Achievement Employer Award.

Klover SEPA, Inc. provided 14 incumbent workers with advanced, state-approved apprenticeships to advance their skill sets and knowledge, making workers more valuable to their organization. 2020 is the second year in a row that they have provided carpenter apprentice employees this opportunity through the Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) program offered by PA CareerLink® Bucks County. All 14 employees will receive pay raises upon completion of their IWT with Associated Builders and Contractors in May 2021.

- One employee is receiving Apprentice Carpenter–Level One training. He is scheduled to receive a pay raise of 16.6% upon completion of training.
- Five employees are receiving Apprentice Carpenter–Level Two training. They are scheduled to receive a pay raise of 21.5% upon completion of training.
- Five employees are receiving Apprentice Carpenter–Level Three training. They are scheduled to receive a pay raise of 12.5% upon completion of training.
- Three employees are receiving Apprentice Carpenter–Level Four training. They are scheduled to receive a pay raise of 11.1% upon completion of training.

The management staff of Klover SEPA, Inc. are interested in promoting today's manufacturing and construction to youth as a viable career path to family-sustaining wages, making time each year to speak with the Construction and Welding cohorts from Upper Bucks County Technical School and promote career paths within each discipline. They host students each spring at their corporate headquarters in Quakertown, PA, providing hands-on experience in their manufacturing facility. They regularly offer students cooperative education opportunities during the school year and, upon graduation, offer students registered apprenticeship opportunities.

Klover SEPA, Inc. is also committed to efforts directed at promoting the skilled trades to women and bringing them into the skilled workforce. They send their female carpenters to area high schools to participate in a program that introduces young women to the trades. It's an annual, one-week, hands-on camp where the participants learn about various trade activities. Klover SEPA, Inc. also participates in the PA SLIP internship program offering area youth the opportunity for career exploration. They utilize this program for both shop roles and office roles within the organization. Finally, Klover SEPA, Inc. serves as an industry expert at annual skills competitions such as the SkillsUSA contest, serving as a judge in this highly competitive event for high school students entering the trades.

Please consider Klover SEPA, Inc., for this prestigious award. They are a valued company partner for our staff to promote as the "gold standard" to other manufacturers not yet in the CWDS pipeline.

2021 Governor's Job Creation Award

NOMINATION APPLICATION

Nomination Narrative (500 words or less). Please type or print clearly.

Please 'tell the story' of how the nominated employer demonstrates excellence in partnering with the workforce development system and creating family-sustaining job opportunities for Pennsylvania workers. It is not necessary to include any additional documentation. **Please do not exceed 500 words.**

The PA CareerLink Clearfield County at DuBois nominee for the 2021 Governor's Achievement Award for employers is Sintergy Inc. which is located in Reynoldsville, PA – Jefferson County. Sintergy Inc. is a powdered metal company who started their business in 2004 in Punxsutawney and relocated to a new facility in Reynoldsville in 2011. They have 70 employees working all shifts over 7 days a week at the Jefferson County plant. They have been able to maintain their workforce during the Covid pandemic; they created 32 employment opportunities during the pandemic, retained 20 people while maintaining their employment staffing requirements.

Sintergy Inc. has been posting jobs with the PA CareerLink Clearfield County at DuBois since 2005. That is over 15+ years as a partner. During 2020 and the Covid pandemic the PA CareerLink Clearfield County at DuBois worked with Sintergy Inc. in conducting two (2) Work Experience programs and one (1) On-the-Job [OJT] training program. The two (2) WEX experiences actually turned into OJT's. The PA CareerLink Clearfield County at DuBois will be working with Sintergy Inc. to add more workforce in 2021 using these two (2) WIOA programs.

During the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, Sintergy Inc. had to suspend a couple of training programs due to vendors not being able to participate. One of the training programs involved was a machinist's apprenticeship program thru Northwest Industrial Resource Center [NWIRC]. This offering has not been reestablished at this time. Another training program was thru Penn State DuBois for a CNC Machine Training. Penn State is looking to start this program back-up, once they are able. Sintergy Inc. feels it is important to offer these types of trainings to their employees to keep them motivated for the betterment of the employees and the future of Sintergy Inc.

In the past year Sintergy Inc. has been recognized as a safe place to work from the Powdered Metallurgy Parts Association (PMPA). They have received a "PMPA SAFETY AWARD" for achieving zero lost time accidents in 2019. In addition, Sintergy Inc. is involved in the local Reynoldsville community; they support local baseball teams, scouting members plus the local monthly newspaper with purchasing ads. Per Roger Jones, the Human Resource and Facilities Director, Sintergy Inc. is happy to be involved in assisting the community, one third of workforce is from the Reynoldsville area. The remaining two thirds is primarily in Jefferson & Clearfield Counties such as Brockway, Brookville, DuBois, Punxsutawney and anywhere in between.

Sintergy Inc. is the ideal customer for the PA CareerLink Clearfield County at DuBois as they want to be involved with the WIOA program especially the WEX program. The company wants to provide our youth work opportunity's, towards successful self-sufficiency, while benefiting Sintergy Inc. goals.

2021 Governor's Job Creation Award

NOMINATION APPLICATION

Nomination Narrative (500 words or less). Please type or print clearly.

Please 'tell the story' of how the nominated employer demonstrates excellence in partnering with the workforce development system and creating family-sustaining job opportunities for Pennsylvania workers. It is not necessary to include any additional documentation. **Please do not exceed 500 words.**

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Center for High Value Care has prioritized building pathways into living wage jobs and building partnership with the public workforce system. In 2017, UPMC began an Environmental Services (EVS) Technician Training program, established with State Impact Grant (SIG) support in 2017. The EVS program has hired and trained more than 300 employees to date. In 2020, UPMC continued building on this success with a similar Patient Care Technician Training program, which has hired and trained more than 75 people since it began. In each program, individuals are hired by UPMC prior to training, receive occupational and essential skill training concurrently, are provided with supportive services before and after training, and are placed into waiting jobs at the end of training.

In January 2021, UPMC began the Freedom House 2.0 program supported by Partner4Work. Freedom House 2.0 trainees are prepared for work as an Emergency Medicine Technician. During their training, UPMC focuses not only on essential and occupational skills, but also on mental health first aid to ensure that trainees are prepared for the rigors of the job. Graduates of the program are guaranteed an interview with UPMC and help applying for other open jobs in the region.

UPMC is also partnering with PA CareerLink® to reach out to individuals newly enrolled in Medicaid services to connect them with the public workforce system. Interest job seekers are connected with supportive services, job search assistance, and a UPMC recruiter who helps shepherd the job seeker through the application and interview process. This process has led to deep connections between the PA CareerLink and UPMC teams and is helping to refine the referral process of job seeker candidates to ensure that referrals meet the needs of UPMC and align with the interests of job seekers. Additionally, UPMC serves as a worksite for EARN OJT placements.

UPMC is a strong supporter of the Learn & Earn Summer Youth Employment Program. During the summer of 2020, UPMC hosted 12 Corporate interns, providing both in person and virtual work experiences. Interns gained experience with both UPMC Insurance Services and at the UPMC Sports Physical Therapy Complex. Interns completed real world projects with an eye on sustainability, mapping additional connections between UPMC and community organizations.

UPMC, PA CareerLink, and Partner4Work continue to develop their partnership and have plans for 2021 to explore registered apprenticeship opportunities, develop employee retention supports, and deepen the work to ensure that job seekers in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County have pathways into careers with UPMC.