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Media Contact: Dawn Dovre, 605-773-3094

Soft Skills Training Available to Employers

PIERRE, S.D. – The Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) is offering eight-hour soft skills training workshops across the state. “Bring Your ‘A’ Game to Work” will be delivered at no cost through various education providers.

The curriculum teaches desired workplace behaviors leading to personal and professional success through activities and group participation. Behaviors include attendance, appearance, attitude, ambition, accountability, acceptance and appreciation.

“As I’ve visited with business and community leaders across the state, a primary concern is lack of soft skills, especially in the younger workforce,” said state Labor and Regulation Secretary Marcia Hultman. “This can include knowing to show up to work on time, how to cooperate with others and what is considered acceptable appearance.”

After completing the training, participants test over the seven behaviors to earn a Certificate of Work Ethic Proficiency. This transferable certificate can be used with multiple employers and shows hiring managers an employee is work ready.

“Several communities have offered the soft skills workshops to high school seniors,” said Secretary Hultman. “When asked how they would implement their new skills, replies ranged from smiling at customers to showing more appreciation to co-workers.”

The “Bring Your ‘A’ Game to Work” training was created by The Center for Work Ethic Development of Denver. Businesses wishing to arrange training for employees should contact their local job service office. Visit sdjobs.org for a directory and list of upcoming events.