



## QUICK RESPONSE TRAINING GRANTS

### ABOUT QUICK RESPONSE TRAINING GRANTS

The Quick Response Training (QRT) Program provides grant funding for customized training to new or expanding businesses. Since 1993, QRT grants have been awarded to Florida companies to support their need for customized skills training for newly created jobs. The business decides not only what training it needs, but also who delivers it to employees. Administered by Workforce Florida, Inc., QRT currently receives \$6 million in state funding annually.

For every \$1 of public funding invested in training, Florida businesses invest nearly \$14 to upgrade their employees' skills. With a strong track record for low administrative overhead and a lack of red-tape requirements, QRT is a key contributor to Florida's reputation among businesses, site selection consultants, economic developers and others for having some of the nation's best workforce training programs.

### REQUIREMENTS

#### QUALIFYING NEW OR EXISTING BUSINESSES MUST:

- Produce an exportable good or service
- Create new, full-time, high-quality jobs that pay above-average wages
- Require customized skills training

#### GRANT RECIPIENTS CAN BE REIMBURSED FOR:

- Instructors'/trainers' salaries
- Curriculum development
- Textbooks/manuals

For more information visit [WorkforceFlorida.com](http://WorkforceFlorida.com) or contact Director of Organizational Support April Money 850.921.3645 or [amoney@workforceflorida.com](mailto:amoney@workforceflorida.com).

### *By The Numbers*

#### QRT SUPPORTS JOB CREATION AND RETENTION :

From 2004 to 2010, QRT has been used to support the creation of more than 54,000 jobs. After 12 months, more than 85 percent of QRT trainees were employed.

#### QRT INCREASES EARNING POTENTIAL:

QRT trainees' wages increased more than 47 percent a year after completing training. Quarterly earnings for QRT trainees exceeded \$15,000, for an annual income of nearly \$64,000, well over the state average of just over \$41,000.

#### STATE LEADERS VALUE QRT:

The 2011 Florida Legislature allocated \$6 million in state funding for QRT, nearly double its 2009 \$3.3 million annual allocation.

#### QRT HELPS MAKE FLORIDA NO. 1

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Chamber Foundation's *Enterprising States* report, which ranked Florida No. 1 in the nation for workforce and job training programs, specifically recognized the success of Florida's QRT grants.

## QRT SUCCESES IN NORTHWEST FLORIDA

**Ascend Performance Materials** is a global producer of nylon, plastics and synthetic fibers found in thousands of commercial and industrial products. To prepare to expand and transition to a new product focus, the company's Pensacola manufacturing plant – which employs more than 700 – needed to hire and train more than 100 new employees. “Customized training is critical to Ascend’s ability to operate and grow because the processes and technology that have made us a global performance materials leader cannot be learned anywhere outside of our walls,” said Human Resources Administrator Chris Wilson. “With the help of QRT, Ascend has been able to provide that training, expand its workforce and offer new hires competitive wages.”



**Global Business Solutions Inc.**, a privately owned minority business that employs 85 professionals – 57 in Pensacola – provides business process engineering, technology integration and training services for customers including the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Gulf Power and Boeing. The hiring and training of quality employees is the key to the success of Global Business Solutions’ products and services offering. “Our clients provide critical services and there is no room for error in the services and products we provide them,” said Denise Tomaszewski, the company’s Contracts Administrator. “QRT helped us minimize our new hires’ learning curve, increase their value and prepare them, through customized training, to contribute on day one in a way that aligns with our business model.”

