



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Headline: Pasco County Board of County Commissioners Approves COVID-19 Relief Program to Assist economically affected COVID-19 Residents.

Pasco County (Region 16), Florida- On July 14, 2020, the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners approved the COVID-19 Relief Program, designed to help Pasco County residents who have been economically impacted through furlough, unemployment and/or under-employment due to COVID-19. The COVID-19 Relief Program is a re-employment program for individuals and businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and will assist Pasco county residents to regain the necessary skills and training to successfully re-enter the workforce and recover from the COVID-19 aftermath.

Dedicated to upskilling the workforce impacted by COVID-19 by linking skills to industry, CareerSource Pasco Hernando's Career Centers provide recruitment and employment services to employers and job seekers in Pasco and Hernando counties. By upskilling affected individuals with an employer driven training will create transferable skills, which align with the targeted industries and strategic strategies of Pasco County and CareerSource Pasco Hernando. Local industries benefit from the ability to hire highly skilled and quality employees to help them fully and successfully recover from the effects of COVID-19.

“In the wake of COVID-19, it is imperative for Pasco’s economy to embrace the need to upskill COVID-19 affected individuals,” states, Jerome Salatino, President/CEO of CareerSource Pasco Hernando. “By assisting furloughed, unemployed and under-employed individuals will streamline faster economic recovery for both Pasco County and its residents.”

Noticeably, the financial rewards of education have grown markedly in the past two decades and furthering skills training will lead to higher increases in employment and wages. Bridging the skills gap will break the cycle of poverty, increase economic activity, and bring a positive return on investment. The program will provide up to 100 residents the opportunity to improve their skills through on-the-job-training and/or employer-driven education. The COVID-19 Relief Program will also encourage economic growth by nurturing the local talent pool.

CareerSource Pasco Hernando's partnership with Pasco County to form the COVID-19 Relief program has provided participants the opportunity to earn and gain the necessary, transferrable skills to become employed, self-sufficient and nourish our local workforce. Eligible COVID-19 Relief program participants must be COVID-19 affected Pasco County individuals and businesses impacted by the pandemic. This program will create greater economic prosperity and quicker recovery for Pasco County.

The COVID-19 Relief program will serve:

- Under-employed / unemployed / furloughed Individuals
- Pasco County private and public businesses
- Local governments and municipalities
- Local pertinent infrastructure, such as fire and police departments and public safety for proper social distancing

**Participants must be Pasco County eligible residents who were furloughed, under-employed and/or unemployed as of the declaration of Florida's state of emergency March 9, 2020, and must be impacted by COVID-19 to participate.*

*For more information about the COVID-19 Relief Program,
please contact CareerSource Pasco Hernando at:
(727)484-3400 x 3023 / covidrelief@careersourcepascohernando.com.*

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About CareerSource Pasco Hernando

CareerSource Pasco Hernando enhances economic development efforts of our region by providing a well-trained, high quality workforce which supports the success of local business and improves the quality of life. CareerSource Pasco Hernando is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this website may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711