

LWTC offering free tuition and books

For a limited time, the Worker Retraining program at Lake Washington Technical College can now pay for tuition and books for anyone who needs training to avoid a layoff situation and for certain workers impacted by the December 2007 storm and floods.

The Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) recently added the storm and flood educational funding through its Worker Retraining program. Individuals are now eligible for this free educational funding if they resided in a Washington state area declared a disaster area stemming from the December 2007 storm and floods.

The SBCTC also recently re-authorized funding for working individuals who may be vulnerable to a layoff. Individuals taking advantage of the free educational funding must meet two of the following three requirements:

- * Working, but the job description has changed so new skills are needed to avoid a layoff situation

- * Have not achieved a degree with more than 45 college-level credits

- * Working, but the job title is considered to be "not in demand"

"The Worker Retraining program is a great way for individual workers to jump start their current career or potentially start a new career," said Brian Bashinski, LWTC worker retraining coordinator.

LWTC's Worker Retraining program will also continue to offer free tuition and books for individuals who collect unemployment insurance benefits.