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**Workforce Southwest Washington Accepting Business Nominations for Workforce Awards**

Southwest Wash. (Dec. 4, 2018) – Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) is accepting nominations of businesses in Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties for its Workforce Innovation and Excellence Awards.

Awards will be given in two categories:

- **Innovation in Workforce Development**: This business has demonstrated strong commitment to help youth and adults develop professional and technical skills to find jobs through the creation of innovative workforce opportunities including internships, career-related learning experiences, mentoring, apprenticeship and/or participation in workforce events such as Manufacturing Day and/or the Youth Employment Summit.

- **Excellence in Building Workforce Partnerships**: This business has demonstrated strong engagement and investment in the community through the development of partnerships with community-based organizations, nonprofits, community colleges, other businesses and/or workforce entities to create employment and career-pathway opportunities for youth and adult job seekers.

To review and download the Awards Guidelines and Nomination Form, go to [www.workforcesw.org](http://www.workforcesw.org) and click the link in the “news” section in the bottom right corner of the home page.

**Nominations are due January 11, 2019.**

Awards will be presented during WSW’s board meeting in March at Lower Columbia College.

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**Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW)**, a nonprofit organization founded in 2002, contributes to regional economic growth by providing investments and resources to improve the skills and education of the workforce in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties. WSW-funded programs operated by WorkSource and community-based organizations help businesses find and hire the employees they need and provide people with the skills, education and training to find work or advance in their careers. WSW collaborates with employers, community colleges and universities, labor groups, government and economic development agencies, high schools, nonprofits and community organizations. Learn more at [www.workforcesw.org](http://www.workforcesw.org).