



Skilled Technicians Provide Essential Services

By Universal Technical Institute

Universal Technical Institute graduates play a significant role in America's infrastructure and economic development. As the nation grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic and historically high rates of unemployment, skilled technicians are needed, and doing jobs essential to Americans' well-being and economic recovery.

This indispensable workforce includes graduates of Universal Technical Institute (NYSE: UTI), who service the vehicles, truck fleets, and machinery that fuel crucial industries, carry essential goods and supplies, and support vital infrastructure.

The US Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency "Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response" lists the transportation industry and maintenance repair technicians as essential, and these skilled employees participate in every stage of the nation's supply chain.

Brandon Rubio is at the front of the supply funnel. The diesel engine specialist and UTI-Houston graduate maintains and repairs high-tech farm equipment, and helps the hard-hit agricultural industry continue to operate. Recently, he participated in an equipment repair project that kept a large citrus farm in business and, as the food industry deals with ongoing supply chain challenges and prepares for a ramp up in production, his work has become increasingly important.

"I feel like a doctor for vehicles who is critical to keeping our country operating during this time," Rubio said. "I'm extremely proud to be an essential worker and feel privileged to still have a job."

During the pandemic, many delivery and truck drivers have also emerged as essential workers, with numerous healthcare providers referring to them as fellow first responders. In response, UTI-Exton graduate Dylan Bansi, a Peterbilt technician who services diesel vehicles and engines, is now prioritizing over-the-road trucks that transport hospital equipment, medication, food, and key consumer goods.

"It feels good knowing you're following your passion while helping the world right now," Bansi



says. "We're not only standing behind the Peterbilt brand, but we're helping out the ones in need the most." Just as crucial to the supply chain are the industrial loaders and forklifts that move goods and supplies on and off trucks, trains, ships, and loading

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NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2021

Free Federal Contracting Webinar
 Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 10:30 am–12:00 pm
 Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
 Contact: Carmen E. Gonzalez, 904-443-1924, carmen.gonzalez@sba.gov
 Fee: Free; registration required

This free webinar helps you to investigate and prepare for the possibility of your business providing goods or services to the federal government. Information includes: How to Do Business with the Federal Government; 8(a) Business Development Program; HUBZone Program; Woman-Owned Small Businesses; Service-Disabled Veteran Businesses; Small Disadvantaged Business 8(a) Business Development Program; Certification Boot Camp. Benefits of this webinar include learning about sole-source contracts of up to \$4 million for goods and services and \$6.5 million for manufacturing; and specialized business training, marketing assistance, counseling, and high-level executive development. Since 1953, the Small Business Administration has worked to ignite change and spark action so small businesses can confidently start, grow, expand, or recover.

PPP Forgiveness Webinar
 Tuesday, January 5, 2021, 11:30 am–1:00 pm
 Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
 Contact: Susan Mazza, 802-828-4422, susan.mazza@sba.gov
 Fee: Free; registration required

Is Certification Right for You?
 Monday, January 11, 2021, 9:00 am–10:30 am
 Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, Center for Women and Enterprise Central Massachusetts
 Contact: Samantha Pevear, 508-453-9209, info.CentralMA@cweonline.org
 Fee: Free; registration required

Join us for this online panel conversation with three women who have certified their business as woman-owned. We'll discuss the type(s) of certification each entrepreneur has, the pros and cons of certification in their experience, and what they wish they would have known about certification earlier. It is strongly recommended that prior to joining this webinar, you first view the free monthly webinar offered by our certification team. You can register for an upcoming session here: <https://bit.ly/3eM5LNU> Once you've registered, we'll provide information on how to access the webinar. If you have any questions, please reach out to us at info.CentralMA@cweonline.org.

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