



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 31, 2016

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY HOSTS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES EXPO ON NOVEMBER 1
*State and local agencies, organizations and businesses will offer
employment readiness workshops, information on apprenticeships and job opportunities*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is hosting a free Career Opportunities Expo on Tuesday, November 1, in Rockford to provide information and assistance to people interested in working for the Tollway and the State of Illinois as well as other companies doing business with the state. Nearly 700 people are currently registered to network with businesses and attend workshops.

The Career Opportunities Expo will help connect prospective workers with public- and private-sector employers and jobs and is being held as part of the Tollway's ongoing focus on diversity issues and initiatives, including fostering access to sustainable jobs for African Americans, Asians, Hispanics, Native Americans and women, as well as veterans.

"We are committed to ensuring everyone has an opportunity to work with the Illinois Tollway," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Greg Bedalov. "By hosting this event, we can educate job seekers about hiring opportunities and also allow them to participate in workshops that will help improve the skills they need to land a job with the businesses we work with and also with other state agencies."

The Career Opportunities Expo will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, at the Northwest Community Center, 1325 N. Johnston Avenue in Rockford.

The Expo will offer the opportunity to meet one-on-one with businesses, state agencies, construction and engineering organizations and that will provide information about employment readiness and job opportunities. In addition, the event will also include breakout sessions that highlight information on in resume building and interviewing skills, as well as construction career opportunities and training programs.

"This event offers a one-stop-shop opportunity for anyone looking for a new job or career change to access resources, training and assistance to help them succeed," said Tollway Board Director Earl Dotson Jr. "The Illinois Tollway is committed to diversifying its own workforce, and we also encourage the contractors and firms we do business with to include minorities, women, veterans and underemployed workers in their hiring and training programs."

The Career Opportunities Expo will feature information about programs to help workers get prepared including workshops on resume writing and interviewing presented by the Northern Illinois Workforce Alliance and a session on the Illinois Tollway's Earned Credit Program, which helps skilled workers access pre-apprenticeship job training programs and referrals to construction firms. In addition, the Illinois Tollway and Illinois Central Management Services Department workshop will focus on how to navigate state employment to help prospective employees obtain information about state jobs.

Participants also will have the opportunity to network with and explore current career opportunities at local businesses, engineering and construction firms, as well as receive assistance from the Secretary

of State and the Department of Veteran's Affairs will be onsite to assist with drivers' licenses and veteran designation.

All registrants attending the Career Opportunities Expo will receive an event resource guide, which includes contact information for all exhibitors and workshop presenters. To register, visit the Illinois Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com. Onsite registration will be available beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, November 1.

About the Illinois Tollway

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 292 miles of interstate tollways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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