

HOLYOKE

HCC announces cannabis job training programs

The Cannabis Education Center at Holyoke Community College will begin its fall schedule of industry training programs Sept. 10-11 with Cannabis Core: Foundations of the Industry, a two-day, introductory cannabis course.

Additional Cannabis Core programs are set for Oct. 1-2, Oct. 29-30, and Dec. 10-11. All classes meet over Zoom on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Cannabis Core program provides an overview of the cannabis industry in Massachusetts and is geared for people looking for general knowledge as they consider a cannabis career. The program is a foundational course and a prerequisite for the center's four career track courses: cultivation assistant, extraction technician, culinary assistant and patient services/retail associate.

The CEC is now partnering on its cannabis industry programs with Green Path Training, an accredited RVT, or responsible vendor trainer.

"Green Path Training brings

responsible vendor training to HCC for the first time," said Julia Agron, the CEC's assistant project coordinator. "This will allow our local and state-wide cannabis businesses to benefit from the highest quality classes available for their current and future employees."

All businesses in Massachusetts licensed by the Cannabis Control Commission are required to provide RVT for cultivators, managers and employees involved in the handling and sale of marijuana for adult and/or medical use.

Green Path founder Ellen Brown will be one of the instructors for the Cannabis Core: Foundations of the Industry classes. Brown is an award-winning educator and industry leader and U.S. Air Force veteran.

The CEC's fall cannabis training program schedule:

■ Cannabis Core: Foundations of the Industry: Sept. 9-10, Oct. 1-2, Oct. 29-30, Dec. 10-11 (Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. via Zoom)



Julia Agron, assistant program coordinator for HCC's Cannabis Education Center, tours Mill Town Agriculture, a cannabis cultivation company on Cabot Street in Holyoke.

(HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE)

■ Cultivation Assistant: Session 1: Sept. 18, Sept. 25, Oct. 2, Oct. 9; Session 2: Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Dec. 18. (Sundays, 4:30-6 p.m., via Zoom and asynchronous online classes)

■ Extraction Technician: Oct 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 5 (Saturdays 10-11:30 a.m. via Zoom and asynchronous online classes)

■ Culinary Assistant: Oct 18, Oct. 20, Oct. 25, Oct. 27, Nov. 1, Nov. 3 (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. First two classes via Zoom, the remainder in person at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St., Holyoke)

■ Patient Services/Retail Associate: Nov. 5, Nov. 6, Nov. 12, Nov. 13, Nov. 19, Nov. 20 (Saturdays and Sundays, 10

a.m -1 p.m. via Zoom)

The cost of the Cannabis Core training is \$599; career track programs are \$799. Scholarships are available to those who qualify.

To register, please go online to hcc.edu/cannabis-core or call Julia Agron at 413-335-6540.

Submitted by Holyoke Community College.