



A hotel lab to teach hospitality is available at HCC. Training is free for a five-week course.

*Submitted photo*

## Free hotel, front desk training at HCC

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College is running a free, five-week hotel training program starting Feb. 7 for anyone interested in jumpstarting a career in the hospitality industry.

The hands-on, in-person classes for hotel front desk workers and hotel room attendants will take place in HCC's hotel training lab on the second floor of the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute at 164 Race St., in downtown Holyoke.

The program runs on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Feb. 7 through March 9.

Additional training programs will also run March 28 to April 26 (Tuesdays and Wednesdays), and May 9 to June 8 (Tuesdays and Thursdays).

The course will provide students with up-to-date knowledge of the hotel industry, hands-on experience for front desk and/or room attendant roles, workplace skills, resume building, interviewing, job search assistance, and connections to local employers.

HCC's hotel lab was equipped using \$35,000 from a 2019 Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant, which funds purchases for educational initiatives linked to workforce needs.

The lab is set up like a hotel reception area with front desk and adjoining guest room and equipped with the most modern technology and software. The hotel lab gives students the ability to learn in a model hotel room and reception lobby, gain knowledge about key card access systems, and understand point-of-sale technology.

No high school diploma or GED/HiSET test is required for admission.

Offered as part of HCC's Business & Workforce Development division, the hotel training course is free to qualifying applicants.

For more information, please contact Laura Smith, HCC job placement assistant and career development counselor, at [lsmith@hcc.edu](mailto:lsmith@hcc.edu) or fill out the inquiry form at [hcc.edu/job-ready](http://hcc.edu/job-ready)