



NEWS RELEASE! NEWS RELEASE! NEWS RELEASE!

**CRC ALLOCATED £5.23M TO SUPPORT
CAMBRIDGESHIRE BUSINESSES**

4th July 2008

Cambridge Regional College is extremely pleased to report that it has recently received an allocation of £5.23m from the Learning & Skills Council to support Cambridgeshire businesses to achieve nationally recognised qualifications for their employees.

The funding is part of the Government's major Train to Gain initiative which is targeting the improvement of workforce qualifications from basic levels through to higher. Although this funding is for the period August 2008 through to July 2009, the funding is due to continue and increase over the next two years amounting to £1bn in total for the country.

Notice of the allocation was received by the Principal, Rick Dearing, earlier this week. He says: "During the past two years, CRC has proven itself to be a leading provider in the Eastern Region of training for employees in the workplace and this major allocation recognises not only our previous performance but also our ambitions to support local businesses, both small and large, to meet their key objectives and priorities."

The funding will be available from 1 August 2008 and the College is already in communication with major employers in Cambridgeshire to discuss plans to deploy this funding across a wide variety of sectors from health services to manufacturing organisations and from local councils to the motor industry.

Steve Caley, Vice Principal (Employment & Skills) says: "CRC's ambition is to become 'First for Training and Skills' in the Eastern Region and this funding will provide significant impetus to achieve this goal on behalf of Cambridgeshire businesses. To date, local businesses have been approaching the College to gain

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qualifications in areas as diverse as IT, Care & Early Years, Catering & Hospitality, Sustainable Energies, Leadership & Management, Retail, Skills for Life and Food & Drink Manufacturing."

If there are any employers who would like to discuss how they might access these opportunities through the College, they should initially ring Greg Hanrahan, Sales & Marketing Manager on 01223 226403 for further information and advice.

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors:

- The Learning and Skills Council's Train to Gain service provides impartial, independent advice on training to businesses across England. It can help businesses improve their productivity and competitiveness by ensuring that employees have the right skills to do the best job. <http://www.traintogain.gov.uk/>

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact Greg Hanrahan, Sales & Marketing Manager, on 01223 226403.