



Midwestern Governors Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MGA Announces Launch of Midwest Power Skills Website

Washington, D.C. - The Midwestern Governors Association announced today the launch of a new [website](http://www.midwestpowerskills.net) that provides a gateway for people looking to enroll in classes related to the energy industry at the region's community and technical colleges.

This website, www.midwestpowerskills.net, allows students to search for courses and training by state, college or keyword (for example wind, ethanol or composite material). In addition to helping current and potential students, this website will provide community and technical colleges, as well as employers and policy makers, information on the region's existing energy courses and training opportunities.

"The Midwest is positioned to be a leader in the new energy economy, and a trained, skilled workforce is a critical component of that progress," said Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland, current MGA chair. "Through the Midwest Power Skills website, the region's community and technical colleges will be able to highlight the tools and opportunities they provide to their students."

In the fall of 2009, Midwestern governors agreed to the [*Platform for Creating and Retaining Midwestern Jobs in the New Energy Economy*](#), which included various cooperative regional agreements. One of these agreements included the creation of a clearinghouse to provide information on energy economy training opportunities in the 10 MGA states. The MGA partnered with Des Moines Area Community College and the Global Midwest Community and Technical College Consortium to establish this online clearinghouse.

"The Midwest Power Skills website provides community and technical colleges and universities with a forum to learn and discuss curriculum and skills training necessary for the new energy economy," said Rob Denson, president of Des Moines Area Community College. "By learning from each other and understanding what the workforce needs are, we will be able to expand or adjust our schools' coursework and expectations of our students – resulting in real understanding, tangible experience and a skilled workforce for regional economic progress."

Each community college populates and maintains its own information on www.midwestpowerskills.net. Funding for the site came from a U.S. Department of Labor grant through the Iowa Workforce Development.

More information on Des Moines Area Community College is available by visiting www.dmac.edu.

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