

As part of the 2019 **Berkshire Advanced Manufacturing Program**, 28 unemployed or underemployed participants received certificates of completion for their participation in two programs: Introduction to Basic Advanced Manufacturing Skills Training (120 hours), held at **Taconic High School** in Pittsfield and **McCann Tech** in North Adams; and Welding (95 hours), held at **McCann Tech**. Training included blueprint reading, shop math, computer aided drafting, CAM, machining, and mill and lathe programming, which are the skills companies are requesting. These training programs are funded by a \$178,000 state grant awarded to the **Berkshire Workforce Board** for FY2019 to support the education and training of individuals in skills needed to enter and/or advance within the Advanced Manufacturing workforce in Berkshire County. This is the fifth year these training programs have been provided. Past program participants boast a 70-percent job placement rate in manufacturing companies in the region.