

NEW ENGLAND BUSINESS
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS
OFFERS ADULTS 'JOB READY'
OPPORTUNITIES

By Constance Dwyer

Mendon has an educational center, New England Business Education Systems, (NEBES), that offers state-of-the-art training for adults who need to be trained or re-trained according to the demands of the workplace in a tight economy. According to Professor Russell Bedard, a founder of NEBES in May 2005, "our center's goal is to improve peoples' life-circumstances by providing them with an education that will allow them to be gainfully employed." Professor Bedard is known as one of the area's top educators and is a seasoned college professor who has taught accounting, finance, and economics. He added that NEBES was licensed in Massachusetts two years ago (Jan. 1, 2007).

Professor Bedard earned his B.S. in Business Administration from Eastern Nazarene College and his MBA from Anna Maria College. Currently, he is completing his Doctorate in Business Administration at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. An associate refers to Professor Bedard as "a creative and ardent entrepreneur."

Each NEBES program consists of courses designed to provide a "focused" education based on the subjects that are taught and "real life case studies" that will make a graduate become the "turn to person" with the right answers whether it's in accounting, certified bookkeeper, certified office administrator, human resources, management, computer technology, or as a paralegal, among other courses.

The professors at New England Business Education Systems are practitioners in the field and academicians; Russ calls them "pracademicians." Together, the faculty provides 30 years plus of collective experience in academics and the workplace.

Russ says the school "teaches from the ground up, and wants to make sure students are comfortable and don't feel intimidated and received a focused education." He says the teachers stress ethics and they must pass exams on national levels for each area of expertise. "When they graduate, they know exactly what they'll be doing."

The students come from "diverse backgrounds," whether in nearby Worcester County or as far away as the Brookfields. Some are fortunate to receive financial assistance from the Dept. of Transitional Assistance (welfare), Massachusetts Rehabilitation, Veteran's Benefits, Workmen's Compensation or retraining benefits from the unemployment office. Others are self-supporting but, whatever their circumstances, NEBES, stands behind each and every student and assures them a "100% educational guarantee and that we will never quit on them" and will help them with job interviews and seeking the right job through "networking" with alumni or other business contacts. The school is proud to have a "95% graduation rate," and offers repeat courses, where necessary, at no extra charge to the student. "We want to make sure every student reaches the finish line."

Although currently located in Massachusetts, Russ enthusiastically talked about their being also licensed in Vermont and Maine and his colleague's plan to pursue licensing in Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Connecticut. He said that, even now, if there were six to eight students living in Bedford, for example, who wanted to take a course, NEBES is willing to travel to that site. In addition, they offer "on-line" courses where a student out of state can interact with a professor teaching in Mendon.

Classes are offered from 9 am to about 5 p.m. but some classes may also run from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Prospective students are welcome to visit NEBES and to sit in on a class. Anyone who has interest in learning more about New England Business Educational Systems, can call 1-800-974-0041 or visit www.nebes.biz

Professor Russ Bedard and his family are residents of Linwood.