

IMPROVING READINESS OF NEW HIRES THROUGH CGMP HANDS-ON BIOPHARMACEUTICAL TRAINING



**Texas A&M University
College Station, TX**

Type:
Educational Institution

Participating Organizations:
Vericel Corporation and
Akron Biotechnology, LLC.

» *Jenny Ligon*



INDUSTRY NEED

The biopharma industry is experiencing a major workforce gap from roles in process development to manufacturing. It has become more difficult to find a new entry level candidate, military vets, or career transitioners that can hit the ground running. Qualified individuals are needed to fill this immediate need by the industry to remain and limit or eliminate the initial training costs by a company.

SOLUTION

This project has created a blended program with online and hands-on training that can be completed in 50% less the time it would take a company to on-board a new employee. The program was highly competitive and the NIIMBL award allowed for the curriculum to be developed in accordance with industry standards and offered to participants at an 80% savings from that of other programs.

OUTCOME

More than 70 individuals expressed interest in the course. Cohort was completed by 47 people who now have an Advanced Certificate in Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing. All participants have successfully enhanced their technical skills and are working in the industry with place at companies such as Merck, Fujifilm, Akron Biotech, BMS, Boehringer Ingelheim, etc.

This project was developed with an award from the National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals (NIIMBL) and financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (70NANB17H002).



Photos courtesy of Texas A&M University

“ Participants in the Door-to-Floor program have been able to advance their careers with several receiving internships or employment at leading biomanufacturers such as BMS and Merck, as well as innovative start-ups. ”