



## **NEWS RELEASE | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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### **City to host Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certification training**

The Danville Office of Economic Development & Tourism, in partnership with GENEDGE, will host the Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Certification Training (LSSBB) for professionals and businesses in the city of Danville and jointly owned industrial parks in Danville and Pittsylvania County, beginning August 11, 2025. LSSBB Training equips professionals with the advanced tools, techniques, and leadership skills needed to lead impactful projects that reduce waste, enhance efficiency, and improve quality across operations.

This training is tailored to provide professional development to those in the manufacturing, services, government, education, and healthcare sectors, and other fields. Course topics include advanced statistical analysis, process mapping and improvement, root cause analysis, design of experiments, project management for continuous improvement, control charting, and developing effective strategies for sustainable operational excellence.

“Earning a Six Sigma Master Black Belt certification has been invaluable in my career, especially in the manufacturing industry,” said Ryland Clark, Community Relations and Engagement Manager, Hitachi Energy. “At Hitachi Energy, it allows me to approach challenges with a data-driven mindset, optimize processes, and drive continuous improvement. Whether it’s enhancing operational efficiency, reducing waste, or improving customer satisfaction, the methodologies behind Six Sigma provide a structured framework for delivering measurable results. Beyond manufacturing, these skills have also helped me in community engagement—bringing a problem-solving approach to initiatives that benefit Halifax County and the surrounding region.”

Each participant will undergo in-depth training over the course of 4 months, with each training spanning one week per month, Monday-Friday. Each class will include both lectures and simulation-based exercises to fully engage participants. Classes will be held at the Institute for Advanced Learning & Research, 150 Slayton Avenue, Danville. Each class will be scheduled from 8am-5pm, with Monday classes starting at 12pm.

Since 1992, GENEDGE has been Virginia's go-to public resource for helping industry innovate, compete, and grow. As a member of the MEP National Network™ and the lead for Virginia's Department of Energy-supported Smart Manufacturing Accelerator (VSMA), GENEDGE delivers high-quality consulting, training, and programmatic solutions to a market of over 13,844 companies and 439,848 employees, contributing to 14% of Virginia's GDP.

Participation is limited. The deadline to register is August 1, 2025. To learn more about registration and cost, click here: <https://www.discoverdanville.com/lean-six-sigma-black-belt-certification-training/>

Interested participants can attend a virtual webinar to learn more about the training on June 17, from 11:30am-12:00pm. Click here to register:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/2x6FRGpuS4C-oeZSq8kxNw#/registration>

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#### **About the Office of Economic Development & Tourism**

The Danville Office of Economic Development & Tourism recruits and retains businesses for the Danville area. The office provides information on available sites and buildings, incentives and other financial resources and offers a website designed for the business community: [www.discoverdanville.com](http://www.discoverdanville.com).