

2012 Commitment for Lean Enterprise Course & Certification Program

Manufacturing companies in the Dakotas in partnership with the Dakota MEP are working together on a program to build Lean Enterprise capacity within manufacturing companies and the manufacturing industry. Program participants will receive a Lean Knowledge Certificate and, as a recommended option, prove their proficiencies by passing the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) Bronze Level Certificate Examination provided. All options include an on-site Lean Enterprise assessment prior to start of the program.

- Option 1: Lean Enterprise Course with Lean Bronze Exam *plus* Project Portfolio Assistance, with Two (2) Kaizen Blitzes
 Option 2: Lean Enterprise Course with Lean Bronze Exam and Company Kaizen Blitz training
 Option 3: Lean Enterprise Course with Company Kaizen Blitz training

Note: One additional company kaizen blitz is included with any option if there are four (4) or more attendees from the same company. Option 1 includes two company kaizen blitzes, regardless of company attendance, and also includes project portfolio guidance.

Manufacturer Partner Financial Commitment Per Participant	
Total Manufacturer Cost: Option 1	\$2,995
Option 2	\$1,995
Option 3	\$1,750
Optional: State Workforce Development Grant <i>This funding or a portion of (if approved) will be reimbursed directly to the manufacturer by their respective state workforce development program.</i>	Option 1: \$698-\$997 Option 2: \$698-\$997 Option 3: \$612-\$875

The accompanying pages provide the program definitions, proposed dates and suggested target participants.

To participate in this Program, the Manufacturer agrees to the following:

1. In advance of the program, participate in a brief assessment to identify expected outcomes resulting from program completion.
2. To pay to Dakota MEP the per-participant amount selected from the option(s) above.
3. To make a timely application to the appropriate state workforce development organization for **reimbursement** of \$X per participant. The Dakota MEP will assist with the application process.
4. To make our best efforts to schedule the participants so they can fully participate in the program. To commit the time and resources for a group tour of the plant, and host at least one group kaizen event.
5. To provide constructive feedback on the program, including participating in a MEP NIST confidential, 3rd party survey after completion.

We understand the above listed commitments required to participate in the Certificate of Knowledge Lean Enterprise Training & Certification Program, and agree to work with the Dakota MEP on the program.

Company Name _____

Authorized Manufacturer Representative _____
Name / Title

Date: _____

Please provide a copy of this completed commitment to: Dan Halverson * The Dakota MEP * 1929 N Washington St, Suite M* Bismarck, ND 58501---Dan can also be reached via e-mail at: danh@dakotamep.com or at 701-328-5472 or fax 701-328-5478.

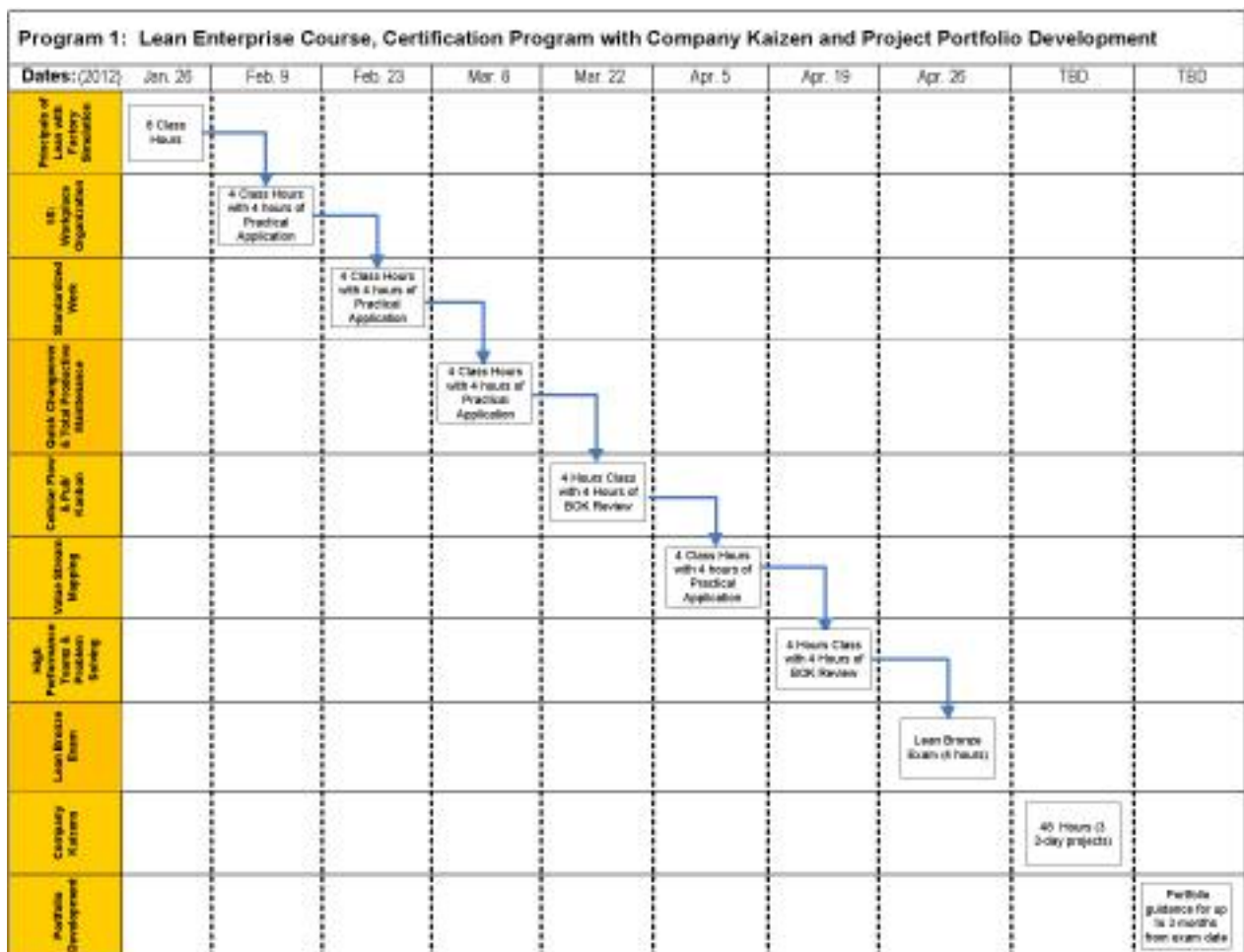
Option I Target Participants

Option I targets companies on Lean journeys, and to internal Lean champions, practitioners and consultants charged with facilitating those lean transformations. Those that successfully complete this course, and pass the Lean Bronze examination will have demonstrated and be fully capable of leading lean tactical projects within their respective organizations. The Dakota MEP will fully prepare the participants for, and proctor the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) Lean Bronze Examination.

To achieve full Lean Bronze Certification, the participant must successfully complete a project portfolio. The Dakota MEP prepares and guides the participants through to SME Lean Bronze Certification including facilitation and coaching of three of the required five kaizen events for individual portfolios. Assistance with portfolio development is included.

Those that successfully complete this course will be fully capable of leading aggressive Lean tactical projects within their respective organizations, and begin pursuit of the Silver-Level Certification.

Option I includes an on-site Lean assessment prior to start of the program.

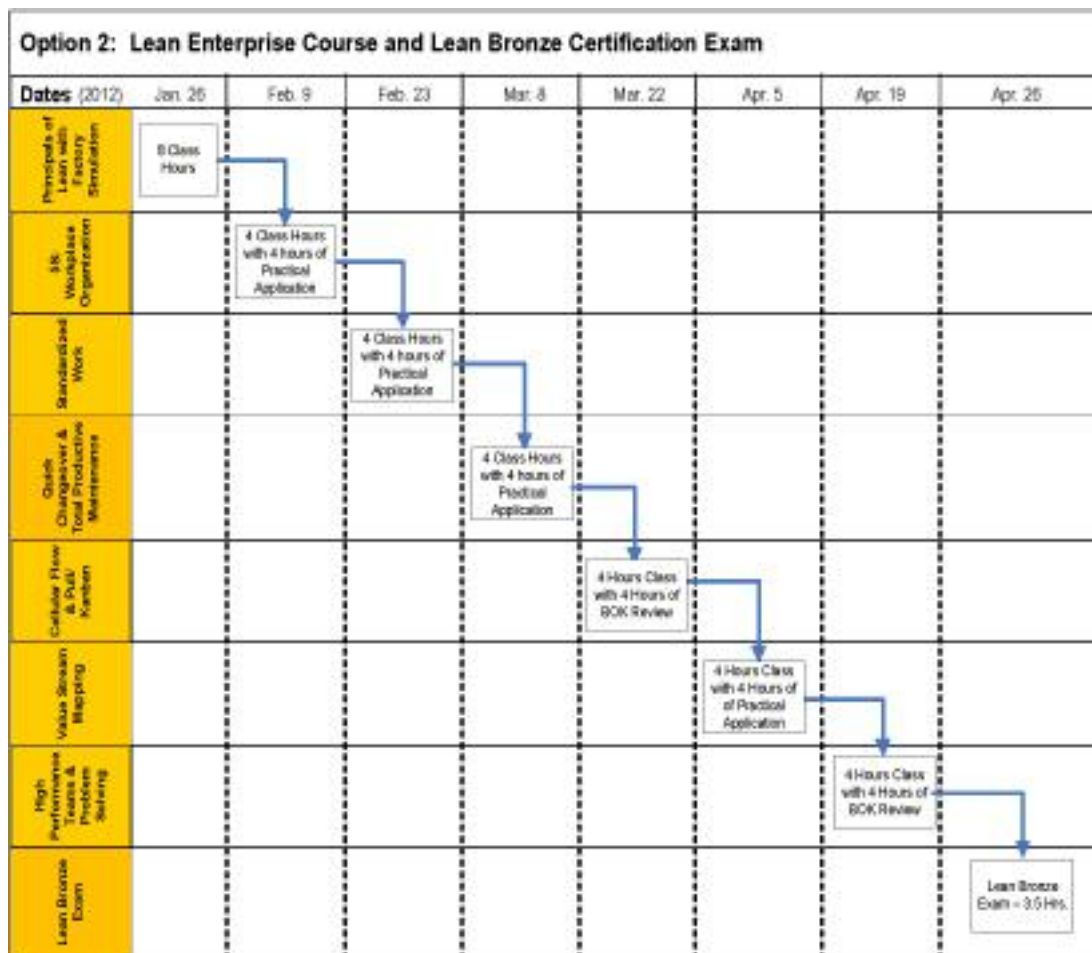


Option 2 Target Participants

Program 2 is targeted to companies on Lean journeys, and to internal Lean champions and practitioners charged with facilitating those lean transformations. Those that successfully complete this course and pass the Lean Bronze examination will have demonstrated and be fully capable of leading lean tactical projects within their respective organizations. The Dakota MEP will fully prepare the participants for, and proctor the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) Lean Bronze Examination.

To achieve full Lean Bronze Certification, the participant must successfully complete a project portfolio.

Option 2 includes an on-site Lean assessment prior to start of the program.



Option 3 Target Participants

Option 3 targets companies on Lean journeys that recognize that a critical preliminary element is a knowledgeable and skilled workforce regarding the tactical aspects of Lean. This goal of this course is to provide the organization with Lean thinkers at the process-expert levels, i.e., those that perform within the processes day after day. Examples would be operators and assemblers on the factory floor.

Those that successfully complete this course will be fully capable of contributing to lean tactical projects within their respective organizations.

Option 3 includes an on-site Lean assessment prior to start of the program.

