

News 10 NBC, WHEC-TV Rochester

\$15 million check from federal government to be used for area jobs program

2/27/06

Monroe County and the Finger Lakes region received a \$15 million check Monday from the federal government, one of 13 regions nationwide selected for the Bush administration's WIRED initiative, [Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development](#), jobs program

Congressman Tom Reynolds says as we head further into the 21st century our workforce is transforming from manufacturing to knowledge based economy. Reynolds says the federal money will be used to identify what the region needs to keep jobs here and to bring in new employees. "That's really going to allow us to turn the corner and focus on future opportunities to see where we can compete not only in New York State but in a global economy."

The money is expected to bring leaders from business and leaders from education together and to formulate a long term plan to make sure students are being trained properly for high skill, high wage employment opportunities in the area.

Officials say the money will be dispersed in many directions including at Monroe community college and other schools to create entrepreneurial programs that would be expected to create a number of businesses that would hire anywhere from one to fifty people.