

SPRINGFIELD

Blackjack dealer classes begin March 18

MCCTI now accepting registrations

The Massachusetts Casino Career Training Institute is accepting registrations for day and evening blackjack dealer classes that begin March 18.

The class is designed for anyone interested in obtaining training to work as a table games dealer at MGM Springfield. No dealer experience is necessary.

"All you need is a positive attitude," said Michele Cabral, director of MCCTI. "Teachers, students who need to work while going to school, retirees, veterans or anyone looking for a fun, flexible, part-time or full-time job - this may be the right opportunity for you."

The classes at MCCTI, 95 State St., will run from March 18 to May 6, Monday through Thursday. Prospective trainees have a choice of enrolling in afternoon or evening

classes:

- Day class hours: 1-4 p.m.
- Evening class hours: 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Holyoke Community College and Springfield Technical Community College, in collaboration with MGM, created the training school to help people learn skills to work at MGM Springfield.

MGM guarantees a chance to audition to work at the entertainment complex in Springfield after successful completion of at least two table game certifications. MCCTI students are advised to take a carnival games class immediately after completing blackjack.

Since MCCTI opened a year ago, about 80 percent of the graduates have received offers to work at MGM. Other

graduates decide to pursue other opportunities or choose to take additional classes at MCCTI.

Scholarships are available for qualifying candidates.

"MCCTI continues to appreciate the partnership with MGM," Cabral said. "We are proud of the more than 200 students who have graduated from the school."

"Conversations with managers at MGM let us know what great employees MCCTI graduates make," Cabral added. "Students learn about the games they will be dealing and also learn the importance of customer service and work ethic."

To register online for classes and learn more, visit mccti.org/school.html. Call 413-552-2086 with questions.



Shelly Littlejohn gives blackjack dealing instructions last year at the Massachusetts Casino Career Training Institute at 95 State St., Springfield. Blackjack dealer classes begin March 18.

(DON TREEGER / THE REPUBLICAN FILE PHOTO)

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MICHELE CABRAL, DIRECTOR OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CASINO CAREER TRAINING INSTITUTE