



Samantha McGovern serves as Manager of Pre-Apprenticeship Programs, where she leads innovative workforce development initiatives that connect individuals to rewarding careers in advanced manufacturing and the skilled trades. In partnership with the Center for Economic Growth, the Capital Region Workforce Development Board, SUNY System, and the Manufacturing Talent Institute, she oversees **Advance 2 Apprenticeship**, a free pre-apprenticeship program that prepares participants for entry into registered apprenticeships and employment, as well as **Real Life Rosies**, an initiative dedicated to increasing awareness of and access to manufacturing careers for women.

Drawing on her background in higher education, Samantha works to create inclusive pathways that help individuals from all backgrounds explore career opportunities, develop in-demand skills, and achieve economic mobility. She collaborates closely with employers, educational institutions, and community organizations to strengthen our talent ecosystem and expand access to workforce training opportunities across the region.

Samantha earned her Master of Public Administration from Cornell University in 2025. Her writing and research focus on workforce inclusion, worker safety, and job quality, examining how workplace conditions, performance expectations, and employment practices shape economic mobility and overall well-being. Through both her scholarship and professional practice, she is committed to advancing workforce development strategies that create access to meaningful, sustainable careers while meeting the evolving needs of industry.