

Community-Based Job Training Grants

Florida Community College at Jacksonville

Grantee: Florida Community College at Jacksonville

Industry Focus: Construction

Key Partners: Florida Construction Institute, WORKSource, the First Coast Regional Workforce Board, Duval County Public Schools, Pathways Charter School, Fresh Ministries, and Cornerstone Regional Development Partnership

Grant Amount: \$1,999,835

Leveraged Amount: \$3,253,187

Location of Grant Activities: Florida

Challenge: In metropolitan Jacksonville, the construction industry continues to experience an unprecedented demand for services, yet construction companies are having difficulty meeting the demand for skilled workers. According to the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovations, construction is the third fastest-growing industry in the region, which includes Jacksonville. Between 2005 and 2013, construction-related jobs are expected to increase by 2.67 percent in Duval and adjacent counties. Based on that projection, the construction trades will employ an additional 9,355 workers in metropolitan Jacksonville by 2013, for a total estimated workforce of 53,078.

Addressing the Challenge: The grantee will develop a competency-based, modular curriculum in five construction trades (plumbing, masonry, carpentry, electricity, and heating ventilation and air conditioning) leading to accelerated classroom and co-op instruction and placement of workers. The grantee will implement an intensive marketing campaign aimed at advancing the stature of the industry by informing the general public and local construction companies about college-credit and certification programs; institute summer camps for 8th – 12th graders, on-the-job training, mentoring, job shadowing, and expansion of the high school clubs; and create and offer a mobile classroom through the use of a van that will travel to jobsites or local companies. The project will also increase and offer a full line of courses to construction companies with the use of short or long term courses offered at company sites, as well as weekend and night programs at the college.

Projected Outcomes:

- 738 students will participate in training activities
- 51.6 percent enrollment increase in the Continuing Workforce Education (CWE), Postsecondary Adult Vocational (PSAV), and Postsecondary Vocational (PSV) programs
- Develop a recruitment model with marketing and advertising products
- Develop customized training with courses that will lead to certification

