

# Community-Based Job Training Grants

## *Salem Community College*

**Grantee:** Salem Community College

**Industry Focus:** Energy

**Key Partners:** PSEG Power, LLC; Center for Energy Workforce Development; Energy Freedom Pioneers, Inc.; Salem County High Schools; Salem County One-Stop Career Center; Ranch Hope/Strang Schools; and Calvary Community Development Corporation.

**Grant Amount:** \$1,720,884

**Leveraged Amount:** \$1,581,634

**Location of Grant Activities:** New Jersey

**Challenge:** Salem Community College in collaboration with its two industry partners, PSEG Power and Energy Freedom Pioneers, is addressing the challenge of developing clean energy workforce programs. New Jersey's Energy Master Plan requires the state to receive over 22 percent of its power from renewable energy resources. This goal can not be met without sufficient numbers of qualified workers in the high growth fields of nuclear and renewable energy. Specialized programs must be established to train and prepare workers in these fields.

**Addressing the Challenge:** Two specialized programs will be established at Salem Community College: the Nuclear Energy Technology (NET) Program and the Sustainable Energy Technology (SET) Program. NET graduates, who will receive an associate degree, will receive training on nuclear power plant instrumentation and control maintenance. Salem Community College will lead the development of the program and PSEG Power will provide facilities, subject matter expertise, underwrite scholarships, and provide paid internships at PSEG Power's nuclear power plants. SET will focus on the transition of energy production to more renewable resources like solar and wind-generated power. Salem Community College is addressing the shortage of trained technicians by partnering with Energy Freedom Pioneers on a facility to house the new SET program. SET students will focus on four specific topics: photovoltaic solar systems, wind turbines, biodiesel, and gasification. Graduates will receive and Associate Degree in Sustainable Energy.

### **Projected Outcomes:**

- 120 traditional and nontraditional students will enroll in the NET and SET programs.
- 300 participants will receive pre-collegiate preparation, mentoring and training to prepare them for the associate degree program.
- 2,410 participants will receive continuing education assistance.
- 90 percent of participants will complete the program.
- 70 percent of adult participants will complete the program.
- 70 percent of participants will enter employment.
- 90 percent of the participants who enter employment will continue to be employed after six months.

