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**President's High Growth Job Training Initiative**  
*Center of Excellence for Radiation Protection Technology  
Education and Training*



**Grant amount:** \$2,305,995

**Grantee:** The University of Missouri

**Key Partners:** Linn State Technical College's Advanced Technology Center in partnership with Ameren, Central Virginia Community College with Framatome-Areva, Mira Costa Community College with Southern California Edison, Estrella Mountain Community College with Arizona Public Service, Hill College with Reliant Energy, and TXU Generation, Bartlett Nuclear, Inc.

**Leveraged Amount:** \$1,172,053

**Location of Grant Activities:** Columbia and Mexico, Missouri, and partner geographic areas (covering five regions across the country)

**Challenge:**

The nuclear industry will need to attract thousands of new workers over the next 10 years to sustain the projected level of industry activities. Industry data suggest that up to 57% of Radiation Protection Technicians will retire within the next five years. Radiation Protection Technicians are responsible for keeping radiation levels safe in nuclear power plants. Their skills are also in high demand for careers in healthcare and other industries.

**Addressing the Challenge:**

The University of Missouri and its partners will establish the Center of Excellence for Radiation Protection Technology Education and Training with locations in Missouri, Virginia, California, Arizona, and Texas. The Center will develop and disseminate a two-year Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nuclear Technology program. Graduates will be hired by nuclear power plants and national laboratories. This degree program will contribute significantly to meeting the energy industry's workforce needs for radiation protection technicians and help ensure that the demand for qualified, skilled workers is met throughout the United States.

**Projected Outcomes:**

- A standardized curriculum in radiation protection technician training that meets the nuclear energy industry requirements;
- Development of a network of two-year community college and nuclear utility industry partners geographically dispersed across the nation; and
- The capacity to produce 150-200 Associate degree radiation protection technicians per year in the United States.

