

Community-Based Job Training Grants

Board of Trustees of Connecticut Community-Technical Colleges

Grantee: Board of Trustees of Connecticut Community Technical Colleges

Industry Focus: Energy

Key Partners: Twelve Connecticut Community College System (CCCS) colleges; CCCS College of Technology; Connecticut (CT) Workforce Development Council; CT Office for Workforce Competitiveness; CT Department of Labor; CT State Department of Education; CT State Department of Education – Workforce Coordinating Committee; CT Technical High School System; CT Women’s Education and Legal Fund; CT Department of Economic and Community Development; CT Department of Corrections; CT Center for Advanced Technology; CT Clean Energy Fund; Interstate Renewable Energy Council; FuelCell Energy; CT Business and Industry Association; and Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc.

Grant Amount: \$2,080,407

Leveraged Amount: \$2,700,000

Location of Grant Activities: Connecticut

Challenge: A growing movement to reduce dependence on fossil fuels promises to restructure the U.S. energy workforce and create millions of “green” jobs. National projections anticipate 1.5 million new renewable transportation fuel jobs and 1.2 million new renewable power generation jobs by 2038. Directing attention and resources to this emerging industry could help position Connecticut to become an alternative energy leader, creating high wage jobs and supporting economic expansion. Connecticut’s governor has proposed *Connecticut’s Energy Vision for a Cleaner, Greener State*. The CCCS system is responding to that challenge through the Sustainable Operations: Alternative & Renewable (SOAR) Energy Initiative.

Addressing the Challenge: The SOAR Energy Initiative will create eight Sustainable Operations Certificate credit programs that provide basic academic and foundational technical skills for careers in the renewable energy industry. The CCCS Sustainable Operations Certificate Program will be offered at all 12 colleges in the system. The program will include enhanced learning technology, increased instructional supports and improved tuition assistance, tutoring, and academic and career counseling.

Projected Outcomes:

- 320 participants will earn a CCCS Sustainable Operations Certificate in one of eight occupational specialties.
- 272 participants who earn CCCS Sustainable Operations Certificate will enter employment; 240 of these will enter employment in an occupation directly related to training.
- 165 participants will receive a total of \$570,000 in tuition assistance.
- Six-month average earnings will equal \$19,500 and six-month earnings increase will equal \$5,200.

