

Community-Based Job Training Grants

Tacoma Community College

Grantee: Tacoma Community College

Industry Focus: Transportation

Key Partners: Tacoma-Pierce County Workforce Development Council; Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council; South Central Workforce Development Council; Pierce County Youth Career One-Stop Center; Washington Dept. of Commerce, Trade, and Economic Development; Tacoma-Pierce County Economic Development Board; Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board; Pacific Mountain Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development; Lower Columbia College; Yakima Valley Community College; Pierce County Careers Connection; Macmillan Piper; Marine View Ventures, Inc; Totem Ocean Trailer Express; Washington State Center of Excellence for Transportation, Logistics, and International Trade; Port of Tacoma; Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce; Association for Washington Business; Tacoma Community House; Casey Family Programs; Tacoma Goodwill Industries; and Heroes to Hometown.

Grant Amount: \$1,941,098

Leveraged Amount: \$1,913,736

Location of Grant Activities: Tacoma, Washington

Challenge: The Tacoma-Pierce County area is projected to experience 21 percent growth in the warehousing and storage sectors of the transportation industry, and a 12 percent increase in marine cargo handling jobs between 2009 and 2014. Transportation is an industry being transformed by new technologies and requires new skill sets for workers. Tacoma Community College's (TCC) primary capacity challenge in meeting labor demand is the lack of funding to expand programs to serve additional students. Also, the state of Washington lacks a pipeline and career lattice instruction or training in warehousing and distribution. TCC is also limited in the ability of existing programs to serve low-skilled individuals and individuals with barriers to employment.

Addressing the Challenge: TCC will create a transportation career pipeline for disadvantaged adults and youth through job training in warehousing, distribution, and logistics. This program will focus on targeted job training and support services to create a career pipeline of skilled workers for the transportation industry. The program will adapt and implement a Work Readiness Credential and Customer Service Certification and develop a new entry-level General Warehouse Clerk Certificate. The program will increase the capacity of TCC to reach hard to serve and rural populations, and mitigate barriers to instruction using interactive technology-based training.

Projected Outcomes:

- 720 participants will enroll in training.
- 80 percent of participants will enter employment and 85 percent will be retained.
- 360 participants will see an increase in averages wages or enter training-related employment.

