
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative
San Juan College Regional Training Center



Grant Amount: \$2,113,127

Grantee: San Juan College

Key Partners: Northern Area Workforce Investment Board, Key Energy Services, New Mexico Department of Labor, Navajo Nation, Gas Compressor Association, American Petroleum Institute - Four Corners Chapter

Leveraged Amount: \$2.5 million in cash and in-kind contributions from Key Energy Services, The Navajo Nation, Burlington Resources, and many others

Location of Grant Activities: Farmington, New Mexico

Challenge:

The critical oil and gas industry in the Rocky Mountain states (New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming) faces a worker shortage, as well as high turnover and poor retention rates. In addition, the potential labor pool in these areas is often predominantly Spanish- or Navajo-speaking, creating barriers to meeting the industry's immediate and forecasted workforce needs. As training for the industry requires on-the-job experience with costly industry-current equipment, it is a financial challenge to train sufficient numbers of workers across this wide area.

Addressing the Challenge:

With significant support from the industry, San Juan College is developing a centralized regional training center, located in New Mexico, to meet the training and human resource needs of the Rocky Mountain energy industry. One-Stop Career Centers across the four states will provide recruitment and assessment services to unemployed, dislocated, and incumbent workers. Participants will complete hands-on training at the regional training center in New Mexico. All training and training materials will be developed and delivered in Spanish and Navajo, and course instructors will be bilingual. Mentors will support participants through their training and enhance participants' placement, retention, and advancement opportunities.

Project Outcomes:

For the last two years, the program trained nearly 5,600 individuals and the placement rate exceeds 95% for those who were unemployed when training began.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Energy Industry Demonstration Grant
Announced on February 14, 2003*