

N E W S R E L E A S E

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EDD awards \$2 million to provide job opportunities and training for people with disabilities

SACRAMENTO –The California Employment Development Department (EDD) today awarded \$2 million in Disability Employment Accelerator grants to provide job training and employment opportunities to people with disabilities. The EDD awarded the funding to six workforce development organizations that serve eight counties including Inyo, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Mono, Sacramento, San Diego and Tulare.

“People with disabilities contribute greatly to the workplace,” said EDD Director Patrick W. Henning. “These grants will fund programs for people with disabilities that can lead to employment, career advancement and economic independence.”

The organizations will work with local businesses in high-growth industries to develop “earn-and-learn” strategies that include paid work experience, transitional jobs and on-the-job training opportunities for people with disabilities.

Each organization will engage with local companies to determine regional industries of focus, and then will develop training and provide job opportunities in locally in-demand career fields that include healthcare, hospitality, construction management and information technology.

Funding for this grant was provided through discretionary funds made available to Governor Gavin Newsom in accordance with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and is administered by the EDD and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. The organizations were selected through a competitive selection process as part of the 2019 Disability Employment Accelerator program.

(more)

Please refer to the following table for more information about the 2019 Disability Employment Accelerator grant recipients:

Awardee	County	Amount	Contact
Able-Disabled Advocacy, Inc.	San Diego	\$350,000.00	Elaine Cooluris (619) 231-5990 ext. 319 Elaine@able2work.org
Employers' Training Resource	Kern, Inyo, Mono and Kings	\$350,000.00	Bill Stevenson (661) 635-2758 Bills@kerncounty.com
Sacramento Employment and Training Agency	Sacramento	\$350,000.00	Michelle O'Camb (916) 263-3868 Michelle.OCamb@seta.net
Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board	Los Angeles	\$350,000.00	Marjean Clements (562) 402-9336 ext. 1252 Marjeanc@selaco.com
Tulare County Workforce Investment Board	Tulare	\$250,000.00	Adam Peck (559) 713-5200 APeck@tularewib.org
Verdugo Workforce Development Board	Los Angeles	\$350,000.00	Judith Velasco (818) 937-8031 JVelasco@glendaleca.gov