

N E W S R E L E A S E

Contact: Loree Levy
Aubrey Henry
916-654-9029

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EDD awards \$11.5 million to 19 organizations to provide job training and career development to under-served job seekers

SACRAMENTO – The California Employment Development Department (EDD) announced today it has awarded \$11.5 million in Equity and Special Populations (ESP) grant funds to 19 organizations that will help underserved job seekers find careers. The ESP program will accelerate the deployment of workforce development resources to populations throughout California that have historically faced significant barriers to employment and community services.

“The workers targeted by this program have endured many roadblocks to gainful employment and these funds will help connect them to the services they need to be competitive in today’s labor force,” said EDD Director Rita Saenz.

The selected organizations will serve difficult-to-reach sectors including: English language learners, the homeless and housing insecure, immigrants, justice-involved individuals, people with disabilities, veterans, young adults, and those disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant’s funding will enable certified training and work-based learning opportunities for 2,530 workers currently confronting economic and employment barriers.

To develop career pathways for these special populations, ESP grant awardees will build meaningful partnerships and sustainable industry investments with education and training providers, employers, and community-based organizations.

Job seekers receiving services funded by this grant will benefit from career counseling and guidance, job skills development, technical skills training, and apprenticeships. Some of the targeted industries the workers will train for include: advanced manufacturing, building and construction, healthcare, cyber security and information technology, early childhood education, and transportation and logistics. Following completion of these trainings, workers will receive follow-up services that address healthcare, childcare, and financial literacy to ensure they retain their employment.

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 administered by the EDD and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

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These organizations were selected through a competitive application and evaluation process. Please refer to the table below for the organizations' contact information to learn more about the services available with these funds.

Awardee	County	Award Amount	Industries and Populations Served	Contact
Berkeley Youth Alternatives	Alameda Contra Costa	\$250,000	Healthcare Young Adults	Kevin Williams 1-510-845-9010 kwilliams@byaonline.org
Chrysalis	Los Angeles	\$750,000	Health and Human Services; Green Jobs; Government; Information Technology (IT) Homeless and Housing Insecure	Mark Loranger 1-213-806-6342 markl@changelives.org
Epidaurus DBA Amity Foundation	Los Angeles	\$500,000	Substance Abuse Counseling; Facility Maintenance; Justice- Involved	Doug Bond 1-213-400-4243 dbond@amityfdn.org
Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board	Fresno Kings Madera	\$750,000	Construction; Forestry; Solar; English Language Learners (ELL), Justice-Involved, and Veterans	Blake Konczal 1-559-490-7102 bkonczal@wfc.co
Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program	Imperial	\$500,000	Building; Construction; Transportation All populations	Edwin P. Obergfell 1-760-482-2600 eobergfell@ivrop.org
Inland Southern California 211+	Riverside San Bernardino	\$400,000	Logistics and Global Supply Chain; Construction; Manufacturing; 3D Mechanical Drafting; Facility/Utility Maintenance Justice-Involved	Lisa Wright 1-951-697-4703 lwright@iscuw.org
Inter-City Services	Alameda Contra Costa	\$500,000	Cybersecurity; Green Tech; Construction; IT; Healthcare; Biotechnology; Energy; Financial Services; Nanotechnology; Hospitality and Retail; Transportation and Truck Drivers; Solar Photovoltaic; EMTs, Fire Fighters and Law Enforcement Veterans	Mansour Id-Deen 1-510-655-3552 middeen@icsworks.com

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Awardee	County	Award Amount	Industries and Populations Served	Contact
JVS SoCal	Los Angeles	\$500,000	Construction; Education; Government; Healthcare; Manufacturing; Social services; Young adults	Kim Fedrick 1-310-962-6424 KFedrick@JVS-SoCal.org
Managed Career Solutions	Los Angeles Ventura	\$375,000	Healthcare; IT; Construction; Advanced Manufacturing; Logistics and Transportation; Early Childhood Education (ECE); Agriculture, Forestry, and Conservation; People with Disabilities (PWD)	Philip Starr 1-213-272-8635 pstarr@mcscareergroup.com
Merced County Workforce Development Board	Merced	\$500,000	Construction; Goods Movement and Logistics; Manufacturing; PWD; Homeless and Housing Insecure; and Justice-Involved	Erick Serrato 1-209-724-2041 Erick.Serrato@countyofmerced.com
North Central Counties Consortium	Colusa Glenn Sutter Yuba	\$1.5 million	Automotive repair and maintenance; Construction; Education; Healthcare; Justice, public order, and safety; Leisure and hospitality; Manufacturing; Professional and business services; Transportation; Utilities. ELLs; PWD; Veterans; Homeless and Housing Insecure; Justice-Involved	Cindy Newton 1-530-751-8202 cnewton@ncen.org
Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment	Los Angeles	\$500,000	Early Childhood Education Immigrants	Kerry Doi 1-213-989-3213 kerrydoi@pacela.org
Sacramento Employment and Training Agency	Sacramento	\$726,835	Mental/behavioral health; Manufacturing; CNA; Bus/truck drivers Young Adults; Homeless and Housing Insecure	Kathy Kossick 1-916-263-3810 Kathy.Kossick@seta.net

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Awardee	County	Award Amount	Industries and Populations Served	Contact
Vietnam Veterans of San Diego (DBA: Veterans Village of San Diego)	San Diego	\$1.2 million	Construction; Health & Social Services; Hospitality; Information Technology/Office Skills; Manufacturing/Warehouse; Public Safety & Security; Transportation, Distribution & Logistics Veterans; Homeless and Housing Insecure; Justice-Involved	John Laidlaw 1-619-393-2027 John.laidlaw@vvsd.net
Women In Non Traditional Employment Roles	Los Angeles	\$500,000	Construction and Building Trades Homeless and Housing Insecure; Justice-Involved; and other women	Alexandra Torres 1-213-749-3970 atgalancid@wintewomen.org
Workforce Development Board of Ventura County	Ventura	\$500,000	Healthcare; Information Technology; Manufacturing; Trade; Transportation and Logistics Homeless and Housing Insecure	Melissa Livingston 1-805-477-5301 Melissa.Livingston@Ventura.org
Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County	Tulare	\$500,000	Advanced Manufacturing; Transportation and Logistics ELLs	Adam Peck 1-559-713-5200 APeck@tularewib.org
Youth Employment Partnership, Inc.	Alameda	\$500,000	Construction; Community Health; Culinary Arts; Healthcare; Warehousing and Logistics Homeless and Housing Insecure	Michele Clark 1-510-533-3447 mclark@yep.org

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