

President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Columbia Basin College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$1,992,675

AREA SERVED: Benton and Franklin Counties, Washington

INDUSTRY: Healthcare

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: \$2,418,600 in leveraged resources from eight employer partners, two education partners, two workforce partners and a private donor

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: Washington State faces continued and increasing healthcare personnel shortages. Two factors contributing to this shortage are: 1) educational and training capacity has not expanded sufficiently to meet current or future demand; and 2) the population is aging and demanding more healthcare services than ever before. Local labor market data indicates that the local Columbia Basin College (CBC) service area of Benton and Franklin Counties is one of the most difficult areas from which to recruit radiology technologists. Local hospitals and other healthcare employers expect to hire 46 Radiological Technologists in the next two years and this growth is expected to increase by 18.2% each year; however, CBC does not currently offer a Radiologic Sciences Training Program because of the limited availability of a facility for training, the need for curriculum development, the lack of equipment and the need for recruitment and retention activities.

ACTIVITIES: The project will include the following activities 1) The development and accreditation of radiologic sciences curricula and certificate programs; 2) The procurement of training equipment; and 3) The hiring of a recruitment and retention specialist to work with participants in providing outreach to K-12 schools, WIA participants and the general public. Students completing the proposed training programs will receive an Associates Degree in Applied Sciences in radiologic sciences and/or certification in a specialty certificate program.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- An Associate Degree in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in radiologic sciences program and eight certificate programs will be developed;
- 124 participants will be trained during the grant period with 104 participants completing training: 20 A.A.S. in radiologic sciences, 24 mammography certificates, 12 nuclear medical certificates, 12 echo cardiographer certificates, 12 MRI certificates, 12 DexaScan certificates and 12 CT Scan certificates; and
- Trained graduates will have an 86% entered employment rate, 90% employment retention rate, 40% increase in earnings for new workers and a 20% increase for existing workers.

