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# President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

## *Gateway Community and Technical College*



**Grantee:** Gateway Community and Technical College

**Industry Focus:** Electric utilities

**Key Partners:** Northern Kentucky Workforce Investment Board; Bluegrass Workforce Investment Board; TENCO Workforce Investment Board; Duke Energy, The Bowlin Group; Owen Count Electric Cooperative; East Kentucky Power Cooperative; Current Communications; Northern Kentucky Council of Partners in Education; Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce; and Vision 2015.

**Grant Amount:** \$394,933

**Leveraged Amount:** \$659,802

**Location of Grant Activities:** 35 Kentucky counties

**Challenge:** Kentucky's energy industry serves more than three million state residents in 120 counties. Statewide, more than 5,000 Kentuckians work in the industry. According to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, the state will need as much as 7,000 new megawatts of electric generation by 2025, or roughly 10 new large power plants. Regional challenges include: 1) an anticipated worker shortage due to more than 50 percent of energy industry employees becoming eligible to retire during the next five years; and 2) the lack of a lineman training facility that incorporates necessary outdoor training areas.

**Addressing the Challenge:** The Gateway to Energy Careers Project provides a solution to the workforce needs of the region's energy industry sector through the development of a career lattice with multiple credential options and entry points. This program will address Kentucky's energy challenges through 1) an aggressive, integrated marketing plan targeting secondary school students, dislocated workers, women and minorities, veterans, and other untapped pools of labor; and 2) the development of the organizational and physical infrastructure necessary to implement a lineman training facility modeled after industry and similar successful programs.

**Projected Outcomes:**

- 78 new students will enroll in The Gateway to Energy Careers Project.
- At least 85% of adult participants will enter employment, with a retention rate of 88%.
- At least 83% of older youth participants will meet the criteria for placement in employment or education.

