

President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$3,018,928

AREA SERVED: Montgomery County and contiguous counties in south-central Alabama

INDUSTRY: Advanced Manufacturing

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: \$2,300,000 in leveraged resources from eight employer partners, four workforce partners, five education partners and two other partners

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: Hyundai and its suppliers have recently located their automotive manufacturing plants in areas surrounding Trenholm State Technical College. Statewide, more than 38,000 new direct jobs and 60,000 indirect jobs have been created. An appropriately skilled workforce is in demand. Those applying for these jobs lack technical skills and required soft skills. Further, there is a lack of high school graduates interested in pursuing auto manufacturing careers. The college lacks qualified personnel and facilities for specialized offerings in automotive manufacturing.

ACTIVITIES: This project will design and implement a two-year college curriculum focused on preparing automotive manufacturing technicians. The proposed curriculum will include a series of credit and non-credit courses leading to industry certifications and a new associate degree that will include sub-specialties. Capacity building activities will be focused on creating the training laboratory facilities and necessary infrastructure. The project will serve four distinct groups: 1) Out-of-school persons seeking employment through formal programs; 2) Job Corps students and high school students who will participate in apprenticeship programs; 3) Students at Trenholm Tech who will benefit from a new associate degree curriculum; and 4) Incumbent workers who will receive industry-driven, competency-based training.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- The creation of a 26-week certificate program leading to an Alabama Certified Worker credential which qualifies workers for entry-level employment;
- Creation of a universal application tool for area employers looking to recruit from the training program;
- Materials Handling Skills Training program developed for the Montgomery Job Corps Center;
- A new high school apprenticeship program;
- The creation of a Fundamentals of Technology lab and a summer Institute in Automotive Manufacturing for high school students; and
- 2,500 employees will receive specialized training through the project.