

President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Hagerstown Community College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$1,649,348

AREA SERVED: Hagerstown, Maryland; Western Maryland and adjacent counties in Pennsylvania and West Virginia

INDUSTRY: Transportation

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: Minimum of \$645,106 in leveraged resources from four employer partners, one workforce partner and two education partners

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: The expanding transportation industry serving the tri-state area of Western Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania has a severe workforce shortage and a pressing need for heavy truck and tractor-trailer drivers, and light or delivery service truck drivers. Hagerstown Community College (HCC) is constrained by a lack of facilities, equipment, skilled faculty, a curriculum development specialist, and financial resources. The college also lacks the physical space and computer labs to implement simulators that would provide an alternative to the driving practicum.

ACTIVITIES: Project I-81/I-70 Crossroads will increase HCC's capacity to deliver training and education through program expansion. Recruitment strategies will be expanded through a comprehensive marketing and outreach campaign, with specific strategies identified to recruit nontraditional students. Workshops will raise awareness to the broad range of transportation career options among teachers and guidance counselors. HCC staff will design and implement curriculum for an associate in applied science degree in addition to a continuum of credit and non-credit education training programs. The project aims to address dropout rates in training programs by implementing strategies such as prescreening. Enhanced remediation services for students for whom English is not their primary language will also be provided. The college will pursue certification by the Professional Truck Driver Training Institute, whose curricula will guide program development.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- Secure and install new classroom equipment for significant expansion of programs, and to provide HCC the capacity for long-term program delivery;
- Develop an A.A.S. degree in transportation management that is approved by industry;
- Develop a new prescreening and student support model that improves student retention;
- Complete a feasibility study for a high school transportation management career cluster;
- Engage 25 regional employers through the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), curriculum review, contributions, program guidance, and employment of graduates;
- Enroll an average of 115 students each year (an increase of 50 percent) in the Commercial Vehicle Transportation (CVT) certificate program;
- Enroll an average of six students each year in the transportation A.A.S. degree program;
- Enroll an average of 30 students each year in continuing education programs;
- Graduate an average of 104 students each year from the CVT certificate program; and
- Maintain a 98 percent pass rate on the Class A Commercial Drivers License exam.

