

President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Central Community College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$1,910,185

AREA SERVED: 43 rural Nebraska counties

INDUSTRY: Transportation

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: \$2,004,225 in leveraged resources from five employer partners, three workforce partners, nine education partners and two other partners.

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: There is a projected need for an additional 12,000 transportation workers in the state of Nebraska in the trucking, railroad, and distribution sectors by 2012. The community colleges are struggling to keep pace with technological changes due to a lack of equipment and outdated curricula. In addition, the colleges serve a dispersed, rural area, which presents geographical barriers to developing career awareness.

ACTIVITIES: The program will engage in a comprehensive, integrated series of activities focusing on curricula development, innovative training, career awareness, professional development and articulation between secondary to post-secondary programs. This will include hiring additional faculty and staff, purchasing equipment, developing online courses and Spanish language materials, aligning training with industry certifications and standards, adapting existing facilities and labs for railroad training and utilizing a mobile lab for career awareness with K-12 students.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- New transportation, distribution, and logistics curriculum will be developed and industry-approved; a simulator, software and hardware equipment will be purchased; facilities will be expanded and a mobile lab equipped; and truck driver training will be Professional Truck Driver Institute-certified and diesel technician program will be National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation-certified;
- A transportation careers toolkit will be developed;
- 1,800 K-12 students will be exposed to transportation careers;
- 5,325 participants will receive training;
- Average earnings increase will be \$3,200 for adults and \$2,245 for dislocated workers;
- 67% of the adults and 76% of dislocated and incumbent workers will complete training and earn a degree or industry-validated credentials;
- 86% of the adults and 91% of the dislocated workers will enter employment;
- 87% of the adults and 93% of the dislocated workers will be retained in employment for at least six months; and
- At least 60% of incumbent workers will advance in their careers post-training.

