
Community-Based Job Training Grants

Western Iowa Technical Community College



Grantee: Western Iowa Technical Community College

Industry Focus: Homeland Security

Key Partners: City of Sioux City, Iowa; Woodbury County; Woodbury County Emergency Disaster Management; Woodbury County Information and Communications Center; Sioux City Community School District; State of Iowa; and Long Lines Telecommunications, Inc.

Grant Amount: \$2,002,260

Leveraged Amount: \$5,156,217

Location of Grant Activities: Tri-State Siouxland Region

Challenge: The tri-state Siouxland region's Homeland Security sector is experiencing a dwindling pool of workers due to pending retirements and an aging workforce. Further, there is a lack of career education knowledge targeted to high school students. Western Iowa Technical Community College (WITCC) faces challenges associated with faculty development, curriculum architecture and educational product mix, and lack of distribution channels.

Addressing the Challenge: The Security Institute Project will develop a curriculum architecture template that will deliver more focused, customized training programs and lead to nationally-recognized certifications and college credentials. The project will also focus on developing course and reusable digital learning objects to align with the U.S. Department of Labor's competency model framework and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Professional Development Model. This will increase the number of students and incumbent career/pay-per-incident/volunteer workers attending training and increase educational attainment. Career training accounts and career advancement accounts will be used to increase student enrollment and an outreach strategy will expose K-12 students and adult learner populations to career opportunities in the industry.

Projected Outcomes:

- 970 participants will be served.
- 270 participants will enroll in credit education and training activities.
- 700 participants will enroll in non-credit short-term contract education and training activities.
- 504 participants that complete short-term training will receive a credential or skills certificate.

