

Community-Based Job Training Grants

Utah Valley University

Grantee: Utah Valley University

Industry Focus: Information Technology

Key Partners: Utah Department of Workforce Services; Certiport, Inc; Kelly Services/Kelly Connect; Staffcentrix; Workforce Education Economic Development Alliance of Utah; Navajo Educational Technology Consortium; Monument Valley High School; Utah Valley University's (UVU) College of Technology & Computing, UVU Community Education Division; UVU Career and Technical Education; LDS Employment Resources Services; Turning Point; American Indian Services; and The Family Church/Assembly of God.

Grant Amount: \$2,269,465

Leveraged Amount: \$1,582,904

Location of Grant Activities: Utah

Challenge: Utah's disadvantaged working populations have been hard hit by the national economic crisis. Growing unemployment and job dislocation are driving disadvantaged populations back to school. Many are faced with having to change career paths or upgrade their skill sets to survive in a highly competitive job market. Information Technology (IT) job growth is critical to the state and regional economy, supplying over 80,000 jobs. While demands for a higher-skilled workforce grow, few solutions have been offered that address the growing concerns of Utah's disadvantaged populations.

Addressing the Challenge: The Central Utah-Four Corners Areas IT Workforce/Skilled2Succeed Alliance project presents a structured, scalable, replicable approach that will address workforce challenges in Utah. UVU will accelerate the number and quality of IT trained, certified, and skills-ready workers, using a regional, technology-assisted educational outreach program. The program will offer an innovative Information System and Technology component at the Certification and Associate-two year degree level, available online using technology-assisted learning. The program will also integrate job training and skills upgrades for both the short and long-term. As a result, this program will benefit the local, regional, and national community by raising awareness of how a synergistic partnership can be aligned to meet the ongoing challenges faced by low-income and unskilled workers.

Projected Outcomes:

- 1,060 participants will enter education and training activities.
- 495 participants will complete Certiport training programs and 380 will pass exams.
- 150 participants will enroll in non-credit IT and community education programs.
- 930 participants will receive financial support.

