
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Rebuilding the Aerospace Workforce in Florida



Grant Amount: \$98,560

Grantee: Brevard Community College (BCC)

Key Partners: The Brevard Workforce Development Board, the National Science Foundation's SpaceTEC, a national center for aerospace technical education, the Florida Space Authority, Florida Space Institute, and the U.S. Air Force 45th Space Wing

Leveraged Amount: \$50,000 from the Florida Space Authority, U.S. Air Force 45th Space Wing and National Science Foundation SpaceTEC national center for aerospace education

Grant Activities will take place in Cocoa, Fla. (Cape Canaveral)

Challenge:

Currently, the aerospace sector has a lack of hands-on learning opportunities and faces the challenge of attracting a pipeline of youth to aerospace employment. Aerospace's challenge lies in ensuring that students, teachers, and counselors can understand and prepare students for the careers and particular skill needs of the industry. BCC's proposal addresses the recruiting and practical skill development challenges in the aerospace sector. BCC and its partners will create a K-12 and beyond initiative with an active, hands-on demonstration site to participate in the preparation, launch, and recovery of high altitude rockets on a major national range.

Addressing the Challenge:

With its \$98,560 grant, BCC will provide hands-on learning opportunities for students to develop technical aerospace skills and improve awareness of the skills required for aerospace careers. The initiative will provide support for the operation of launch facilities and to conduct six sub-orbital launches at Launch Complex 47 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Students will engage and receive mentoring from aerospace workers at the Cape. Operations from this site will include observations and training at the Florida Space Authority facilities and on-site viewing for K-12 and university groups. The launches will be conducted with students groups selected from across the country.

Projected Outcomes:

- Provide hands-on learning programs to demonstrate the maintenance, test, preparation, and operation of launch and flight hardware at historic Cape Canaveral
- Establish criteria and select groups of students in K-12 and beyond for the opportunity to develop, prepare, and fly payloads for educational research in space related topics
- Arrange for observational visits and launch viewing for students, faculty, counselors, and employers sponsoring this work to promote high levels of interest
- Provide mentorship opportunities with aerospace workers and Aerospace Technology Advisory Committee members located on the Cape
- Develop national applied technology skills standards

