Increasing Access and Decreasing Time to Earn an ABET Accredited Baccalaureate Degree for Current and Future Nuclear Energy Workers

Executive Summary

Thomas Edison State College, School of Applied Science and Technology, proposes a two-year plan to increase access to and reduce the time needed to earn an ABET accredited four-year baccalaureate degree for current and future nuclear energy workers. The new curriculum will be developed, implemented, and integrated into the School of Applied Science and Technology training and education program in conjunction with achieving ABET accreditation. The School of Applied Science and Technology at Thomas Edison State College will develop a nationwide articulated partnership with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), the 50+ Nuclear Uniform Curriculum Program (NUCP) Community College/Utility Partners providing students with a seamless transition from two-year to four-year technical degree study. As part of this project, the School of Applied Science and Technology at Thomas Edison State College will evaluate vendor training programs in Radiation Safety and Hazardous Materials Handling for academic credit applicable to four-year technical degree study. The Prior Learning Assessment Program at Thomas Edison State College will be revised to allow nuclear energy students to petition, for academic credit consideration, greater amounts of training and education not previously reviewed for potential academic credit. When complete, the project will offer the current and future nuclear energy workforce across the nation a fully on-line ABET accredited technical baccalaureate degree that will enhance the educational needs of nuclear energy employers, employees, and regulators.

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