

The Regional Economic Development Institute (REDI) @ Los Angeles Trade-Technical College

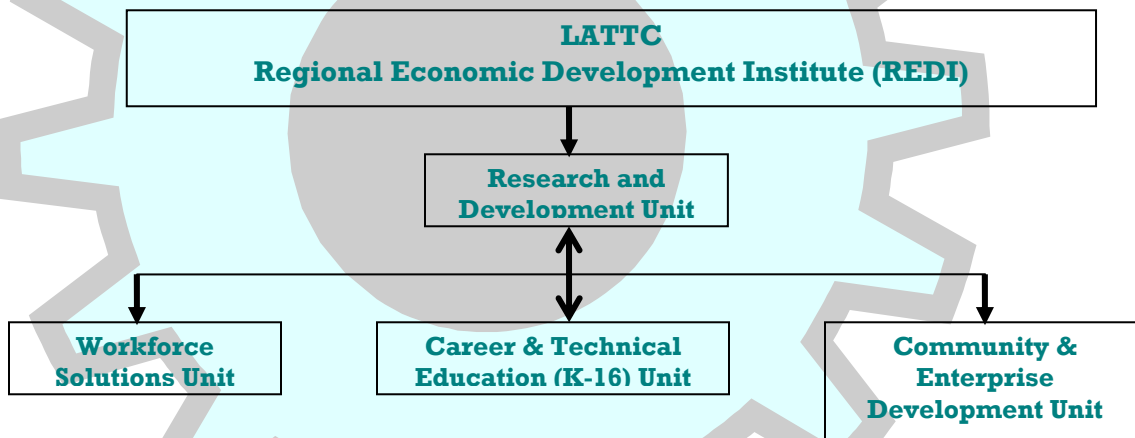
OVERVIEW

The Regional Economic Development Institute (REDI) is a career and technical education applied research, training, and technical assistance center based at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College. REDI's mission is to strengthen the regional economy through the design, delivery, and dissemination of state-of-the-art workforce development, vocational, and basic skills education and training programs. The Institute specifically endeavors to re-engineer public education (K-16) to seamlessly and effectively connect high demand industries and jobs to California's workforce, with a special emphasis on unemployed and underemployed populations.

REDI's central purpose is to strengthen the competitiveness and profitability of its industry partners, while building meaningful educational experience, careers and livable wages for current and prospective workers. REDI breaks the mold of traditional community college programs in that it's the **centerpiece** for achieving reform in how career and technical education is delivered in the Los Angeles region. The distinguishing qualities of the Institute include its emphasis on: 1) evidenced based workforce development and educational strategies, 2) high wage and high growth sectors, 3) universal skills and contextualized learning, 4) industry lead curricula design, 5) the alignment of the educational and career pathways in high wage sectors, and 6) special attention to the needs of disadvantaged populations.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

REDI is guided by a high level committee of business, government, and community leaders that serve in an advisory capacity. REDI is composed of 4 operating units: research and development, workforce solutions, career and technical education, and community and enterprise development.



The **Research and Development Unit** drives all aspects of REDI. This unit will engage in continuous best practices and evaluation research that will advance educational innovation within the California Community College System and nationwide. This unit will also deliver regional economic and labor market studies and identify changing needs and opportunities in the marketplace. The R&D unit will produce high quality training materials and will provide clearinghouse and technical assistance services to faculty and administrators in the public school systems.

The **Workforce Solutions Unit** brings specialized knowledge in universal workplace skills to the research, education, and training enterprise. Universal skills cut across all industry sectors and include: 1) workforce literacy, 2) technology solutions, 3) business/corporate leadership, 4) organizational effectiveness, and 5) diversity. The programs and services of this unit will continuously evolve to meet special needs of various market segments (populations)—customized for unique industry needs and adapted for contextualized learning.

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

Universal Skills	Industry 1	Industry 2	Industry 3
Workforce Literacy (basic math and English skills, softskills, workplace ethics, information literacy, computer literacy, problem solving)			→
Technology Solutions			→
Leadership			→
Organizational Effectiveness			→
Diversity			→

The **Career & Technical Education Unit** is designed to provide seamless grade 6 through 16 (and continuing) curricula and educational delivery that leads to multiple career pathways and options. This unit provides a comprehensive suite of educational services to meet the “**entry level to executive level**” workforce needs of industry.

Entry-level job education will be structured as full-time, “fast track” training academies that integrate technical, basic, and soft skills. Work experience and apprenticeship opportunities will be offered along with counseling and supportive services for the entry level positions. Incumbent worker education is designed to provide lifelong education and training to enable the workforce to advance, adapt, transition, and succeed in an ever-evolving workplace. Incumbent worker education programs will be structured in “just-in-time”, online/hybrid, and accelerated delivery formats to meet the needs of working adults.

SECTOR AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Professional Development Skills	High Demand/Growth Industry Sectors		
	Hospitality/ Tourism	Energy/ Green	Logistics
Training Academy for Entry-Level Worker in Occupational Cluster 1	→	→	→
Skill Set Training for Incumbent Worker for Occupational Cluster 1	→	→	→
Training Academy for Entry-Level Worker in Occupational Cluster 2	→	→	→
Skill Set Training for Incumbent Worker for Occupational Cluster 2	→	→	→

The **Community and Enterprise Development Unit** is designed to provide students (high school and college) and existing businesses with skills in business planning and entrepreneurship. This unit also engages students, faculty, administrators, and others in community development education and activities.

CURRENT REDI INITIATIVES

The Infrastructure Collaborative – A broad-based partnership of industry, labor, education, community, and government organizations convening to develop a collaborative education and work-based learning academy necessary for providing a well-qualified, entry-level workforce for the building energy, water, communications, and transit systems. Partnering organizations include: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, The Southern California Gas Company, Metropolitan Water District, IBEW Local 18, UWUA Local 132, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, Los Angeles Unified School District, Santee Learning Complex, Community Coalition, SCOPE, Apollo Alliance, and the Mayor’s Office of Education, Youth and Families.

The Hospitality Collaborative - A collaborative partnership of key public and private entities that are planning and implementing a training program designed to help youth, adults, and/or displaced workers successfully prepare for and find high-skill, high-wage employment in the hospitality industry (hotels, travel agencies, restaurants, entertainment parks, food service, etc.) in the City of Los Angeles. Partnering organizations include: Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce (LA Chamber) and its affiliate the UNITE-LA School to Career Partnership, the California Restaurant Association and its Education Foundation (CRAEF), Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, The Collins School of Hospitality Management at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona), Hilton Hotels, Marriott, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) including Santee Learning Complex and Locke High School, and the City of Los Angeles Workforce Investment Board (LA WIB).

The Triple Crown Initiative - a comprehensive career-technical education (CTE) program to prepare low-income, underperforming high school students at Santee Learning Complex for academic and career success. Currently this initiative is launching a pilot project initially focusing on 1,000 youth in 2 Santee Learning Academies (Public Service/Social Justice and Tourism/Hospitality). Each of these CTE programs will, through a collaborative faculty and industry planning process, design and implement best practices in career and technical education including creating: industry partnerships; career pathways; contextualized learning (project-based) curricula; theme-based, interdisciplinary curricula that incorporate A-G requirements; community college academic credits; opportunities for work-experience and career exposure; life skills development including, service learning & community service projects; articulated curricula within CSU/UC 4 year institutions; and a comprehensive student and community support program.

The LADWP/Sustainable Energy Development Institute - The mission of the Institute is to improve the economy and quality of life of the City and the region by building a local workforce skilled in the planning, management, and installation of renewable energy technologies. The Institute is a collaborative endeavor of business and industry, government, academic institutions, nonprofit workforce training/placement providers, and community stakeholders that include: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, Los Angeles Unified School District, SCOPE, Apollo Alliance, the Mayor’s Office of Education, Youth and Families, California State University Los Angeles, and the University of California Los Angeles.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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