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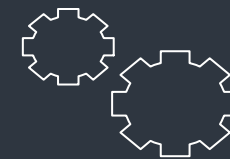
Utilities and Construction Prep Program: A Contextualized Basic Skills Program at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College

A Bridges to Success Center program funded by a CCCCCO Career Advancement Academy Program and the City of Los Angeles, Community Development Department



**“TAKING STUDENTS WHERE THEY ARE TO
WHERE THEY WANT TO BE”**

Bridges to Success
LATTTC
LOS ANGELES TRADE-TECH



PROGRAM PARTNERS

- Apprenticeship Program, Abram Friedman Occupational Center
- Electrical Training Institute of Southern California and IBEW Local 11
- Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
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Your destination for learning & career training

Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (www.lattc.edu), one of nine colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District, has an annual student enrollment of over 27,000 students (2007-08). Approximately 70% of the educational programs are career-technical and 30% are liberal arts.

gain the skills you need for the careers you want

PROGRAM BACKGROUND AND ABSTRACT

The Utilities and Construction Prep Program was launched April 7, 2008. To date, two cohorts have been completed, with 50 of the 60 (83%) students completing the program. Twenty-two percent of program graduates are women, 54% African American, 38% Latino and eight percent others. The UCP is an eight-week intensive program that uses a cohort-based learning community model to address basic skills in math and English, as well as, work readiness and applied construction skills to help students prepare for careers in the construction trades and utility sectors. The program is the result of an industry-driven collaborative that includes faculty, major employers, labor unions and workforce agencies. Upon completion, students are ready to move into employment, as well as continue their education and earn certificates or degrees in their desired field.

INSTRUCTIONAL AREAS AND SERVICES

- Non-credit (Math, English/Writing/Reading, Workplace Readiness, and Financial Literacy)
- Career Technical Education (Construction, Design and Manufacturing Department)
- Extensive community outreach assistance provided by nonprofit partners, government agencies and employers
- Employment Readiness and Placement and Supportive Services (Worksource Centers, Women's mentorship program in Non-Traditional Careers)

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

A 315-hour training program conducted Monday through Friday from 6:30am – 3pm for 8 weeks

- Industry overview and career opportunities - 18 hours
- Pre-employment skills training and workplace readiness – 117 hours
- Contextualized basic skills focused on reading, computation, mechanical and test-taking preparation (includes integrated use of KeyTrain and WorkKeys) – 72 hours
- Applied construction skills – 54 hours
- Workplace fitness and conditioning – 54 hours

KEY SUCCESS COMPONENTS

- College-wide discussion and expanded definition of “basic skills”
- Intensive industry involvement - employer-driven curriculum design with contextualized education resources; defined basic, soft, construction and fitness skills and outcomes; and industry exposure and employment readiness preparedness
- Collaboration with supportive service partners for student recruitment, wrap around services and employment assistance
- Integrated administrative support and outreach through the Bridges to Success Center
- Ongoing instructional consultation and curriculum collaboration with and support from credit discipline (Construction, Design and Manufacturing Department)
- Instruction delivered by expert instructional practitioners
- Weekly instructional team meetings to discuss students, program implementation, curriculum, role of industry, etc.
- Clear educational and behavior performance standards and expectations with documentation and consequences (mimics the workplace)



TARGET POPULATION

The program primarily, but not exclusively targets “disconnected” – undereducated, underprepared and unemployed young adults (ages 18-30 years) and other adults in Los Angeles County who desire exposure to career opportunities in the utilities and construction trades and assistance with meeting college and workplace success standards.

