

N E W S R E L E A S E

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EDD awards \$1.8 million to improve career pathways for English Language Learners

SACRAMENTO –The California Employment Development Department (EDD) announced today it has awarded \$1.8 million to seven organizations to implement programs that develop critical job skills that English Language Learners (ELL) need to enter careers in growing local industries. These statewide organizations will use an Integrated Education and Training (IET) service model, which provides a wide spectrum of career services, to prepare ELLs for high quality jobs with sustainable wages.

“The training and services offered through this funding will help prepare individuals with limited English skills for careers in growing local industries,” said EDD Director Rita Saenz.

The grant funding includes \$1.6 million to the awarded service providers and \$200,000 in technical assistance, and will be used to provide training services including English classes, job skills development, and career guidance for those confronting employment and economic barriers due to their limited English language and work skills. Additional services and training activities include career counseling, technical skills training, apprenticeships, on-the-job training, and other work-based learning opportunities.

Support services for ELLs are to include mental health, childcare, and financial literacy assistance programs. Follow-up services are offered after job placement to support the ELL worker in retaining employment. The assigned technical assistance provider will offer program support for ELL projects awarded this and last year, and will create a final report that outlines program successes and opportunities for improvement, to refine the IET service model and improve workforce training for California ELL workers.

Funding for this grant was provided through discretionary funds made available to Governor Gavin Newsom in accordance with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and administered by the EDD and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

These organizations were selected through a competitive selection process. Please refer to the table below for the organization’s contact information to learn more about the services available with these funds.

(more)

ELL PY 20-21 Grant Awards

Awardee	County	Award Amount	Industries Served	Contact
Diversity in Health Training Institute	Alameda	\$228,600	Healthcare	Beatrice Lee 1-510-838-1110 beatrice.lee@dhti.org
Hospitality Training Academy	Los Angeles	\$320,000	Grocery; Hospitality; Tourism	Adine Forman 1-310-597-1898 Adine.Forman@lahta.org
Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board	Los Angeles	\$320,000	Advanced manufacturing; Construction; Healthcare; Logistics; Protective services; Transportation	Martha Molina-Aviles 1-213-514-4944 mmolina-aviles@wdacs.lacounty.gov
Richmond Workforce Development Board	Contra Costa	\$274,300	Administrative services; Construction; Healthcare; Logistics	Charita Patterson 1-510-307-8018 cpatterson@richmondworks.org
Somali Bantu Association of America	San Diego	\$274,200	Childcare; Healthcare; Hospitality	Said Abiyow 1-619-546-9346 saidabiyow@sbaoa.org
Sonoma County Workforce Investment Board	Sonoma	\$182,900	Building trades; Construction	Katie Greaves 1-707-565-8501 kgreaves@schsd.org

ELL Technical Assistance PY 20-21 Award

Awardee	Award Amount	Contact
International Rescue Committee	\$200,000	Erica Bouris 1-619-641-7518 erica.bouris@rescue.org