



NEWS RELEASE

Workforce Development Board

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Workforce Investment Board leverages grant to help recent graduates find employment in healthcare



Grant will bridge the gap from education to employment for area residents

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (July 24, 2014)—The County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board announced today that it will use a Dislocated Worker Training National Emergency Grant awarded by the California Workforce Investment Board to help place recent healthcare graduates in paid work experience positions.

This grant will assist San Bernardino County individuals who are recently trained in the medical field to secure positions traditionally offered to candidates with more work experience. Special emphasis will be placed on assisting veterans and the long-term unemployed. The \$226,150 grant will allow the Workforce Investment Board to extend paid training, work experience and internship opportunities to those who have earned certifications in key professions such as ultrasound and x-ray technology, registered nursing, and licensed vocational nursing.

The Workforce Investment Board's On-the-Job Training program has continually proven successful because it allows San Bernardino County companies to hire new staff members without shouldering the additional cost of training. The hands-on training delivered through these work experience/internships and On-the-Job Training positions will reduce hiring challenges for healthcare employers who have previously found filling these high-skill positions difficult.

"The Dislocated Worker National Emergency Grant is an exciting opportunity for businesses and community colleges to collaborate and encourage growth in the healthcare industry, one of our area's demand sectors," said Workforce Investment Board Executive Director Sandy Harmsen. "We want to move these recent graduates to self-sufficient wages in their chosen field quickly."

To ensure successful use of grant funds, the Workforce Investment Board has teamed up with Chaffey College, College of the Desert, and Copper Mountain College as well as neighboring workforce agencies such as Riverside County Workforce Investment Board, the City of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board, and the Employment Development Department.

"In one year, the Workforce Investment Board has served 2,874 businesses and identified more than 12,000 job openings. This healthcare grant is another example of how the Workforce Investment Board is placing residents in excellent jobs, while meeting the needs of growing employers," San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Chair Janice Rutherford said.

For information on how to get involved in this grant opportunity through the County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board, contact 1(800) 451-JOBS or visit www.csb-win.org.