



Central Valley companies get more than \$2.6 Million to train workers

- *Employment Training Panel awards more than \$13 million statewide*
- *Will see about 9,000 workers trained*

California's Employment Training Panel has approved 41 contracts worth more than \$13 million to train nearly 9,000 workers.

The largest grant -- nearly \$895,000 -- goes to Applied Materials Inc. in Santa Clara to train 710 workers in the manufacturing of semiconductor chips for electronics and other technologies.

Applied Materials uses nano-manufacturing equipment, machines and tools to make input products for semiconductor wafers and chips, flat panel displays, high-density batteries, solar photovoltaic cells and modules, and other electronics.

“We are proud to support innovative businesses by helping them meet their needs for skilled workers,” says Employment Training Panel Executive Director Stewart Knox. “The funds approved address job creation and retention while increasing opportunities for workers through the development of job skills and training.”

Among the training aimed at companies in the Central Valley are these grants that total more than \$2.6 million:

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- \$187,200 to El Clasificado, a Norwalk-based Hispanic multi-media publication and advertising company, to train 18 workers in Kern, Fresno, and San Bernardino counties in business and computer skills. This will be El Clasificado’s seventh ETP agreement, the third within the last five years. In its first few projects, the company was funded as a small business starting with 30 employees. By its fifth ETP project in in 2013, it had reached more than 100 full-time employees with four new locations..

In this new proposal, El Clasificado says it will expand its training plan to more trainees. To remain competitive, El Clasificado says it must expand product offerings for social media services and video advertising. The company is now

building digital core competencies internally across all platforms which will be the focus of this training.

- \$199,576 to California Natural Products in Lathrop to train about 1216 workers in computer and hazardous materials skills, along with management and manufacturing skills. The company makes nutritional, natural and organic food ingredients, and patented the natural processes for rice syrup, rice syrup solids and rice milk.

The training is to ensure that the staff is up-to-date with all “lean manufacturing” processes and are able to meet production goals. Supervisor training will include how to become a better communicator, excelling as a supervisor and management skills for first time supervisors.

- \$109,746 to College of the Sequoias in Visalia to train about 234 workers in business, computer, literacy, management and other skills. In this proposal, COS says it will collaborate with manufacturing companies including electric car maker Faraday Future and food products maker Nestle. These companies are experiencing significant growth and seek retraining to enhance employee skills.

- \$173,940 to Rancho Cordova-based Express Sewer & Drain Inc. to offer training to about 120 frontline supervisors, pipe fitters, plumbers, laborers, administration staff and the company owner in managing larger projects and customer service. Topics include customer service, client services and communication among others.
- \$525,824 to the Gallo Cattle Company in Atwater to train about 316 workers. In this agreement, Gallo Cattle will focus on advanced training in computer software, comprehension and business development to allow trainees to increase their current skills while also being cross-trained in additional topics such as Six Sigma, Navision, JET Reporting and introduction to electrical.
- \$226,200 to Ready Roast Nut Company LLC of Madera to train about 250 workers to better meet customer demand. To do this, employees must be trained on enhanced production techniques and newly purchased high-speed equipment such as the mixer drum and drag tube conveyors. Ready Roast will also cross train production staff to support growth and upgrade skills of its current and future employees. Training will focus on

upgrading trainees manufacturing skills, business skills and customer service for all trainees.

- \$195,247 to the San Joaquin County Economic Development Association of Stockton so it can offer customized training for individual employers at the employers' facilities. This includes customer service, communication skills, and project management. Training is intended to provide the skills to effectively and efficiently maintain business operations.
- \$805,376 to the Wine Group Inc. of Tracy, one of the world's largest wine producers. The company plans to train 484 workers in Alameda, Fresno, Kern, Madera, Monterey, San Joaquin and Tulare counties in computer and business skills along with continuous improvement in all occupations.
- \$198,978 to Vellutini Corporation dba Royal Electric Company of Sacramento to train more than 230 workers in business, computer, hazardous materials and other skills. Royal Electric says it has seen an increase in demand for its services, which has led to significant growth in recent years and thus it must upgrade staff skills to meet demand.

- \$73,632 to J.R. Putman Inc. of Rancho Cordova, which installs and repairs of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); plumbing; and solar and insulation equipment, to train 82 workers in computer, business, management and other skills.

The Employment Training Panel reimburses employers for the costs of training existing workers, funds training for unemployed workers to re-enter the workforce and helps ensure California businesses have the skilled workers they need to remain competitive.