

October 9, 2013

Notes from Brownfields Professional Learning Community (PLC) – Cycle 9, Session 7 (session 95)

Topics: Current Happenings / Updates from Washington as of October 9, 2013

Florida State College at Jacksonville, FL

Opportunities—The GreatEST Institute—Act ASAP—Fills quickly

Current Happenings / Updates from Washington as of October 9, 2013

With the government shutdown, there is no news from Washington.

Grantee question: How does the shutdown affect progress reports, final award letters, etc.?

We would suggest continuing as normal. FY13 funds have been appropriated and grants awards are safe. As always, keep track of all expenses and allowable costs. Prepare your progress reports as usual. Take time to go into detail.

Florida State College at Jacksonville, FL

Pamela Scherer and Sarah Ashbrook, Florida State College at Jacksonville

Thank you, Pamela and Sarah, for your presentation.

Florida State College at Jacksonville received their first grant award under the ARRA Stimulus program, and then was awarded again 2011. The program they developed resulted in one of the best proposals in the last cycle allowing them to receive additional funding in 2013. They are located in urban Jacksonville near the bus station for local transportation.

A total of 21 state and federal certifications are offered. Students receive notebooks with all certifications displayed.

Below is an overview of the Florida State College at Jacksonville environmental workforce program.

Targeted Community

- Unemployed or severely under-employed veterans
- Displaced workers
- Ex-offenders
- Single mothers
- Recovering substance abusers
- Homeless, low-income, and minority residents of Jacksonville

Training goal

- 60 students this cycle.
- Previously trained 170 people with an 85% placement rate, and 80 people with a 77% placement rate.

Core Training Program

- During this training cycle, Florida State College at Jacksonville is expanding to three months of training at 40 hours per week to simulate working schedules.
- Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER).

- Leaking underground storage tank corrective action awareness (e.g., site assessment and remediation) including procedures for tank removal when necessary to perform corrective action.
- Solid waste deconstruction and recycling.
- Green remediation technologies.
- Environmental math and chemical awareness training.
- Florida stormwater, erosion, and sedimentation control inspector.
- Collections and wastewater training.
- Two emergency response classes.
- Eleven enhanced, environmental health and safety training classes.

Curriculum

Material from Florida State College application information brochure:

- OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operator and Emergency Responder (HAZWOPER)
- Florida DEP Stormwater, Erosion, and Sedimentation Control Inspector
- OSHA Disaster Site Worker Environmental Sampling & Analysis
- OSHA Construction Safety
- OSHA General Industry Authorization
- OSHA Maritime Industry
- FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) IS-00700.a Certificate
- FEMA Introduction to Incident Command System IS100 Certificate
- EPA 24-Hr. Hazardous Materials Technician
- Collections and Wastewater Training
- Asbestos Worker Certification
- EPA Lead Renovator, Repair, & Paint (RRP)
- American Red Cross First Aid, CPR, & AED
- OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens

Awareness Training

- Environmental Justice Overview
- Solid Waste: Deconstruction & Recycling
- Green Remediation Technologies
- Environmental Math & Chemical Safety
- OSHA Confined Space Entry
- Green Technology Industry: Urban Agriculture
- Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST)

Training Delivery and Curriculum

Florida State College at Jacksonville is using the Nook Tablet for training delivery. A simple Nook Tablet can be purchased for around \$80. It has a USB port, memory slot, reads multiple formats, and has a 2-month battery life. These devices are Wi-Fi-enabled, and have a 2GB memory (16GB models have more features and are about \$150.) Nooks can be used outside with minimal glare.

Content and reference materials are provided to each student via pdf format. On completion of the program, students keep their Nook for future reference and updates. Devices are not insured. The

program keeps about five extra Nooks (used by staff). Loss rates have not been excessive to justify insurance.

Pam and Sarah endorse this approach and have been pleased with performance, student acceptance, and results.

Student Services and Retention

- Florida State College at Jacksonville has a 100% retention rate. Pamela attributes the high retention rate to three factors:
 1. Almost every hour, motivational and life skills discussions are inserted into the curriculum. This approach breaks up technical discussions and provides a foundation for retention and placement.
 2. Florida State College has many applicants with diverse backgrounds and skills. Multiple filtering techniques are used to find the best candidates.
 3. A structured and comprehensive recruitment process involves considerable face-to-face interaction.

Student Recruitment

Florida State College at Jacksonville recruits inner-city unemployed and disadvantaged residents. An intensive screening process is used. A structured and intensive recruitment process is used similar to the “tryout process” adopted by others.

TABE is not the primary criteria for acceptance into the program. The TABE requirement is a 6th grade level in math and reading. Equally important are the following acceptance criteria:

1. Applicants must fill out a detailed, lengthy application. Those not interested are filtered quickly.
2. Orientation for potential applicants.
3. Panel interviews.
4. Medical screening for SCBA.
5. Driver’s license required.
6. One-on-one / face-to-face personal interviews.
7. Applicants must be willing to travel out of state.
8. Drug free—on-the-spot drug testing by Lab Corps of all serious applicants.
9. Final selection based on applicant motivation and staff consensus of success in the program.

Participant Prerequisites

- Must be unemployed or under-employed.
- Must be 18 years of age.
- Must have high school diploma or high school equivalency certification.
- Must be physically fit and able to lift at least 30 pounds.
- Must be able to work in confined areas (not claustrophobic).
- Must consent to a drug urinalysis test.
- Must pass a test for adult basic education (TABE).
- Must consent to a criminal background check.

Application Process

Step 1: Complete and submit the application and provide copies of required identification listed in the application for screening.

Step 2: Attend a scheduled mandatory Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Orientation and information session (questions & answers).

Step 3: Attend a scheduled interview process with the Environmental Training Team.

Step 4: Take a Test for Adult Basic Education (TABE).

Step 5: Students who do not pass the TABE may attend remedial education and reapply for future classes.

Step 6: Pass the TABE.

Step 7: Pass a drug urinalysis screening.

Step 8: Upon completion of the previous steps, students go through a final interview process and are notified if selected for the next available course. This Job Training program is a Selective Admission Program.

Job Placement

Florida State College at Jacksonville has a 75-85% placement rate. The Nook Tablet is used to send emails to students and graduates. Job leads and announcements are sent to all program participants via email and social media.

Florida State College at Jacksonville has a close relationship with the Florida Brownfields Association. Graduates have been sent to the annual conference for introductions and discussions with potential employers. In the "Opportunities" section of these post-session notes is an announcement for this year's meeting.

Key partners

- Jacksonville Housing Authority
- WorkSource
- City of Jacksonville Division of Military Affairs
- Veteran's and Disable Services
- Florida State College Foundation
- Florida Brownfields Association

Contact and additional information

Sarah has emailed copies of their informational brochure, application, and applicant check list. If you would like a copy, email Mike Senew at msenew@aol.com.

Pamela and Sarah would be happy to discuss their program, including the use of Nooks for training delivery. Contact them at:

Florida State College at Jacksonville
601 W. State Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Pamela Scherer
904.633-5933
pscherer@fscj.edu

Sarah Ashbrook
904.633.5976
sarah.ashbrook@fscj.edu

Opportunities

The GreatEST Institute—Act ASAP—Fills quickly

The Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE) is accepting applications for enrollment in the Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST). Annually, nineteen instructors are accepted to attend a no-cost, ten-day Great Environmental Safety Training (GreatEST) Institute that provides standards, curriculum, and hands-on methods for delivering Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response training.

Participation in the GreatEST Institute provides:

- An annual CCCHST trainer certificate.
- A license to use and duplicate CCCHST curriculum.
- CCCHST technical assistance.
- CCCHST instructor support materials.
- National marketing for your program.

The GreatEST Institute will be held at the Eastern Iowa Community College District, Davenport, Iowa, June 2 – 13, 2014. To apply, complete the enclosed GreatEST application form (on pages 7-8 of these notes) along with:

- Applicant resume that includes education and job experience;
- Biographical sketch (1-2 paragraphs that include types of training experience); and
- Current hands-on equipment list.

Send everything to Patti Thompson at:

7281 – 22nd Avenue
Van Horne, IA 52346
319.228.8712 fax
pattijthompson@gmail.com (preferred)

PETE, supported by a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), provides:

- Travel allowance not to exceed \$300.
- Hotel stay not to exceed 10 nights that will be direct billed to PETE.

- \$20 per diem for meals.
- Course tuition and materials.

College instructors return to their institutions to offer the following OSHA courses for which they may charge tuition:

- 40-hour Waste Site Worker Health and Safety
- 24-hour Industrial Emergency Response
- DOT Haz Mat
- Confined Space
- Hazard Awareness and Communication
- Disaster Site Worker

Members annually report the number of courses they deliver to PETE, for which they are provided a small reimbursement. PETE reports these numbers to the NIEHS. CCCHST members who report training numbers are invited to return each year for Instructor Refresher training offered at community colleges across the nation.

CCCHST is one of twenty model worker training programs recognized and funded by NIEHS. The re-authorization of the Superfund program in 1986 directed OSHA to develop worker protection regulations for handling hazardous waste. This resulted in what is commonly referred to as the HAZWOPER regulation, covering Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response. The re-authorization also directed NIEHS to develop model worker training programs. CCCHST is the only community college consortium sponsored by NIEHS. Congress intended that these programs will prepare a highly trained workforce capable of safely handling the cleanup of hazardous waste sites and other incidents in which hazardous materials are involved.

In 2013, CCCHST membership numbered 133 training organizations with 197 trainers in 35 states and one U.S. territory. In 2012, CCCHST instructors trained 44,612 workers who completed 367,125 total contact hours of instruction.

The application deadline is February 1, 2014. Applicants and colleges will be notified in March regarding their selection.

Contact any of the following CCCHST staff, with questions or concerns.

Doug Feil, Principal Investigator, feilstile@gmail.com
Ms. Pat Berntsen, Co-Investigator, pbernts@gmail.com
Kirk Laflin, Administrative Official, klaflin@maine.rr.com
Ron Snyder, Director, Health & Safety Training, rsnyder@netins.net
Patti Thompson, Event Coordinator, pattijthompson@gmail.com
John Morgan, Master Trainer, jmorgan@eicc.edu
Don Ransford, Master Trainer, dwr76@msn.com
Hilary Kessler, PETE Office Manager, kessler@main.rr.com

GreatEST
Great Environmental Safety Training Institute
June 2 - 13, 2014
Application Form

Please complete both pages of this form. In addition, provide:

- applicant resume
- biographical sketch (1 - 2 paragraphs that include types of training experience)
- current hands-on equipment list

Applicant Name _____
College/Organization Name _____
College/Organization Address _____

Applicant Phone (required) _____
FAX _____
Applicant email (required) _____

Emergency contact name _____ Phone _____

Currently a PETE member

Applicant Signature _____ Position or Title _____

College/Organization Official Signature _____ Position or Title _____

Describe the environmental health and safety program(s) currently offered at your institution/organization. Include both credit and short-term training.

continued

Describe the facility where training takes place.

Describe your target audience and projected number of students to be trained each year.

Physical Fitness (not a factor in acceptance)

Please check the following, if true:

- Able to wear respiratory protective device that restricts breathing.
 - Able to carry 30-pound breathing apparatus backpack.
 - Able to ascend and descend ladder with 30-pound backpack.
 - Able to work in constricted and confined work area.
 - Able to tolerate high humidity and temperature while performing physical tasks.
 - Smoke cigarettes.
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Florida Brownfields Conference 2013

October 27–30, 2013

The Florida Brownfields Conference is a unique event that brings together the many interests of a diverse group which includes a broad range of Brownfield stakeholders—from property owners to developers; local, state, and federal agency representatives; environmental professionals; land planners; community leaders; legal experts; financial and insurance industry representatives; and grassroots citizens who are deeply affected by and involved in the cleanup, redevelopment, and restoration of Florida's Brownfield sites. For more information, visit <http://www.floridabrownfields.org/displayconvention.cfm>.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Next PLC Session: October 23, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. EDT

Feel free to invite a guest! Send your contact information to Mike Senew at msenew@aol.com.

Visit our *Brownfields Toolbox* Web site at <http://www.brownfields-toolbox.org> for more information on Brownfields Job Training programs. All PLC session notes and recordings are also located on the *Brownfields Toolbox* Web site at <http://brownfields-toolbox.org/plc-corner/>.