

**Importance of a
National Center for
Clean Energy Workforce:
*Community College Workforce Trainer
Perspective***



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- Clean Energy Workforce Training Program, CEWTP (CEC)
- CSD/US DOE Weatherization Training Center
- Primary Trainer California Clean Energy Alternative Fuel and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technologies Workforce and Training Program
- Weatherization Workforce & Education Training Pilot (CPUC)
- LA Utility Sector Intermediary & Convener of the Los Angeles Infrastructure and Sustainable Jobs Collaborative
- Experience working with community based organizations, industry, K-12, four years and and non profits

Importance of Preparing the Workforce for High Road, Middle-Skill Clean Energy Occupations

- Community colleges are institutions preparing workforce for clean energy, middle-skill occupations
 - Core mission of community colleges is “Economic growth and local competitiveness through education, training, and services that contribute to **continuous workforce improvement**” [*Education Code 66010.1-66010.8, California’s Master Plan for Higher Education*].

Importance of Preparing the Workforce for High Road, Middle-Skill Clean Energy Occupations

- “Middle-of-the road” post-secondary education & training:
 - for apprenticeships through pre-apprenticeship training
 - for entering and advancing industry/career ladders
 - to pursue a 4-year degree – particularly in science and engineering (STEM)
 - to become entrepreneurs developing clean energy businesses
 - to help ensure that clean energy workforce mirrors the communities where work is performed and populations it targets

Challenges With Preparing Individuals for Middle Skills Jobs in Clean Energy and Transportation

- Either no or very limited industry-recognized credentials and standards
- Lack of basic academic skills – particularly in math and English
- Emerging economy, rapid changes – workforce community must be able to engage in continuous environmental scanning and adapt quickly (e.g. incumbent and new entrants)
- Many clean energy companies are start-ups, small businesses with many needs
- Community colleges provide basics skills education, customized, contract training; and pre-apprenticeship to apprenticeship training

Role of a National Center for Clean Energy Workforce

- Emphasis should be on providing the requisite, prepared workforce:
 - Enabling clean energy businesses to compete and thrive
 - Promoting the growth and expansion of the clean energy and transportation industry
 - For high-road, middle skill clean energy and transportation occupations

Gaps a National Center for Clean Energy Workforce Can Fill

- There is lack of, and need for, an organization (Center) to:
 - serve as an intermediary bringing together the clean energy/transportation and workforce development communities
 - inform and influence public policies that promote clean energy/transportation workforce development
 - concentrate efforts on adoption of industry-recognized skills, standards, and credentials/certifications

Gaps a National Center for Clean Energy Workforce Can Fill

- There is lack of, and need for, an organization (Center) to:
 - conduct and disseminate results of continuous environmental scanning and research—particularly as it relates to workforce development needs, opportunities, and best practices
 - provide technical assistance to clean energy/transportation and workforce development communities



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