

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 3/08/07

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Career Advancements Academy Grant

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.

DISCUSSION: On January 11, 2007, staff from Workforce Investment, Merced College, State Center and West Hills met to discuss a regional partnership. The State Center Community College District is requesting \$1,666,666 from the California Community Colleges Academic Affairs Division to create a Career Advancements Academy.

The Goal of the Central Valley Career Advancement Academy is to establish clear pipelines for undereducated, underemployed youth and young adults (ages 18-34) to attain the necessary basic skills for employment readiness and career technical training. The project design “creates easily accessible non-cost prohibitive opportunities for individuals seeking to increase basic skill knowledge in reading, writing and mathematics leading to occupational skills training, apprenticeships, work experience, national skills certification, higher education, entrepreneurship, or career employment”.

The grant brings together local workforce agencies, adult education and K-12/ROP programs, occupational skills providers, industry leaders, community-based organizations, skills certification councils and Central California Community College Districts. Follow-up meetings have been established to confirm working teams and define processes, partner roles and responsibilities, as well as completing both the planning and implementation definitions and functions. The term of the grant is for 12 months.

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| Deadline for submitting applications | February 22, 2007, 5 p.m. |
| Reading of applications | March 1–2, 2007 |
| Notification of Intent to Award | March 7, 2007 |
| Appeal deadline | March 21, 2007 |
| Board of Governors Approval | May 7–8, 2007 (for grants over \$100,000) |
| Project Commencement | July 1, 2007 |

ATTACHMENT (S): N/A