

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 9/14/06

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Manufacturing A Career (MAC) Proposal

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.

DISCUSSION: In an effort to assist employers in finding trained manufacturing workers in the San Joaquin Valley, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is proposing “Manufacturing A Career (MAC)”. This Partnership brings together:

- **8 Local Workforce Investment Areas**
- **8 Community Colleges**
- **Employers (Manufacturing Council)**
- **Fresno Regional Jobs Initiative Advanced Manufacturing and Food Processing Clusters**
- **Regional Occupational Programs (ROP)**

The Partnership is seeking \$1,494,979.20 to augment funding for this innovative program that is designed to develop a pipeline of Advanced Manufacturing workers. The local workforce does not possess the skills needed to be employable for the high tech automated systems currently used in manufacturing. A gap analysis will be performed to develop a competency-based/industry-driven curriculum. The curriculum will use “modular distance learning” systems through the community colleges. The following individuals may be enrolled in the pipeline:

- **Students enrolled appropriate 2+2 courses referred by ROP;**
- **Adult and Dislocated Workers referred by Workforce Investment Boards (WIB);**
- **Incumbent workers needing upgrade skills training referred by manufacturers.**

The goal for the MAC program is to build a sustainable and replicable model that leverages resources (currently \$2 million) to train 600 workers spanning a 300-mile corridor serving 80 sectors in manufacturing. Merced County WIB is committed to co-enrolling 9 manufacturing participants per year, beginning year 2, for a total of 18.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A